

SHABAN 12, 1438 AH

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MONDAY, MAY 8, 2017

Central Bank to apply sharia governance by yearend



Nigeria swaps 82 Chibok girls for Boko Haram prisoners



Rouhani faces protests at site of deadly mine collapse



Arsenal beat United, Wenger gets better of Mourinho





Min 28 ° **Max** 37° **High Tide** 10:48 & 23:10 Low Tide 04:35 & 17:05



MACRON ELECTED FRENCH 150 FILS PRESIDENT IN LANDSLIDE 40 PAGES Country's youngest-ever leader faces huge challenge

conspiracy theories WIKILEAKS KUWAIT



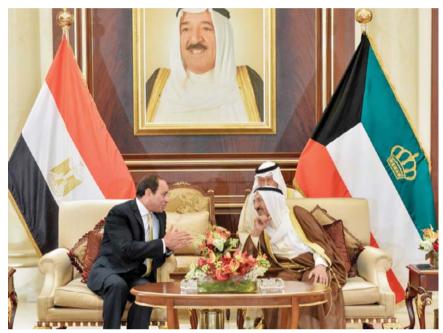
By Badrya Darwish

badrya_d@kuwaittimes.net

hat's this new war we are seeing nowadays in Kuwait? Every day we have a surprise about scandals involving well-known and influential people. I'm sorry guys - I cannot publish their names as the newspaper could be accused of damaging unity and solidarity in Kuwait. But social media, which seems to be held to a lower standard, is full of reports of scandals and scams and kickbacks and corruption in major ministries, involving influential people.

Everyone in Kuwait is sharing WhatsApp messages with documents, recorded conversations, etc. The problem is that you can never really verify if these are authentic or fabricated, or just people slicing each other up for what reason I don't know. But what surprises me is how do these whistleblowers get their hands on such secret documents or recordings? Supposing even some of it is true, who has such access to secret documents, deals and details about anyone, including how much he took, what was the correspondence, etc, etc. I'm pretty sure it's not the farrash (janitor) who cleans the office. This week has reminded me of Julian Assange and his WikiLeaks drama. But more seriously, I have to wonder why this drama appeared all of the sudden and focused on certain well-known families. What's cooking? I've noticed lately a lot of interesting activities happening in Kuwait and lots of past stories showing up again on the surface, like the dead fish in the harbor. Seems to me like every year at the beginning of the summer, we see a seasonal 'political' El Nino. Just when Kuwaitis are getting ready for Ramadan and starting their summer breaks, suddenly everything starts 'breaking' at home. We are a small society in Kuwait and we all know each other. I find this distasteful and vulgar. We should investigate corruption where it exists. But the glee with which people blast it out across the society, I don't think they always mean well for Kuwait. Maybe they themselves are involved in bigger issues and are just stirring up trouble or camouflaging something else.

AMIR MEETS EGYPT PRESIDENT



KUWAIT: HH the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah receives Egyptian President Abdel Fattah Al-Sisi at Bayan Palace yesterday. — KUNA (See Page 2)

PARIS: Pro-European centrist Emmanuel Macron resoundingly won France's landmark presidential election yesterday, first estimates showed, defeating far-right leader Marine Le Pen in a pivotal vote for the future of the divided country and Europe. At 39, the former investment banker will be the country's youngestever leader and faces a huge challenge to heal a fractured and demoralized country. The vicious election campaign has exposed deep economic and social divisions, as well as tensions around identity and immigration.

Initial estimates showed Macron winning between 65 percent and 66.1 percent of the ballots - a higher than expected score - and Le Pen scoring between 33.9 percent and 35 percent. Unknown three years ago, Macron is now poised to become one of Europe's most powerful leaders, bringing with him a hugely ambitious agenda of political and economic reform for France and the European Union. The result will resonate worldwide and particularly in Brussels and Berlin where leaders will breathe a sigh of relief that Le Pen's anti-EU, anti-globalization program has been defeated.

German Chancellor Angela Merkel's



Emmanuel Macron

spokesman said it was a "victory for a strong and united Europe", while EU Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker said French voters had chosen a "European future". After Britain's vote last year to leave the EU and Donald Trump's victory in the US, the French election had been widely watched as a test of how high a tide of right-wing nationalism would rise.

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FOOD BANK SIGNS CONTRACT WITH QUAKER FOR 1,000 FOOD BASKETS

KUWAIT: Kuwait Food Bank Society (KFBS) announced signing a contract with ALTCO (Quaker) to provide the bank with 1,000 food baskets including various Quaker products. The contract was signed at the food bank's headquarters by KFBS Secretary General Salem Ali Al-Hamar and ALTCO General Manager George Sassine in a ceremony attended by both sides' officials.

A press release issued by KFBS said with natural ingredients of high nutritional value and no preservatives, Quaker products are the finest food products worldwide, and this was the reason KFBS is keen on including them in food baskets to be distributed to needy families in Kuwait. Hamar said that as part of its charitable activities, KFBS will distribute 1,000 food baskets to needy families during Ramadan. KFBS has also signed agreements with other major local foodstuff companies to cover the basic needs of 5,700 needy families in Kuwait, including clothes, blankets and food coupons.

On his part, Sassine said the contract will benefit needy families. He also expressed pleasure over winning KFBS' trust. Notably,



Bader Al-Kharafi

prominent Kuwaiti businessman Bader Al-Kharafi established the Kuwait Food Bank in 2016 in order to reduce food waste and help families in need by providing them with basic foodstuffs and other items. The food bank aims to become a leader in charitable work, both locally and regionally.



KUWAIT: ALTCO General Manager George Sassine (left) and Kuwait Food Bank Society Secretary General Salem Ali Al-Hamar sign a contract to provide the bank with 1,000 food baskets.



SHANGHAI: Nicole Kushner Meyer (third left), the sister of US White House senior adviser Jared Kushner, poses at a promotional event yesterday. — AFP

TRUMP SON-IN-LAW'S SIS WOOS CHINA 'GOLDEN VISA' INVESTORS

senior adviser Jared Kushner urged wealthy Chinese yesterday to buy stakes in real estate through a controversial program that offers US residency in exchange for investment. Nicole Kushner Meyer was in Beijing Saturday and in Shanghai yesterday, seeking more than \$150 million in investment in a luxury apartment complex project in New Jersey.

Jared Kushner, 36, is both a senior adviser and the son-in-law of US President Donald Trump with far-reaching influence over domestic and foreign policy. He stepped down from the family company in January to serve in the

SHANGHAI: The sister of White House administration. However, eyebrows have been raised as the Chinese investment sought by his family firm will be funnelled through the US EB-5 visa program.

This offers foreigners permanent residency - commonly known as a green card - in exchange for investment of at least half a million dollars in a US business that must also create 10 American jobs. Meyer told a crowd of more than 100 potential investors at the Four Seasons Hotel in Shanghai that her grandfather had come to the US as a poor refugee, laboring as a carpenter before building up a real estate empire. **Continued on Page 13**

MP HAYEF SAYS GOVERNMENT DELAYING CITIZENSHIP RETURN

MAID COMPANY TO START OPERATIONS IN SEPT

20,000 EXPATRIATES **DEPORTED IN 2016**

KUWAIT: According to the interior ministry's residency affairs directorate statistics, 19,730 expats of various nationalities were deported in 2016, ie 54 a day, who have no right to return to Kuwait unless they are granted an exemption by the interior minister. The statistics showed that over 1,000 expats had been deported on direct orders of the interior ministry's assistant undersecretary for passports and citizenship affairs Maj Gen Mazen Al-Jarrah, 2,741 were deported by airport authorities and 15,896 by the deportation department.

Statistics also showed that 11,191 expats were blacklisted for sponsoring others and issuing various types of visas, be they for domestic helpers or dependents. In addition, statistics showed that 880 companies had been inspected and 526 were closed down, including three owned by first-degree relatives of former ministers and lawmakers.

Moreover, statistics showed that 46,609 absconding reports were filed, mainly concerning male employees, including around 20,551 drivers.

Continued on Page 13

By B Izzak

KUWAIT: Islamist opposition MP Mohammad Hayef yesterday charged that the government was deliberately delaying the implementation of an agreement to reinstate the citizenships revoked from opposition figures. Hayef also criticized National Assembly Speaker Marzoug Al-Ghanem over his "negative" role in the issue, saying that the speaker's practices in this issue are unacceptable.

The government has formed a high-level committee to study the cases of Kuwaitis who had their citizenship revoked by the government for a variety of reasons. They include at least four leading opposition figures and their family members, who had their citizenships revoked almost three years ago. Following November's election in which the opposition made a good showing, the government pledged to reinstate the revoked citizenships. But Hayef said the process has taken a long time for no reason and reiterated that those citizenships were illegally revoked and should be immediately returned.

Meanwhile, the Assembly's health and labor committee discussed yesterday the implementation of a law to set up a company for the recruitment of domestic helpers, head of the committee said. MP Saad Al-Khanfour said the company is scheduled to start operations at the start of September and its offices have already been readied. The lawmaker said that the cost of the recruitment will drop by half when the company starts, adding that it will have offices for police screening and medical tests. The domestic helper will be handed over to the employer only after undergoing the necessary medical tests and police screening. He said the company will provide distinguished services not available at existing recruitment offices.

MP Shuaib Al-Muwaizri said yesterday that the decision on the non-cooperation motion against the prime minister will be taken only after the debate of the grilling scheduled for Wednesday. Muwaizri and MP Riyadh Al-Adasani filed to grill the prime minister over a variety of allegations.

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His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah welcomes Egyptian President Abdelfattah Al-Sisi, in presence of other top state officials. — Amiri Diwan photos

KUWAIT: His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah meets with Egyptian President Abdelfattah Al-Sisi at Bayan Palace yesterday.

AMIR, PRESIDENT SISI DISCUSS MUTUAL ISSUES

KUWAIT: His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah received Egyptian President Abdelfattah Al-Sisi at Bayan Palace yesterday, with the presence of His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah. President Sisi and his accompanying delegation held official talks with His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah, His Highness Sheikh Nawaf, His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah, First Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah and senior Kuwaiti officials. The two sides discussed boosting bilateral ties and cooperation on all levels and developing joint-Arab work, said Deputy Minister of Amiri Diwan Affairs Sheikh Ali Jarrah Al-Sabah in a statement. Meanwhile, His Highness Sheikh Sabah held a luncheon banquet in honor of the Egyptian President.

Sisi and his delegation arrived in Kuwait yesterday on an official two-day visit. He was received at the airport by His Highness the Amir, His Highness the Crown Prince, National Assembly Speaker Marzouq Ali Al-Ghanem, Deputy Chief of the Kuwait National Guard Sheikh Meshal Al-Ahmad Al-



His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah welcomes Egyptian President Abdelfattah Al-Sisi.

Jaber Al-Sabah, His Highness the Prime Minister, the Foreign Minister, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defense Sheikh Mohammad Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah, Deputy Minister of Amiri Diwan Affairs

Sheikh Ali Jarrah Al-Sabah, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior Sheikh Khaled Al-Jarrah Al-Sabah, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance Anas Al-Saleh, Minister for Cabinet Affairs and act-



Children greet His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and Egyptian President Abdelfattah Al-Sisi.

ing Information Minister Sheikh Mohammad Al-Abdullah Al-Mubarak Al-Sabah, senior officials at the Army, Police, National Guard and Fire Service Directorate. The mission of honor that accompanies

the visiting president is headed by Advisor at the Amiri Diwan Mohammed Daifallah Sharar. President Sisi was accompanied by Foreign Minister Sameh Shoukry and a number of officials. ---KUNA





His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah welcomes Egyptian President Abdelfattah Al-Sisi.



Kuwaiti Army Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Mohammad Al-Khadher greets Egyptian President Abdelfattah Al-Sisi.



National Assembly Speaker Marzouq Al-Ghanem greets Egyptian President Abdelfattah Al-Sisi.



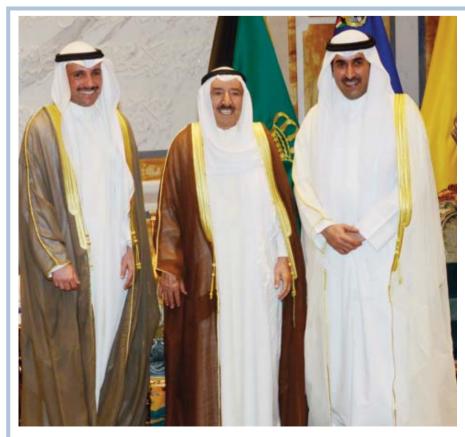
Farwaniya Governor Sheikh Faisal Al-Humoud Al-Malik Al-Sabah greets Egyptian President Abdelfattah Al-Sisi.



Chief of the Higher Judicial Council Justice Yousef Al-Mutawaa greets Egyptian President Abdelfattah Al-Sisi.



Head of Kuwait Chamber of Commerce and Industry Ali Al-Ghanem greets Egyptian President Abdelfattah Al-Sisi.



KUWAIT: His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah meets with National Assembly Speaker Marzouq Al-Ghanem and MP Farraj Al-Arbeed. —KUNA

AMIR RECEIVES TOP STATE OFFICIALS

Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah received yesterday at Bayan Palace His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah. His Highness the Amir also received National Assembly Speaker Marzouq Al-Ghanem, who intro-

KUWAIT: His Highness the Amir Sheikh duced new MP Farraj Al-Arbeed to him. He His Highness the Crown Prince. Meanwhile, also hosted His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah and First Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah.

Ghanem also introduced the new MP to

His Highness Sheikh Nawaf received Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defense Sheikh Mohammad Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah, as well as Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior Sheikh Khaled Al-Jarrah Al-Sabah. — KUNA



His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah meets with National Assembly Speaker Marzoug Al-Ghanem and MP Farraj Al-Arbeed.

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Legalese

KUWAITI COURTS

By Attorney Fajer Ahmed

uwait's court system was established significantly earlier than the other Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries and the Kuwaiti rule of law was innovative for its time. As lawyers, we are very proud of our constitution and our legal system as a whole, but sometimes we do not realize that the system is not clear to the general public. Therefore, I have decided in today's article to explain the Kuwaiti court system in general and answer any questions that you may have.

Although I do not want to get into technicalities, there are a few points that I would like to make before answering your questions: 1) Kuwait is under civil law, meaning that the courts take into account the written law first before looking into previous judgments, unlike other jurisdictions like the United States, where common law is followed. 2) We have a threefold litigation system - cases start at the court of first instance, then the higher court of appeal, and finally the court of cassation/supreme court. This means there are three levels of the court system, giving people the chance to appeal a verdict should they feel that they need a second chance or have further evidence. 3) The court of cassation reviews the judgments of the other courts and decides whether they have applied the law.

Legal system

Question: A case has been filed against me at a police station/public prosecution. I would like to know how the legal system works in Kuwait. How many levels or stages are there to the case? When should I expect the case to end?

Fajer: The case first starts at the public prosecution. This will require you to go to a police station and be investigated by an investigator at least once. Investigations can take a few hours and sometimes even days, depending on the case. Then the investigators decide whether the matter needs to be reviewed in court or not. They can decide to dismiss the case or transfer the case to court.

The case will then go to the court's first level. Depending on the case, this can take from a few months to years - then if the verdict is appealed, the case will go to the court of appeal. Again, this will take from a few months to years. The case could also go to the court of cassation as I mentioned in point 3 above, but this is highly unlikely.

KD 5,001

Question: I always hear about a case being filed for KD 5,001 - I am wondering where the extra KD 1 comes from. Can you explain this to us?

Fajer: This is because the amount that you file for determines whether the case can be appealed and which court can handle the case. As I said above, I don't want to get into technicalities, but simply, a case filed for a claim that is less than KD 1,000 is final and cannot be appealed (which is why you also see KD 1,001). For claims that range between KD 1,001 and KD 5,000, the judgment can be appealed at a partial appeal court and not the high court of appeal. For cases involving KD 5,001 and above, the judgment is seen by the high court of appeal.

Employment-related cases

PARLIAMENT TO LOOK INTO THREE **GRILLING MOTIONS THIS WEEK**

Committee declines to lift MPs' immunity

KUWAIT: The National Assembly will go over three grilling motions during its ordinary session tomorrow and Wednesday, two addressing His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah, and one targeting the Minister of State for Housing Affairs and Minister of State for Services Yasser Abul. MPs Dr Walid Al-Tabtabaei and Mohammad Al-Mutair lodged a five-point motion against His Highness the Premier.

According to the submitted motion, the first point is about the "violation of law and abuse of power by the government in a selective, retaliatory or politically motivated manner in its interpretation and application of the laws through issuing decrees and revoking the Kuwaiti citizenship from some of its holders." The second point deals with the "violation of international treaties and conventions and the abuse of power by the government in a selective, retaliatory or politically motivated manner by issuing legislation that is contrary to its obligations under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights." The third revolves around "rampant corruption" and "the insistence on appointing incompetent and unqualified figures in key and strategic positions in the country while removing competent people with proven aptitudes. The fourth addresses the government's action program "that was not prepared on solid foundations" and not keeping the strategic assets of the state," while the fifth faults the government for increasing burdens on citizens, and violating the principle of equality.

LOCAL

Irregularities

A second, one-axis motion targeting His Highness the Prime Minister, was filed by MPs Riyad Al-Adasani and Shuaib Al-Muwaizri on "financial, technical, construction and administrative irregularities," and the lack of tackling such violations due to negligence, poor follow-up.

The National Assembly on April 25 said that the two motions addressed to His Highness Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak would

be examined during a parliamentary session on May 10, as requested by the government.

His Highness the Prime Minister and the government requested delaying the debate till May 10, instead of May 9, due to protocol engagements. On Wednesday, His Highness the Prime Minister wrote to National Assembly Speaker Marzoug Al-Ghanem, seeking clarifications about some aspects of the grilling lodged against him by MPs Adasani and Shuaib Al-Muwaizri. His Highness the Prime Minister asked for detailed report of the alleged remarks, irregularities and violations contained in the grilling.

Meanwhile, MP Muwaizri lodged a fourpoint grilling motion against Minister Abul. He is seeking to question him about purported failure to bring into account the companies that made grave errors in construction of government houses in northwestern Al-Sulaibikhat, Jaber Al-Ahmad and Sabah Al-Ahmad, breaking the laws with respect of the housing projects in Al-Metlaa and Khairan and misleading the lawmakers during today's debate. This week's parliamentary session is expected to start with MP Farraj Al-Arbeed swearing in. Last week, the Constitutional Court stripped Marzouq Al-Khalifa of his parliament membership and granted the seat to Arbeed.

MPs' immunity

In other news, the parliament's committee on legislative and legal affairs has turned down a request from the Public Prosecution to lift the immunity of several MPs. Speaking to reporters following a committee meeting yesterday, the committee's head Mohammad Al-Dallal said the committee had overwhelmingly voted against the request to scrap the immunity of MPs Mubarak Al-Hajraf, Mubarak Al-Harees, Mohammad Al-Hediya and Tabtabaei. Meanwhile, the committee looked into draft laws pertinent to anticorruption efforts, financial disclosure declarations and public conduct, Dallal added.—KUNA

TO CONSERVE ENERGY **KUWAIT:** Local schools were recently

Bedoon pilgrims

Commenting on the Hajj convoy prices, Minister of Awgaf and Islamic Affairs and Minister of State for Municipality Affairs Mohammad Al-Jebri stressed that the market was open for everybody and that prices were subject to demand and offer without any interference from the ministry. "We are only concerned with administrative and organizational sides such as licenses, registry, leaves, quality control certificates, inspecting buildings and convoys," he underlined, pointing out that the ministry coordinates with relevant authorities in order to arrange for issuing bedoon pilgrims' visas to avoid the delay like last year.

Jebri stressed that the Awqaf ministry is the primary 'defense line' facing extremism and terrorism and that the most important measures taken to stop the spread of such terrorism will be monitoring social media networks in quest for any radical ideas pending conducting a full survey of religious extremism cases to set proper remedies. Jerbi said that special teams were formed to do the job and prepare sound religious responses to them.

Students' allowances

Kuwait Investment Authority (KIA) urged the finance ministry to remember a request it made five months earlier to open an account to pay the allowances of students dispatched on scholarships through Kuwait's cultural offices abroad. KIA had officially contacted the finance ministry in February asking for the approval of opening bank accounts in Washington, London and Paris.

Tenders

The Central Agency for Public Tenders notified government bodies of remarks about using up their financial allocations (budgets) a few weeks before the fiscal year was over. The apparatus also notified the concerned bodies of the need to restrict tenders and contracts in the last month of the fiscal year except in necessary cases approved by the minister in charge using written justifications.



SCHOOLS INFORMED By A Saleh

informed to switch of air conditioning units in empty classes and rooms in a bid to save on energy in educational facilities. The Ministry of Education's (MOE) Assistant Undersecretary for Public Education Fatima Al-Kandari issued a directive to all public schools, urging all school staffs to make sure that all air conditioning units are switched off in empty classes and rooms, to close all doors and windows when the units are on, to set regulators to 27 C degrees, to replace any broken windows and to switch off all unnecessary lights, especially after school hours.

In other news, Kandari sent an official letter to MOE's administrative sector demanding exempting newly recruited English and French teachers from the 'prior experience' condition for hiring, especially since the foreign recruitment committee sent to Jordan failed to hire the number of teachers needed to cover up the shortage in male English teachers as well as male and female French teachers.



Question: Is it true that the process for employment-related cases is different? Some people say it is easier and less expensive, and that you will not need a lawyer. Is this true?

Fajer: The process is different for employment cases and this is because employment cases start at the Shuoon (Ministry of Social Affairs and Labor) before going to the courts. At the Shuoon, you will not need a lawyer and can do the process yourself, but you will need a lawyer to sign your documents in court. I highly suggest that if you are going to hire a lawyer for the court, then ask the same lawyer to be there at the Shuoon. This is because an investigation takes place at the Shuoon and the report is transferred to court with your case, which could make a difference. There are no court fees for employment cases. I hope the above information is useful.

For any legal questions or queries, email ask@fajerthelawyer.com.

MAN SENTENCED FOR BLACKMAILING FEMALE INVESTIGATOR

By Meshaal Al-Enezi

KUWAIT: The criminal court yesterday sentenced a Kuwaiti citizen to 10 years in jail with hard labor over charges of stealing a female investigator's mobile phone, posting her personal photos on social media and blackmailing her, said security sources.

Resignation

The Board of Directors of Kuwait Oil Company's (KOC) employees' syndicate submitted a letter of collective resignation from office due to some disagreements amongst board members ever since its formation, in addition to interference from people outside the board.

Consumer protection

The Ministry of Commerce and Industry's (MCI) Commercial Control Manager Nasser Al-Mutairi stressed that Minister Khaled Al-Roudhan is always in favor of activating the commercial control and consumer protection laws, adding that the ministry had prepared a special awareness campaign to enlighten consumers concerning their rights and duties related to returning purchases, refunding payments and reporting violations on various markets. Mutairi said that MCI had set a plan to protect consumers from commercial fraud and all kinds of monopoly.

Unsafe disposal

The Municipal Council's Deputy Chairman Meshaal Al-Jowaisri hailed the way the customs department handled 40 tons of inedible watermelons arriving from Iran, but criticized the fact that the shipment was disposed by being thrown in the Gulf, saying that this will negatively affect the marine environment. Jowaisri called for Kuwait Municipality's interference to destroy the shipment at one of its landfill sites. He also called for taking proper measures against those behind importing the shipment. Separately, member of the Municipal Council's technical committee Fahad Al-Sane asked the Ministry of Electricity and Water (MEW) about measures taken with regards to warnings about increasing levels of pollution resulting from the ministry's water desalination plants.

enguiled six cars and a truck that were parked hear garage in the area. Firemen succeeded in containing the flames and kept the fire from spreading. No injuries were reported. Meanwhile, an investigation was opened to investigate the cause of the fire.

KUWAIT: Firemen in Shuwaikh battled a blaze that

SHUWAIKH BLAZE

By Hanan Al-Saadoun

Smuggling foiled

Kuwait International Airport customs officers foiled an attempt to smuggle nearly 6,000 Tramadol tablets from an Asian country. The suspect, Asian, hid the tablets in a secret place near the bottom of his suitcase. He was taken to the proper authorities to face charges.

Liquor factory busted

Police discovered a local liquor factory in Ahmadi yesterday. Tips were received about an Asian man brewing liquor in his house, so the p[lace was raided. Police found an evaporator, distillation systems in addition to 31 drums and 483 bottles that were ready for sale.

Abuse

A bedoon girl attempted suicide by drinking bleach, and was rushed to hospital where doctors managed to save her life. Meanwhile, the doctors noticed bruises and other signs of abuse on the victim's body, including a swollen upper lip. Police were informed about the case.

Training course

The second training course for central command for marine accidents management is being held at Ras Al-Salmiya sea rescue center under the patronage of Lt General Khalid Al-Mikrad, Director General of Kuwait Fire Service. Several GCC officers as well as military establishments will participate. The course will conclude on Thursday.

Awareness campaign

Interior Ministry Relations and Security Information said that the civil defense department participated in an awareness campaign for public and private schools. It said that booklets and guidelines were distributed on this occasion.

CBK TO IMPLEMENT SHARIA GOVERNANCE BY YEAR'S END

KUWAIT: The Central Bank of Kuwait (CBK) said yesterday that it was determined to develop the financial sector's workforce and that plans to introduce sharia governance will come into effect by the end of the year. Speaking on the sidelines of a workshop for Islamic financial institutions, CBK's Inspection Department Chairman Waleed Al-Awadhi revealed that sharia governance will be implemented after consultations with local banks and will be applied to all Kuwaiti banks.

On the workshop, he noted that it was organized in collaboration with the Accounting and Auditing Organization for Islamic Financial Institutions (AAOIFI). Moreover, Al-Awadhi said that the workshop, which features broad participation, aims to familiarize employees of the financial and banking sectors with sharia governance. Meanwhile, AAOIFI Secretary General Dr Hamid Mira said that Kuwait is among the pioneers of Islamic banking, noting that AAOIFI is a non-profit international organization formed in 1991 to prop up Islamic financial institutions. On sharia standards, he described them as concise guidelines that aim to ensure whether Islamic financial operations comply with sharia law. --KUNA

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with a group of prominent women in this file photo. — KUNA photos

KUWAIT: His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah poses The late Amir Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah receives chairwoman and members of the Kuwaiti Women Union in 1994.

UWAITI WOMEN KEY PARTNERS IN 2035 VISION

KUWAIT: Kuwaiti women are key partners in the New Kuwait 2035 vision; the state's development strategy that is aimed at transforming the Gulf country into a financial, commercial, cultural, and institutional leader in the region. Kuwaiti women have held many ministerial posts, occupied seats in the National Assembly (Parliament), the Municipal Council and represented Kuwait in international forums. Moreover, they play an important role in forming the nucleus of the Kuwaiti family. — KUNA



The late Amir Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah receives a women's delegation.



Engineer Sarah Akbar poses with her comrades while extinguishing the burning oil wells.





SILK ROAD PLAYS PIVOTAL ROLE IN CIVILIZATION

KUWAIT: The ancient Silk Road, an intercontinental network of trade routes that linked nations with different cultures, can once again contribute to the boom of human civilization. With an estimated total length of 15,000 kilometers, this network consists of several land and maritime routes across various regions in Eurasia and Africa from China in the Far East to central Asia, Persia and Arabian Peninsula, and further to Europa and North Africa in the west.

Trade convoys in the past used to take several months to reach their final destinations. The main traders were Chinese, Arab Turkmens, Indians, Persians, Somalis, Greeks, Syrians, Romans, Georgians and Armenians. Besides the trade exchanges, the silk road played a key role in bringing nations with different cultures close to each other and promoting their economic prosperity, and boosting studies in humanities.

Cultures and traditions

Tradesmen had to learn the languages, cultures and traditions of the people living along this network of roads, and know about the political developments and the dynasties of the cities, states and regions where they do business. In the course of time, cities located along the Silk Road prospered thanks to the guesthouses and restaurants built there to cater for tradesmen and travelers. Though the

historical network of trade routes was discov- back to the eighth century when the Islamic ered by the Chinese Han Dynasty (130 BC - 220 AD), the terms 'Silk Routes' or 'Silk Road' became common among historians only in late 19th century; they were coined by the German geographer Ferdinand von Richthofen who referred to them as ' Seidenstrasse' (Silk Road) or 'Seidenstrassen' (Silk Routes) in 1877.

Richthofen derived this term from the community monopolized by China for nearly 3,000 years. During this long time, the Chinese rulers used to execute anybody who ventures revealing the secret of the silk industry to an alien nation. The outstanding technical and cultural achievements of this network is the spread of the paper and printing industries and the flourish of scientific researches in such areas as geographical and archaeological explorations. This network carried not only goods but ideas, beliefs and traditions as well; it linked great civilizations Eurasia, the Middle East and Africa. According to historic references, the town of Chinag was considered the start of the Silk Road. Its natives were first among the peoples of China to embrace Islam by the Arab traders.

The Arabs played a pivotal role in the commerce on the Silk Road due to their countries' location between Asia and Europe. Islamic cultures and arts had gradually spread in China and many natives embraced Islam.

The Chinese ties with the Islamic nation date

empire spread eastwards and westwards, reaching the western borders of China. The Chinese in the beginning of their trading with the Arabs used to call the precious gems 'pebbles of the Arabs,' because they believed that the Arabs' lands were covered with these jewels.

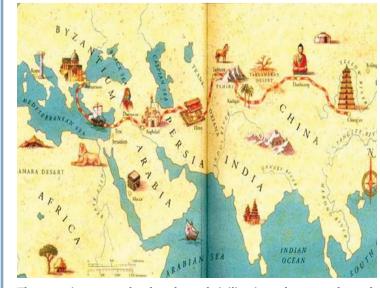
Large effect

The Silk Road had largely affected ancient civilians, namely those of the Indians, the Egyptians and the Romans. When wars and bloody conflicts spread, many traders shifted to sea routes to pursue their trades. This led to great discoveries of new lands. The Silk Road had faded due to a number of reasons, such as mushrooming conflicts, great discoveries and the Turks' closure of the Suez Canal in 1869. The road reappeared between Asia and Europe in 2005, but this time with railways, stretching more than 10,000 kilometers.

In 2013, China launched the initiative, 'the belt and the road' with a new bid to strengthen its interactions with the world and boost global trade. China aspires that the grand project, forecast to cost billions of dollars, will link the nation with more than 60 states in Asia, Europe and Africa. On January 18, the first train loaded with Chinese products, part of this project, arrived in the British capital crossing 12,000 kilometers from China. — KUNA



Old Chinese silk making machine. — KUNA photos



The most important landmarks and civilizations that pass through the Silk Road.



Spices were carried from Asia to the rest of the world through the Silk Road.



The process of producing silk.

Kuwait 🗻 Times 🍜

LOCAL

In Brief

AMIR SENDS CONDOLENCES

KUWAIT: His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah sent a cable of condolences to President of Mauritania Mohamed Ould Abdel Aziz on the demise of the former president of the nation, Ely Ould Mohamed Vall. His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah and National Assembly Speaker Marzoug Al-Ghanem sent similar cables. — KUNA



ENVOY EXTOLS VIRTUES OF SOLID EDUCATION

MANAMA: Kuwait's political leaders believe that highly knowledgeable youth equipped with a sound education are the bedrock of national development, Kuwait's Ambassador to Bahrain said yesterday. During a meeting with Kuwaiti college students, Ambassador Sheikh Azzam Al-Sabah said that access to education represents a perennial concern and a factor that would ensure a brighter future for Kuwait. — KUNA



US DOLLAR EXCHANGE RATE STABLE AT KD 0.304

KUWAIT: The US Dollar's exchange rate was stable yesterday against the Kuwaiti dinar exchanging at KD 0.304, while the Euro was up to KD 0.334, as compared to Thursday's rates, the Central Bank of Kuwait (CBK) said yesterday. The CBK said in a daily bulletin that the Sterling Pound went up to KD 0.394, as well as the Swiss Franc was up and stood at KD 0.308. The Japanese Yen stood firm at KD 0.002, the CBK added. — KUNA



Photo





KUWAIT: The 'Amricani' or American hospital, the first hospital to be built in Kuwait in 1914. Located in Kuwait City, the place has been turned into a museum and renamed the Amricani Cultural Center, run by Dar Al-Athar Al-Islamiyyah. — Photo by Yasser Al-Zayyat

FALAH MUBARAK AL-HAJRAF AWARD LAUNCHED



KUWAIT: Organizers of Falah Mubarak Al-Hajraf Award for national works said yesterday that the award will be offered annually to talented students in all stages inside and outside Kuwait. The award is launched in memory of late MP Falah Al-Hajraf who contributed to social development through his care for rising talent, according to a statement issued by the organizers. It will be offered to talented youth, males and females, who represent an important category of the society and will at the core of enlightened generation, the statement said.

The award aims to promote the con-

istence and allegiance to the homeland with a view to cementing the social texture and encouraging the youth to play a positive role in the development and stability of the country. The seven-member board of trustees of the award will work out an annual agenda of the activities of this initiative such as poetry, short story, painting, photography, videos and clips in collaboration with experts and academics of who the arbitration panel will be formed.

The award is to deliver an innovative message through manipulating the social

cepts of citizenship, amity, tolerance, coex- media and technological applications to enhance the sense of national unity and spirit of citizenship among the youth, the statement went on. In addition to medals and a grand prix of KD 10,000 (\$32,917), the annual award will include cash prizes for the top three winners as follows; KD 5,000 (\$16,458), KD 3,000 (\$9,875) and KD 2000 (\$6,583). Last week, the board of trustees had an audience with His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah. — KUNA

Late MP Falah Al-Hajraf

KUWAIT PLAYS KEY ROLE IN SUPPORT OF **ICRC'S REGIONAL MISSIONS**

KUWAIT: Head of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) for the GCC, Yahya Al-Oleibi, says Kuwait has played a pivotal role in backing the ICRC regional and missions and achievements. Oleibi said in an interview that the partnership with the Kuwait Red Crescent Society has had positive results in all of the ICRC activities in Kuwait and the whole Gulf region.

Head of the ICRC for the GCC Yahya Al-Oleibi

The ICRC established headquarters of the

regional mission in Kuwait in 1991, with aim of following up closely on the plight of the Kuwaiti prisoners and the missing. Oleibi added that the ICRC coordinates with authorities of the regional countries to provide better accommodations to inmates and promote international humanitarian laws.

He expressed gratitude to Kuwait, namely His Highness the Amir and the government, for supporting the ICRC in its humanitarian missions in the region and easing off hardships of thousands of people affected by conflicts in the Middle East. Kuwait was among the first nations that provided humanitarian, diplomatic and financial support for the ICRC as contributions to the relief operations in Syria, Yemen and Iraq.

Oleibi indicated that ICRC teams had been involved in digging operations in search for the POWs and the missing. The ICRC opened two bureaus in Oman to back up logistical mission in Yemen. An office was established in Dubai to promote humanitarian activities and the international humanitarian laws. — KUNA



Kuwait 🗻 Times 🎫

FROM THE ARABIC PRESS

Al-Anbaa

Crime

Report

GANG ARRESTED AFTER STEALING KD 2.2 MILLION

KUWAIT: Detectives busted a large international gang that tampered with cheques of major companies, as criminal detectives in cooperation with Interpol arrested five suspects in two Arab countries, besides eight in Kuwait. The thirteen suspects forged over 60 cheques and stole KD 2.2 million. A security source said the gang was working cautiously and accurately using advanced techniques to avoid detection.

The gang was busted by chance, after a citizen came with a cheque worth KD 98,000, but it was discovered the person who signed it was authorized to sign for a maximum amount of KD 50,000. He said the original amount on the cheque was KD 180 only.

The case came to light when the manager of a company told Director General of Criminal Detectives Maj Gen Mohammad Al-Sharhan about a major forgery, when the bank they deal with told them a citizen wanted to cash a cheque worth KD 98,000, although the person who signed the cheque is authorized to sign for KD 50,000 only, which made the bank ask the citizen to return later because there was not enough cash.

A team from the financial crimes department was formed to investigate how the cheque's value was changed although approved signatures were on it. They found that all information was correct except for the amount. The cheque holder was placed under surveillance and later arrested. He told police that he frequents gambling halls in an Arab country, where he met a Jordanian who asked him to collect some money as he couldn't go, adding that the money is part of his indemnity as he was previously working in Kuwait.

The citizen agreed, and when he returned to Kuwait, a man called him and told him the Jordanian asked the cheque be given to the Kuwaiti to cash it. When he went to the bank, he was asked to wait and was told they will call him to get the money, but bank officials called security authorities.

It was discovered that the gang comprises of 13 persons - eight in Kuwait and five in two Arab countries. The detectives told the Kuwaiti to call the Jordanian, who in turn sent an expat to receive the money. He was arrested along with the person who gave him a ride, and both confessed they have been working with the Jordanian for a while, adding that they received over 60 cheques.

Policeman insulted

A traffic policeman issued a ticket to a Gulf national for a traffic violation, but the Gulf national objected and tore up the ticket. When the policeman objected, he said "it is my ticket and I tore it," then insulted him. The Gulf national and a friend who came to his aid were taken to the police station and charged with insulting an employee on duty.

No fight

A security source denied reports about a fight ending in murder. The source said it was a fight between youth over staring, and that police dealt with it and arrested four men. He said that one of those involved is epileptic and collapsed, so passersby thought he had died.

Court sentence suspended

The misdemeanors court ordered a person jailed for one week for insulting an employee at the civil information authority. But the court suspended the verdict for three years as he gave an undertaking and paid KD 300 for bail. The civil case was sent to the con-



الجريدة.

A PERPLEXED PRESIDENT

By Dr Hassan Jouhar

Al-Jarida

he US new policy has become more money-oriented. With a purely commercial mind, US President Donald Trump is using a bunch of missiles and bombs to prove that he is this world's 'Superman' for the sake of squeezing the funds of rich countries such as Germany, China and, most importantly, Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) states. US political norms have always given newly elected presidents a grace of the first one hundred days in office to be used as a 'honeymoon' period, during which the media takes it easy on him in order to avoid confusing his decisions and help him tidy things up and set the outlines of his policies towards various issues.

President Trump's honeymoon is over and initial reports about economic situations, which are considered messy by US media, are out. Trump has not brought any funds to the US treasury. There is no proof that he would be able to meet the promises he made during his electoral campaign unless he increases taxes on the middle class. Administrative situations within the White House were described by the media as 'hell' because of the chaos, too much hesitation and lack of political and administrative experience and skills with staff members.

In short, the new US administration only reflects an 'adolescent' mentality and haste to lead the world's number one body. Therefore, protests, demonstrations, and even confrontations amongst Americans are taking place, and will likely increase by time. Well, all of the above might be a domestic concern for the American people. The problem lies in foreign policies where 'foolishness and bullying' seem to control, as well.

Both president Trump and his secretary of state have been breaking promises about various issues, except the occasionally trying to demonstrate its powers randomly and pathetically. Within one week, Trump said he was not concerned about Syrian President Bashar Al-Assad's destiny. Hours later, he accuses him of using chemical warfare, then strikes the Shoairat airport with Tomahawks. He soon backed off after Russia showed him the 'redeye,' and yet he repeated his statements about not caring about Assad's fate and; declares instead that crushing the Islamic State (IS) was his priority.

Trump bombed Afghanistan with the world's largest bomb to kill only 30 Qaeda fighters; who could each kill over a hundred people by wearing a primitive bombed vest. He also threatened Iran with annulling the nuclear agreement, but then retreated and referred the matter to relevant authorities. He had praised Russian President Vladimir Putin and Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan during his campaign, but is now fighting them through Syria and Easte Europe.

GCC states are a different story. After strongly criticizing the rich GCC states, he declares a strategic alliance with Saudi Arabia before he shifted his attitude and considered providing it with US protection, which is costly. He also saw that Saudi Arabia was 'unfair' in its relation with Washington, and that it has to pump more funds into the US treasury. His defense secretary also threatened Qatar.

Contrarily, Trump threatened North Korea, saying he would teach it an unforgettable lesson if it kept firing ballistic missiles, but the Koreans were more convincing in making direct threats that made the 'Undertaker' Trump back off. Those are quick proofs that the US new policy has become more money-oriented.

FROM PIONEERING TO SLUGGISHNESS

By Salah Al-Sayer

The most modern airport in the Middle East, the largest regional hospital, the tallest tower in the world, the longest bridge, the largest stadium, and so on. When it comes to racing to pioneering, the list is endless, as if those were the ultimate and most important achievements. Well, that would be both understandable and acceptable if time stops with these achievements. But time still goes on and the clock is constantly ticking. What once used to be the largest, the tallest, the most modern or the longest is now part of the past because larger, taller, more modern and longer things are being built on a daily basis.

Unless accompanied by hard work, determination, persistence and activism, pioneering will eventually turn into sluggishness and 'Robada,' which means remaining in place in Arabic. We all remember the sto-

People here still brag that they were the ones who taught the alphabet, writing, laws and religions to the entire humanity

ry of the rabbit that lost a race with a tortoise after it was initially in the lead. The tortoise walked slowly until it caught up with the rabbit and surpassed it. The rabbit's speed and leading position did not do it any good. Some people, communities and countries are much like that rabbit. In Kuwait, we have a very clear example of such sluggishness following a period of leadership and pioneering. Kuwait used to be known as the 'Pearl of the Gulf' and was leading in various fields.

Pioneering has its own glamour with various people. People, namely those in the Middle East that was the cradle of the ancient world's civilizations, are always keen on emphasizing and highlighting previous leadership and pioneering statuses, even though none of it exists in the present. People here still brag that they were the ones who taught the alphabet, writing, laws and religions to the entire humanity, though their floppy present has nothing to do with religion, writing or laws. It is more stricken with illiteracy, chaos, ignorance and backwardness.

— Translated by Kuwait Times

SAUDI BANS POULTRY IMPORTS FROM KUWAIT

KUWAIT: The Saudi Food and Drug Authority (SFDA) issued a temporary ban on importing poultry and its products from Kuwait because of the spread of a 'highly vicious' avian flu virus in Kuwait. SFDA had notified the Saudi foreign ministry, which in turn contacted Kuwait Municipality concerning the ban, which exempts eggs and poultry meat and products that are treated with heat or any other method that would kill the virus, provided a health certificate accompanies the shipment showing the treatment method. The sources stressed that the ban would remain in

relation with Israel, on daily basis. The US government is



PAAET, KNPC SIGN COOPERATION AGREEMENT

KUWAIT: The Public Authority for Applied Education and Training (PAAET) signed a cooperation agreement with Kuwait National Petroleum Company (KNPC) with the aim of enhancing and developing academic cooperation, scientific research and joint training. PAAET Director Dr Ahmad Al-Athari and KNPC's CEO Mohammed Ghazi Al-Mutairi signed the agreement during a ceremony held recently at PAAET's headquarters in Adailiya. Speaking on the occasion, Atahri said that the agreement signals the beginning of further cooperation. Meanwhile, Mutairi said that the agreement topped long years of cooperation with PAAET and stressed that many PAAET graduates were currently running and operating the company's refineries.



KUWAIT: PAAET Director Dr Ahmad Al-Athari (right) and KNPC's CEO Mohammed Ghazi Al-Mutairi sign the agreement.



KFH TAKAFUL HONORS SENIOR EMPLOYEES

KUWAIT: KFH Takaful Insurance Company recently honored a number of its senior employees who had been working for the company for long years, and that in appreciation for their dedication, outstanding performance and contributions.

In this regard, General Manager Barrak Al-Khamees said that each of the honored employees was part of the company's 'family' and that the contributions of the honored employees have helped the company make achievements. He added that honorees were highly cooperative and succeeded in leading teams and developing new recruits' skills and experiences. The honorees received special certificates of appreciation and trophies towards the end of the honoring ceremony.



Sex assaults in US high school sports minimized as 'hazing'

India's anti-graft crusader faces bribery allegation Page 12



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ABUJA, Nigeria: Chibok schoolgirls recently freed from Boko Haram captivity are seen yesterday. The 82 freed Chibok schoolgirls arrived in Nigeria's capital to meet President Muhammadu Buhari as anxious families awaited an official list of names and looked forward to reuniting three years after the mass abduction. —AP

FREED CHIBOK GIRLS TO MEET BUHARI

NIGERIA EXCHANGES GIRLS KIDNAPPED BY BOKO HARAM FOR PRISONERS

ABUJA: Eighty-two of the more than 200 schoolgirls kidnapped by Boko Haram in northeast Nigeria in 2014 arrived in Abuja yesterday to meet President Muhammadu Buhari after a prisoner swap deal secured their release. Presidency spokesman Femi Adesina said the schoolgirls from Chibok, in Borno state, were met at the capital's airport by Buhari's chief of staff Abba Kyari and taken to a medical facility for checks. "Welcome our girls, welcome our sisters, we are glad to have you back," Kyari told them, describing it as "a very joyous moment".

Military and civilian militia sources in the town of Banki, on the border with Cameroon, said the girls had left for Borno state capital Maiduguri on board six military helicopters at 6:10 am (0510 GMT). "One of the girls was carrying a baby with her, a boy of less than two years," said the source on condition of anonymity. The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), which said it "facilitated the safe return" of the girls as a "neutral intermediary", tweeted photographs of girls boarding a military helicopter.

A meeting with Buhari, who was swept to power in 2015 on a promise to defeat Boko Haram, had been scheduled for 4:00 pm local time (1500 GMT), officials in Abuja said. But there was no sign of the girls by 6:00 pm, an AFP reporter at the presidency said.

Prisoner swap

The presidency announced late on Saturday that months of talks with the jihadists had "yielded results" some six months after 21 other Chibok girls were freed with the help of international mediators. "Today 82 more Chibok girls were released," a statement said. "After lengthy negotiations, our security agencies have taken back these girls, in exchange for some Boko Haram suspects held by the authorities." No details were given about how many suspects were released or their identities. But AFP understands at least three suspected senior commanders, all of them Chadian nationals, were handed over. Information Minister Lai Mohammed said he could not confirm claims as many five militants were released.

Symbol of conflict

Boko Haram fighters stormed the Government Girls Secondary School in Chibok on the evening of April 14, 2014, and kidnapped 276 teenaged girls who were preparing to sit high school exams. Fifty-seven managed to escape in the hours that followed but the remaining 219 were held by the group. Boko Haram's Shekau claimed in a video message that they had converted to Islam. The audacious kidnapping brought the insurgency to world attention, triggering global outrage that galvanized support from the former US first lady Michelle Obama and Hollywood stars.

The girls have become a symbol of the Nigerian conflict. Last month, parents and supporters marked the three-year anniversary of the abduction, describing the situation as an unending "nightmare". But they said previous releases had given them strength. Enoch Mark, a Christian pastor whose two daughters were among those kidnapped, said of the latest releases: "This is good news to us. We have been waiting for this day. We hope the remaining girls will soon be released."

Military and civilian militia sources in Banki said the girls were brought back to the town in ICRC vehicles late on Saturday afternoon and stayed in the military barracks there overnight. Boko Haram has used kidnapping as a weapon of war, seizing thousands of women and children, and forcibly recruiting young men and boys into their ranks. In a less

publicized attack in November 2014, some 300 children were among about 500 people kidnapped from the town of Damasak, on the border with Niger, in the far north of Borno state. Most are still missing.

Ongoing talks

The release of the 21 girls in October last year followed talks between Boko Haram and the Nigerian authorities brokered by the ICRC and the Swiss government. Three other girls have also been found. The first had a baby and was accompanied by a man she said was her husband but the military said was a Boko Haram suspect. Shekau has previously said the girls would be released if militant fighters held in government custody were freed.

When the 21 were freed, Buhari's spokesman Garba Shehu said the government was hoping to secure the release of 83 others being held by a different Boko Haram faction. A total of 113 Chibok girls are now missing, although Shekau claimed last August that some had been killed in military air strikes. On Friday, Britain and the United States issued a security alert warning of a Boko Haram plot to kidnap foreigners in the Banki area, which led to the suspension of aid flights to the town on Saturday. — AFP

N KOREA DETAINS ANOTHER US CITIZEN IN FORTNIGHT

SEOUL: North Korea has detained another US citizen for committing "hostile acts", it said yesterday, its second arrest of an American in a fortnight with tensions high between Pyongyang and Washington. The arrest of Kim Hak-Song means that the North now is holding four US citizens, with the two countries at loggerheads over Pyongyang's nuclear and missile ambitions. Kim was detained on Saturday, the official Korean Central News Agency (KCNA) reported. "A relevant institution is now conducting detailed investigation into his crimes," it added.

The two-paragraph report gave no further details of the latest arrest. But it said Kim had been working for the Pyongyang University of Science and Technology (PUST) - an institution founded by evangelical Christians from overseas and opened in 2010, which is known to have a number of American faculty members. Pupils are generally children from the North's elite.

A State Department official in Washington yesterday issued a terse comment about the American's reported detention. "We are aware of reports that a US citizen was detained in North

Korea," the statement said. "The security of US citizens is one of the Department's highest priorities. When a US citizen is reported to be detained in North Korea, we work with the Swedish Embassy in Pyongyang, which serves as the United States' Protecting Power in North Korea," the State Department official said, adding that no additional comment was being offered "due to privacy considerations."

Kim is the second of the university's personnel to have been detained in as many weeks. Accounting professor Kim Sang-Duk, or Tony Kim, also a US citizen, was held on April 22, the North confirmed last week, for trying to "overturn" the regime. He was detained at the capital's airport as he tried to leave the country after teaching for several weeks at the university. KCNA said he had been held for "committing criminal acts of hostility aimed to overturn the DPRK," using an abbreviation for the country's official name. Using similar phrasing to vesterday's dispatch, it added that Kim was "under detention by a relevant law enforcement body which is conducting detailed investigation into his crimes." PUST officials could not immediately

be reached for comment in connection with Saturday's arrest. In a statement in late April the university said Tony Kim's arrest was "not connected in any way with the work of PUST."

Pyongyang is engaged in a tense standoff with the administration of US President Donald Trump over the North's banned missile and nuclear weapons programs. The North, which is widely seen as making progress toward building a missile capable of delivering a nuclear warhead to the US mainland, has carried out a series of launches this year. It has also warned that it could carry out a sixth nuclear test at any time.

But no blast took place during symbolic anniversaries in April, and its key ally and diplomatic protector China has urged restraint. Trump has suggested military action could be on the table but has softened his message more recently, saying he would be "honored" to meet the North's leader Kim Jong-Un under the right conditions. North Korea has arrested and jailed several US citizens in the past decade, often releasing them only after high-profile visits by current or former US officials or former US presidents. — AFP



SEOUL: In a photo taken on Saturday, an amateur K-pop group poses for photos before a sculpture prior to an impromptu concert at Yeouido park. — AFP

TOP OBAMA OFFICIALS TO TESTIFY ON RUSSIAN INTERFERENCE

WASHINGTON: The scandal over Russian meddling in last year's US presidential election returns to the forefront of Washington politics after weeks of quiet today, when two top officials from the Obama administration are set to testify in Congress. Sally Yates - acting attorney general in the Trump administration for 10 days before being fired - could bring new pressure on the White House over what it knew about former national security adviser Michael Flynn's communications with Russian officials.

Obama's director of national intelligence James Clapper is also set to testify, after repeatedly warning of the need to get to the bottom of how the Russians interfered in the election, and whether anyone on President Donald Trump's team colluded with Moscow. The case simmered for weeks as attention focused on what keynote legislation the president could push through in his first 100 days, a milestone reached last week.

Congressional investigations into Russian meddling have also been held up by infighting between Democrats and Republicans over how aggressively to pursue a matter that continues to cast a cloud over Trump's election win. Dianne Feinstein, the top Democrat on the Senate Intelligence Committee, which also is investigating Russia's role in the election, said she is eager to hear Yates's testimony. "Sally Yates is very much respected. She's a professional. She's not a politician. She's spent a lot of time in the department," Feinstein told NBC News's "Meet the Press" program. "She apparently has some information as to who knew what when that she is willing to share and that would be what she knew about Michael Flynn's connections to Russia," said Feinstein.

Trump: Russia story is 'phony'

Trump last week repeated his dismissal of US intelligence chiefs' conclusion that Moscow had sought to boost his campaign over his Democratic rival Hillary Clinton's in an effort overseen by Russian President Vladimir Putin. In an interview with CBS's "Face the Nation" program marking his 100 days, Trump last week again rejected the official view that Russians hacked Democratic Party computers and communications. "(It) could have been China, could have been a lot of different groups," he said.

On Tuesday, he again branded the whole story as fake. "The phony Trump/Russia story was an excuse used by the Democrats as justification for losing the election," he said on Twitter. Trump's dismissals notwithstanding, the Senate Judiciary Committee where Yates and Clapper are to appear today - and the House and Senate intelligence committees are stepping up their probes, calling numerous current and former government witnesses to testify, mostly behind closed doors. And the FBI is continuing its own investigation into possible collusion.

The country's top intelligence officials say they have no doubt that Moscow tried to swing the election against Clinton last year through hacking and disinformation. Nor do they doubt that people closely associated with the Trump campaign including Flynn, onetime foreign affairs adviser Carter Page and former campaign chairman Paul Manafort - all had ongoing contacts with Russians. But whether those contacts resulted in any collusion with Moscow remains unproved.

Asked on CNN last week if she had yet seen evidence of collusion in private intelligence briefings, Feinstein responded: "Not at this time." In today's open hearing, Yates - an Obama deputy attorney general who was fired by Trump for refusing to support his immigration ban - reportedly could testify that she warned the incoming administration in January that Flynn's discussions with Russia's US ambassador left Flynn vulnerable to blackmail. A former military intelligence chief, Flynn was Trump's national security adviser for 24 days before he was fired for lying about the substance of the calls. Clapper, still bound by secrecy requirements of his former job, might not add more than what the intelligence community has already said publicly about the scandal.

Subpoena warnings

The more serious investigative action in the coming weeks will take place out of the public eye. The House and Senate intelligence committees are holding interviews with current intelligence and Trump campaign officials behind closed doors. The Senate side has warned possible witnesses, including Flynn, Page and Manafort, that they could be subpoenaed to testify if they do not voluntarily cooperate, according to the New York Times.

In a statement Friday, the top senators of the Senate committee specifically warned Page, a former Moscow-based investment banker, to meet their week-old request for specific documents. "Should Mr Page choose to not provide the material requested" by specified dates, they said, "the committee will consider its next steps." — AFP



AZADSHAHR, Iran: Iranian President Hassan Rouhani (center) visits and speaks with coalminers and rescue workers at the scene of a coal mine which suffered from an explosion in northern Iran, leaving dozens of miners trapped inside. — AFP

ROUHANI FACES PROTESTS AT SITE OF MINE COLLAPSE Miners besiege Iranian president's car

ROW SHINES SPOTLIGHT ON ANTI-OCCUPATION GROUP

TEL AVIV: Former Israeli combat soldiers who were thrust into the center of a recent diplomatic row between Israel and Germany, say the sudden international spotlight has given them a bigger stage to speak out against Israel's 50-year rule over millions of Palestinians. Breaking the Silence is a group of ex-soldiers-turnedwhistleblowers who view Israel's open-ended occupation of lands sought for a Palestinian state as an existential threat to their country.

Since 2004, the group has collected testimony from more than 1,100 fellow soldiers who describe the dark side of that rule, including seemingly routine mistreatment of Palestinian civilians stripped of basic rights. The veterans hope such accounts by former fighters will carry weight and spark public debate about the moral price of the occupation.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and top officials in his nationalist government have a starkly different view. They have branded Breaking the Silence as foreignfunded subversives who are trying to defame Israel and its military. Most recently, Netanyahu even seemed willing to rattle Israel's relationship with key European ally Germany to score points against Breaking the Silence, which has 16 paid staffers, several dozen volunteers and an annual budget of about \$2 million.

Two weeks ago, he said he would not receive German Foreign Minister Sigmar Gabriel if the visitor stuck to plans to meet with Breaking the Silence. Gabriel chose the soldiers instead. Netanyahu, who also serves as foreign minister, said that shunning visitors who meet with Breaking the Silence is now official policy.

The fallout continues this week. The dis-

attention from the real issue, what goes on in the occupied territories," he said in an interview at the group's office, tucked away in an old walk-up in a grubby industrial area of Tel Aviv. "On the other hand, it gives us more stages to speak about it," said Shaul, citing more media attention and public speaking invitations that draw larger audiences.

Israelis have been bitterly divided over what to do with the West Bank, Gaza Strip and east Jerusalem, lands they captured in June 1967. Israel annexed east Jerusalem immediately after the war and retains overall control over the West Bank, with enclaves of Palestinian self-rule. Israel unilaterally withdrew from Gaza in 2005 and has enforced a border blockade of the territory since it was seized by the Islamic militant Hamas two years later.

Many Israelis support the idea of Palestinian statehood in principle, but believe it's not safe to cede war-won territories now. Fears were stoked by three Israel-Hamas wars since 2008 and an escalation of regional conflicts. Meanwhile, partition is increasingly difficult, with 600,000 Israelis already living on occupied lands and settlements expanding steadily.

Netanyahu has said he is willing to resume partition talks with the Palestinians, but gaps remain wide. A majority of his Cabinet ministers oppose a two-state solution and some even call for annexing parts of the West Bank, raising fears among some Israelis that their rule over disenfranchised Palestinians will become permanent. Shaul said he and his comrades are the true patriots, not those clinging to occupied territories.

"I believe Jews have a right to self-determination in the Holy Land. But I refuse to accept that the only way I will be allowed to implement my right to self-determination is if I strip my neighbors, the Palestinians, of the exact same right I demand for myself," he said. "A permanent occupation is the most anti-Zionist position one can ever have because it says we are doomed to live in a sin." The beginnings of Breaking the Silence go back to Hebron, the West Bank's largest Palestinian city, where hundreds of troops guard roughly the same number of Jewish settlers in an Israeli-controlled center partly off limits to Palestinians. — AP

TEHRAN: Angry coal miners besieged a car carrying Iranian President Hassan Rouhani yesterday after he visited the site of a deadly mine explosion, a rare protest targeting the nation's top elected official as he campaigns for re-election. Soot-covered miners, enraged over the disaster that reportedly killed at least 35 miners Wednesday in Iran's northern Golestan province, kicked and beat the armored SUV carrying Rouhani.

The incident offered an extraordinary sign of very public dissent ahead of Iran's May 19 presidential poll, a contest largely viewed as a referendum on Rouhani and his nuclear deal with world powers. Official state media did not immediately report on the incident, first brought to light by videos posted online by the semi-official Fars and Tasnim news agencies. Both are believed to have links to Iran's hard-line Revolutionary Guard, a paramilitary force that Rouhani criticized during a televised presidential debate on Friday.

Fars went so far as to say on Twitter that state media "had censored pictures" of the protests, without elaborating. Videos showed one miner atop the SUV carrying Rouhani, a banner in his hand, as another miner jumped up and down and kicked its hood. Others beat the hood and body of the SUV. "Dear brothers! I beg you wait for a couple of minutes!" someone shouts.

Rouhani's SUV eventually nudges its way through the crowd amid the shouting. Another miner rushes up to kick the back of it as it sped away down a hill. Another Tasnim video shows a woman in a black chador rush into the path of the SUV, shouting: "Please God, help me!" Presidential bodyguards hang off the sides of the SUV, but largely don't interact with the crowds as police in dress uniforms are unable to keep the crowd from swarming it and throwing stones. The SUV appeared largely undamaged from the incident.

Hamid Aboutalebi, a political adviser to Rouhani, later tweeted that the provincial governor of Golestan had told him not to let the president travel to the mine as those there were still greatly upset over the disaster. "President Rouhani told me I am the president in the time of their pain and fervor, if their shouts at me could lead to national peace, I have to go," Aboutalebi wrote.

Rouhani had traveled to the Zemestanyourt mine to give a speech to miners and their families gathered there. He acknowledged that as the government, "we are responsible for their lives and is it our duty". "Be sure that we will pursue this issue and also your demands," Rouhani said. "Those who are guilty in this incident should be prosecuted by a court."

The explosion Wednesday happened after the coal mine filled with methane gas, sickening dozens who later rushed into the mine to try to rescue those trapped. Three semi-official news agencies have said at least 35 people were killed in the disaster. Iranian officials say they've recovered 22 bodies and their search continues. Rouhani himself had said before being besieged that it was his vice president who was set to visit the site, but "I decided to visit you myself."

His stop by came amid his campaigning for another four-year term as Iran's elected president, serving under the country's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, who has final say over all state matters. Rouhani remains the favorite in the election as every Iranian president since Khamenei himself took the presidency in 1981 has won re-election. However, many in the country remain discontent as the benefits of the nuclear deal have yet to trickle down to the average Iranian.

Hardliners opposed to Rouhani and the deal have detained and convicted dual nationals on secret spying charges and ordered tense encounters with US Navy vessels in the Arabian Gulf. Rouhani, who typically shies away from direct criticism of the Guard, openly accused them during Friday's debate of trying to scuttle the accord. He pointed to a March 2016 ballistic missile launch by the Guard that saw the weapon marked with Hebrew writing reading "Israel must be wiped out" as one instance of them trying to sabotage it. The mine explosion also marks the second major disaster to strike Iran in recent months. In January, a high-rise tower in Tehran that caught fire collapsed and killed 26 people, including 16 firefighters, leading to mourning nationwide. — AP

pute has cast a shadow over what would otherwise have been a routine Israel visit by German President Frank-Walter Steinmeier. Media reports suggest Steinmeier was to praise the group during a speech yesterday, but not meet with its representatives to avoid another spat with Netanyahu. Yehuda Shaul, a co-founder of Breaking the Silence, said the recent attention has been a mixed blessing. The focus on the diplomatic dust-up "diverts a lot of



JERUSALEM: Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu (right) and German President Frank-Walter Steinmeier hold a joint press conference yesterday. — AP

FRENCHMAN KIDNAPPED IN CHAD FREED IN SUDAN

KHARTOUM: A French mineworker who was kidnapped in Chad and taken to neighboring Sudan has been freed after more than six weeks in captivity, French and Sudanese officials said yesterday. Thierry Frezier, 60, was freed after collaboration between Sudanese, Chadian and French intelligence services, a member of the National Intelligence and Security Service (NISS) told reporters in Khartoum. Frezier was taken to Sudan's capital after being freed on Saturday.

French President Francois Hollande's office put out a statement saying he felt "great pleasure" at the release. Sudanese security agents launched a search for Frezier in late March after a Chadian minister said he was being held there after being abducted near Goz Beida in southeastern Chad on March 23. His kidnappers took him to Sudan's wartorn region of Darfur and it was from there that he was liberated, a foreign ministry official in Khartoum said. "I thank Sudan's government and civil and military authorities for their efforts to free me," Frezier said in a brief statement to reporters at Khartoum airport yesterday. "The kidnappers treated me well during my time in captivity." NISS officer Mohamed Hamid said Frezier would

be handed over to the French embassy in Khartoum. "An operation to free him was launched in coordination with French and Chadian intelligence services," Hamid said.

Sudanese and French officials in Khartoum said no ransom had been paid. "The outlaws inside

KHARTOUM: Thierry Frezier, a French mineworker who was kidnapped in southeastern Chad on March 23, speaks to the press following his arrival at Khartoum Airport yesterday. — AFP

Chad had kidnapped him for ransom, but no ransom has been paid," Sudanese foreign ministry official Khalid Al-Kalas said yesterday. "NISS was monitoring his situation and yesterday they liberated him and also captured his kidnappers."

France's charge d'affaires in Khartoum, Christian Bec, also told reporters that no money had been handed over in exchange for Frezier's freedom. "I thank the Sudanese government for liberating the hostage without paying any ransom," Bec said. Several French and other Western nationals have been kidnapped by militant groups in west and central Africa in recent years. The last such case in Chad - a former French colony - was in 2009, when a Frenchman working for the International Committee of the Red Cross was abducted by a shadowy armed group called the Freedom Eagles of Africa, based in Sudan's Darfur province. He was freed after 89 days. — AFP

EX-NUSRA FIGHTERS TO BE EVACUATED FROM CAMP

BEIRUT: Agreement has been reached to evacuate wounded fighters of the hardline Islamist group formerly known as Nusra Front from Yarmouk, in the southern suburbs of Damascus, to rebel-held Idlib province, Hezbollah-affiliated Al-Manar TV reported yesterday. The agreement is the second phase of an earlier deal to evacuate people from two towns besieged by rebels, and two towns besieged by pro-government forces, the first phase of which was implemented last month, Al-Manar reported.

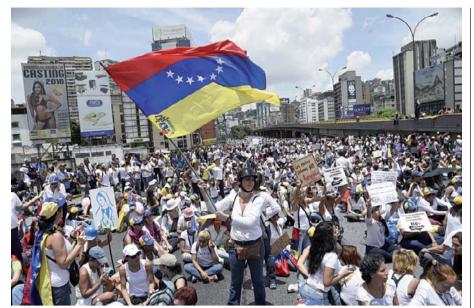
The wounded fighters and some others accompanying them would form a group of about 50, reported the television channel, which is based in Lebanon. Hezbollah, also from Lebanon, is a close military ally of Syrian President Bashar Al-Assad. Nusra Front was the official branch of Al-Qaeda in Syria until a year ago, when it broke formal allegiance to the global jihadist movement and renamed itself.

It has since joined a number of other

militant groups under the new name Tahrir Al-Sham. Both Nusra Front and later Tahrir Al-Sham have at times fought alongside other rebel groups, including those that operate under the banner of the Free Syrian Army, against the government and at times have clashed with them. Yarmouk, in the southern suburbs of Damascus, is the location of a large Palestinian refugee camp. Parts of the area are held by the government, parts by rebels including Tahrir Al-Sham, and parts by Islamic State.

An earlier deal involved evacuating civilians from the rebel-besieged Shiite towns of Kefraya and Al-Foua in Idlib province in return for the departure of civilians and insurgent fighters from Zabadani and Madaya, near Damascus. Completed late last month, that agreement was the largest and most complex so far in a series of evacuation deals for besieged areas that have grown more common over the past year in Syria's civil war. — Reuters

Kuwait 🗻 Times 🎫



CARACAS: Venezuelan opposition activists take part in a women's march aimed to keep pressure on President Nicolas Maduro, whose authority is being increasingly challenged by protests and deadly unrest, on Saturday. —AFP

WOMEN TAKE ON THE FIGHT AGAINST MADURO

CARACAS: Thousands of women dressed in white marched in Venezuela's capital Saturday to keep pressure on President Nicolas Maduro, whose authority is being increasingly challenged by protests and deadly unrest. Led by opposition leaders, lawmakers and Lilian Tintori - the wife of jailed opposition leader Leopoldo Lopez the crowd carried flowers and placards denouncing "repression".

Police and soldiers initially prevented it from reaching the interior ministry. But the women - led by several lawmakers - eventually made it to the interior and justice ministries. "We are not going to be off the streets until we have set Venezuela free," conservative opposition leader Maria Corina Machado said. "We beg the armed forces: don't open fire on unarmed people." Some women flashed their breasts in a pacifist move as some alongside Machado waved posters reading: "We have no firearms; just t**s."

Similar anti-Maduro rallies took place in other cities, including San Cristobal and Aragua, where police fired tear gas canisters against marchers. Protests Saturday night in Los Nuevos Teques, on the outskirts of the capital, and Barquisimeto in the country's west descended into clashes between demonstrators and the military. It was not immediately known if there were casualties. More protests are set for Sunday with musicians and other celebrities marching to remember the dead.

The demonstrations were the latest in more than a month of anti-government protests, many of which have been countered by pro-Maduro crowds and security forces. The death toll since April - when the protests intensified after Maduro's administration and the courts stepped up efforts to undermine the opposition - is at least 36, according to prosecutors, with hundreds more injured. looked like disaster zones with bars on shop windows bent and windows broken. Demonstrators blame Maduro for the country's plight and the shortages of food and medicine. They are demanding elections to remove the leftist president.

Maduro, backed by the Venezuelan military, is resisting. He and the opposition have blamed each other of using armed groups to sow violence. The president has started a process to rewrite the current constitution enacted under his late predecessor and mentor Hugo Chavez. The opposition and many protesters say his real aim is to dodge elections. Maduro supporters also marched in Caracas, railing against what they called "violence by terrorists," Minister for Women Blanca Eekhout said. "We are out here pushing for justice against those who are encouraging hatred and rage," she said, warning, "they are trying to set the stage for civil war."

The conference of Catholic bishops issued a statement quoting Pope Francis as expressing concern about the "dead, wounded and detained" in the protests and asking both sides to look for "negotiated solutions."

US tone sharpens

Maduro and his officials say the crisis rocking the country is a US-backed conspiracy designed to topple him and install a right-wing government. The United States, which had remained relatively quiet over the situation in Venezuela, is now taking a stronger tone against Maduro's "violent crackdown on protestors". The US ambassador to the UN, Nikki Haley, said in a statement that his "disregard for the fundamental rights of his own people has heightened the political and economic crisis in the country."

She called for the immediate release of "political prisoners," including Lopez, who

SEX ASSAULTS IN US HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS MINIMIZED AS 'HAZING'

VIOLENCE IS NORMALIZED AND PERSISTS FOR YEARS

WASHINGTON: The Georgia school district said it was investigating the baseball players for "misbehavior" and "inappropriate physical contact." What it didn't reveal was that a younger teammate had reported being sexually assaulted. Even after players were later disciplined for sexual battery, the district cited student confidentiality to withhold details from the public and used "hazing" to describe the incident, which it also failed to report to the state as required.

INTERNATIONAL 💳

Across the US, perhaps nowhere is student-on-student sexual assault as dismissed or as camouflaged as in boys' sports, an Associated Press investigation found. Mischaracterized as hazing and bullying, the violence is so normalized on some teams that it persists for years, as players attacked one season become aggressors the next. Coaches frequently say they're not aware of what's happening. But AP found multiple cases where coaches knew and failed to intervene or, worse, tried to cover it up.

The AP examined sexual violence in school sports as part of its larger look at student-on-student sex assaults . Analyzing state education records, supplemented by federal crime data, AP found about 17,000 official reports of sex assaults by students in grades K-12 over a recent four-year period. That figure doesn't capture the extent of problem because attacks are widely under-reported and not all states track them or classify them uniformly.

Nor does the data paint a detailed picture of specific incidents, revealed when the AP reviewed more than 300 cases of student-on-student sexual violence that surfaced through law enforcement records, lawsuits, interviews and news accounts. In those cases, the sports setting emerged as a leading venue for such attacks. Teammate-on-teammate sexual assaults occurred in all types of sports in public schools, and experts said the more than 70 cases in five years that AP identified were the tip of the iceberg. Though largely a high school phenomenon, some cases were reported as early as middle school.

Boys made up the majority of aggressors and victims in teammate attacks, records show, and some suffered serious injury and trauma. An Idaho football player was hospitalized in 2015 with rectal injuries after he was sodomized with a coat hanger. That same year, a North Carolina teen suffered rectal bruising when he was jabbed through his clothes with a broomstick. Parents of a Vermont athlete blamed his 2012 suicide on distress a year after teammates sodomized him with a broom. "It's basically rape and sexual assault," said Hank Nuwer, a hazing historian at Franklin College in Indiana. "It's amazing to me that there hasn't been a public outcry on this to help stop it."

The acts meet federal law enforcement definitions of rape and sexual assault, but language shrouds the problem and minimizes its severity. It also shapes how coaches and schools respond, and can influence whether off-campus authorities hold anyone accountable. "Language is everything," said B. Elliot Hopkins, a sports safety expert at the National Federation of State High School Associations. "If anyone knew that their kid was going to run the risk of being sexually assaulted to be part of a team, we wouldn't have anyone playing any sports."

Playing with Words

What really happened on the Georgia baseball team - compared to the school district's official statement - is outlined in graphic detail in state education, police and court records AP obtained. The players from Parkview High School, in the Atlanta suburb of Lilburn, were playing in a tournament in South Carolina in June 2015. That year's squad would be defending the school's third state championship and second Baseball America High School Team of the Year title since 2011. Over a pizza dinner, an upperclassman warned several freshmen to "sleep with one eye open tonight" and specifically threatened sexual violence. At the team hotel later, with coaches nowhere in sight, five to eight upperclassmen barged into a room and ordered three freshmen out of hiding. Over shouts of "get his a**", they pinned down one boy, and through his shorts, he felt fingers shoved into his rectum. They pulled down another boy's shorts. He got them back up, but the attackers grabbed and punched his testicles. The third managed to flee. To gain entry to a second room, one of the upperclassmen pretended to be a freshman and obtained a key from the front desk. Inside, the aggressors blocked the door and ganged up on one boy. Only when he broke free and threatened to tell the coach did the assault stop. "We don't want to be raped!" another terrified boy pleaded. The upperclassmen didn't challenge the evidence in disciplinary proceedings, but described what they did to the freshmen as "wrestling and horse playing". Targeting rookies for humiliating, and even risky, rituals is not new to sports. However, experts say the last 10 to 15 years have seen an escalation into sexual violence. The reasons why aren't entirely clear, and research on sports hazing rarely addresses these assaults in depth. But players, perhaps influenced by sexualized pop culture, seem to be trying to one-up what was done to them, experts say. Although many of the cases AP identified included anal penetration, grabbing crotches or grinding genitals into teammates, those who often first learn of incidents coaches, school officials - routinely characterize them as hazing, bullying or initiations. People don't want to think kids could act that way and chalk it up to jock behavior, said Danielle Rogers, who in 2011 prosecuted lockerroom assaults by three athletes in Hardin, Montana. "If this had happened on the street, nobody would say this is hazing or bullying," she said. Because of that mislabeling, such cases don't always show up in state education records or federal crime data as sexual assault, and no one specifically tracks or catalogs them in a systemic way. School districts frequently won't divulge information about attacks, fighting public records requests or declining to answer basic questions. Sometimes that's because they're trying to be sensitive to students. Other times, experts say, it's about protecting school image. "Does a school district really want it out that they're not protecting kids and kids are being sexually assaulted, and then turn around and ask you for money to build a new library?" Hopkins said. In the Georgia case, a draft public statement from the Gwinnett County Public Schools initially said a player's family had reported he was "sexually assaulted," according to records AP obtained. But the final version referred only to "inappropriate physical contact." When asked, district officials said that wording was "more inclusive" of the "diversity of the types of misconduct alleged." Months later, after several upperclassmen were disciplined in part for sexual battery or aggravated sexual battery, the district shared the public statement that described the ordeal as "hazing". Officials argued they didn't have to report the incident in data the state collects on school violence because it happened in the summer. The Georgia Department of Education told AP the district was wrong and would need to correct its filing. Georgia school administrators were not alone in their toned-down language. In South Carolina, where the baseball tournament was held, police logged the incident as a "possible hazing" and "simple assault," despite its own report saying a freshman's father alleged players "sexually violated two other boys." There were no charges, and North Charleston police declined comment.

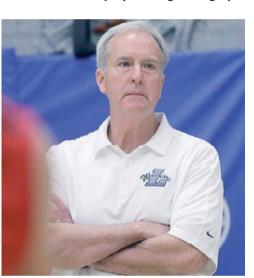
Where are Coaches?

Coaches serve as parental figures in many schools and communities, especially where sports are a source of civic pride. They are entrusted with the care of players at night, on weekends and during out-of-town trips. They call teams "family". While many live up to that image, coaches in several cases AP examined fostered the opportunity for misconduct through poor supervision. Some coaches became aware of misbehavior but treated it as a team disciplinary matter. Others failed to do anything.

• A group of five Florida baseball players had allegedly penetrated two teammates, one with a Gatorade bottle, during an out-of-town tournament in 2016. One boy told the coach, who responded, "It's just baseball, keep it to yourself," according to a police report filed months later.



OLYMPIA, Washington: Amanda Jackson holds a basketball that belonged to her son as she poses for a photo on April 28, 2017 at a basketball court in a park where he used to play while growing up.



after seeing him bleeding. A nurse, not the coaches, contacted authorities. Back at the cabin, the head coach's wife cleaned up and threw the boy's soiled clothing into a garbage can, "essentially erasing evidence of the crime," investigators said.

The head coach called the boy's mother but "grossly minimized" his condition, so she allowed her son to remain with the team, authorities said. After his discharge from the hospital, the boy returned to the cabin, collapsed and had to be rushed into emergency surgery to repair a damaged bladder, colon and rectal wall.

The head coach instructed players at some point to keep quiet, investigators found. No school official including an athletic director, principal, assistant superintendent and superintendent - immediately called other parents. Another victim's mother found out the next day only because she called a coach to find out how the Ooltewah High School team's game went. "If this boy had not gone to the hospital, had he not been bleeding, nobody would have known about this," said Eddie Schmidt, a lawyer representing the player's family, which did not respond to interview requests.

The head coach and other school officials said in legal responses they didn't know about the violence or seek to withhold information from parents. The coach and his wife, who was not charged, did not respond to messages. While the accused attackers were ultimately prosecuted, the adults ultimately escaped prosecution. A judge ruled that the failure-to-report laws didn't apply in player-onplayer abuse, a gap that some state legislators want to close. And while coaches in the Tennessee, Florida, Texas and New Mexico cases lost their jobs, some returned to work elsewhere. For instance, the Texas basketball coach from the Dallas suburb of Flower Mound - is now at a private school. Charles Freet told AP that remarks he and his assistant made at the time "accurately explain what occurred and I have nothing more to add."

Laws Impact Accountability

In many ways, what happened among high school basketball players in Leechburg, Pennsylvania, a small town outside Pittsburgh, is a microcosm of the problem. Some Leechburg players were sodomizing teammates with a phallic-shaped piece of wood they called a "yoshi" stick, records and interviews show. If someone goofed in practice, players would yell, "You're getting yoshied!" After two boys' parents complained in Jan 2016, the school investigated for half a day and the principal sent a one-page letter saying the boys simply were "harassed by three varsity players with a wooden stick". The players were briefly suspended, but the district reported zero incidents in the 10 sex offense categories the state education department requires it to track.

Someone alerted authorities, and Leechburg police soon said they had unraveled additional assaults dating back 10 years. In March 2016, Chief Michael Diebold announced "there may have been catastrophic failure within the school district." But no charges were filed because Diebold said either victims declined to press for them or incidents hadn't escalated enough to meet the legal standards for sexual assault or other charges. Diebold said Pennsylvania's hazing law also wasn't available because it applied only to colleges at the time. He decided to leave the case open should a witness or other victim come forward.

Lack of serious consequences can raise doubts about allegations that already have been mislabeled by schools or coaches, said Susan Lipkins, a New York psychologist and author who specializes in sports attacks. And that can lead to backlash against victims, she noted, with communities uniting behind coaches or accused players. The parents of one of the targeted Leechburg boys said his family is now afraid to dine out in public because of blowback. "We've pretty much been ostracized from the community," the boy's father told AP Meanwhile, Leechburg Coach Damian Davies eventually lost his position, but many fans, parents and former players rallied in his support. He remains a teacher and unpaid coach for girls' basketball and has sued the district for a copy of its internal investigative report, which he believes will clear him. "No players have ever come to me" Davies said. "As the players told me, either nothing happened or if it did it was a joke."

Chavez statue toppled

The last death in Venezuela's unrest, of a 22-year-old man, occurred Friday during looting in impoverished Venezuelan cities hardest hit by a worsening economic crisis. In Valencia, where he died, some areas

has been "held on trumped up charges by the government since 2014". Haley also raised the issue of Venezuela's detention of an American citizen, Joshua Holt, arrested in Caracas nearly a year ago on what US media said was false evidence planted by police. —AFP

TEXAS ADOPTION AGENCIES COULD BAN JEWS, MUSLIMS

AUSTIN: Parents seeking to adopt children in Texas could soon be rejected by statefunded or private agencies with religious objections to them being Jewish, Muslim, gay, single, or interfaith couples, under a proposal in the Republican-controlled Legislature. Five other states have passed similar laws protecting faith-based adoption organizations that refuse to place children with gay parents or other households on religious grounds - but Texas' rule would extend to state-funded agencies. Only South Dakota's is similarly sweepingly.

The bill had been scheduled for debate and approval Saturday in the state House, but lawmakers bogged down with other matters. It now is expected to come up next week. Republican sponsors of Texas' bill say it is designed to support the religious freedom of adoption agencies and foster care providers. Many of the agencies are private and faith-based but receive state funds.

But opponents say it robs children of stable homes while funding discrimination with taxpayer dollars. "This would allow adoption agencies to turn away qualified, loving parents who are perhaps perfect in every way because the agency has a difference in religious belief," said Catherine Oakley, senior legislative counsel for the Human Rights Campaign. "This goes against the best interest of the child." The bill also blatantly violates the Constitution, Oakley added. "As a governmental entity, Texas is bound to treat people equally under the law," said Oakley. "This is a violation of equal protection under the law."

State Rep James Frank, the bill's author, said it's designed to address the state's foster care crisis by making "reasonable accommodations so everyone can participate in the system." "Everyone is welcome. But you don't have to think alike to participate," said Frank, a Republican from rural Wichita Falls, near Texas' border with Oklahoma. A federal judge in 2015 ruled that the state's foster care system violated youngsters' constitutional rights. Republican Gov Greg Abbott made fixing it an "emergency" priority and the Legislature has increased funding while backing a number of major changes.

No Alternatives

Suzanne Bryant, an Austin-based adoption attorney who works with LGBT clients and was one of the first individuals to have a legal same-sex marriage in Texas, said the bill fails to provide alternatives for prospective parents rebuffed by adoption agencies. "Say you call an agency and say, 'I'm Jewish,' and it's a Catholic agency and they hang up on you," said Bryant. "The bill says you can be referred to another agency, but there's no mechanism to set that up."

Not only could agencies turn away hopeful parents under the religious freedom provision, but they could require children in the foster care system to comply with their faith-based requirements, said Bryant. That means child welfare organizations could send LGBT kids to conversion therapy, a treatment designed to turn people straight - which the Pan American Health Organization calls a "serious threat to the health and well-being of affected people." And they could deny young people contraception and abortions.

"If a 17-year-old who is sexually active wants birth control, the burden to prove that constitutional right is on the child," said Bryant. "They don't have their parents advocating for them and supposed to go it alone against the system." Frank said most adoptions happen through the state's Child Protective Services, which would not be subject to the religious freedom mandate, though outside agencies that receive state funding would be. He said his bill "codifies" the choices adoption agencies are already making as they select parents.

"My guess is if you have an LGBT agency they're going to pick an LGBT family, and if you have a Baptist agency they may be more likely to pick a Baptist family," Frank said. "They're free to do that and should be free to do that." Frank also said the bill directs state child services to ensure that other outside adoption providers without religious objections are made available to help would-be adoptive parents who get turned away by any who do raise objections. But his proposal is just one of 24 pending bills in the Texas Legislature that LGBT advocates say encourage discrimination. —AP ARGYLE, Texas: High school basketball coach Charles Freet stands on the sidelines during a junior varsity basketball game on Feb 10, 2017. Freet is working at a Dallas-area private school after he lost his job as a boys' basketball coach at Flower Mound High School in 2011.



BELLEVUE, Pennsylvania: Damian Davies, now an unpaid assistant coach for the Leechburg High School girls' basketball team, stands courtside before his team plays on Feb 17, 2017.

• In Texas, a teacher reported in 2011 that basketball players were putting their fingers in teammates' bottoms. The coach insisted the action was merely a joke and not hazing, and his assistant called the complaint a "misrepresentation" by a "disgruntled player and father," school records show. The district told AP the allegations were reported to authorities, but police said they were not notified.

• Two New Mexico football coaches walked in just after a player was sodomized with a broomstick in 2008. The boys laughed it off as an "initiation" and coaches took no action, failing to halt a subsequent attack, district records show. Seven victims later sued, settling for \$5 million.

Then there's a Dec 2015 case involving a Tennessee basketball team, investigated jointly by the prosecutor's and sheriff's offices in Chattanooga, along with an outside review the Hamilton County school district commissioned. The law enforcement report shows that a freshman confided to a coach that upperclassmen had sexually assaulted him and others with a pool cue in a cabin during an out-of-town tournament trip.

Despite that warning, the upperclassmen continued unchecked. Two went on to pin another boy face down on a bed as a third thrust a pool cue into his rectum, shredding two layers of clothing and breaking off the tip inside him. The coaches, who were elsewhere in the cabin, heard him scream and drove him to a hospital

Changing a Culture

Often in sports, a culture of acceptance sets in and enables further abuse. Experts say players are indoctrinated when they're new, transition into bystanders seeing others harmed and sometimes become attackers themselves, feeling a form of duty to uphold team "tradition." Some players may even think enduring such acts builds team toughness. But more often, Lipkins said, older players use sexual violence to exert dominance over newer or smaller boys vying for the roster. "What's worse for a young jock than to be emasculated to the lowest level, to be like a girl?" she said.

Athletes who are sexually assaulted feel particularly pressured to stay silent, experts say. After all, speaking up could jeopardize a spot in the lineup they've trained years for, or risk team success by getting other players in trouble. Amanda Jackson's son waited two years to tell her what he said he experienced as a freshman at Capital High School in Olympia, Washington.

After showering at a 2010 basketball camp, he was tackled by four upperclassmen who tried to penetrate him with their fingers, according to his deposition in the family's pending lawsuit against the Olympia School District. The boy said he didn't want to worry his mom, plus he was "afraid to tell on my teammates". "I felt like if I told someone," he testified, "then I would have been, you know, excluded from the team and not able to play varsity basketball." He finally spoke up after more boys were jumped at a similar camp, leading the district to investigate the school. A psychological evaluation conducted as part of the lawsuit showed Jackson's son exhibited post-traumatic stress symptoms. He went on to play college basketball, but his mother still worries about him."I want to get everything out there so people understand this is not normal," she said. "I am sick and tired as a parent of running into individuals, professional individuals, who do this 'Oh, boys will be boys.'"

Peg Pennepacker, who specializes in legal issues for the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association, said safety training would help alter those attitudes. "If we don't make a cultural shift at the K-12 level, nothing's going to change," said Pennepacker, athletic director at Pennsylvania's State College Area School District. Hopkins, the sports safety expert, said sexual violence could end "overnight" if schools stressed the dangers to players and coaches, encouraged speaking out and taught healthy team-bonding. "We have the power and skill sets in schools to end it," he said. "But adults aren't saying the proper words to the kids and adults aren't saying the proper words to the coaches. And that's why it goes on." —AP

FRENCH ELECTION: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW



PARIS: Former French presidential election candidate for the right-wing Debout la France (DLF) party Nicolas Dupont-Aignan prepares to vote at a polling station after casting his ballot in Yerres, southern Paris yesterday during the second round of the French presidential election. —AFP

PARIS: Pro-EU centrist Emmanuel or she can serve a maximum of two Macron takes on far-right candidate Marine Le Pen in the second-round run-off of France's presidential election yesterday.

Why is it important?

France is the eurozone's secondbiggest economy as well as a global military and diplomatic heavyweight, with veto power as a permanent member of the UN Security Council. The second round has boiled down to a battle between the pro-European, pro-globalization vision of Macron and Le Pen's hostility to the EU and NATO. If Le Pen wins, it would further shake up the West's postwar order, already rattled by Britain's vote to leave the EU and Donald Trump's election to the White House.

President's powers

Directly elected, the French president looms large over the political landscape of the Fifth Republic. He five-year terms and has the final word on all foreign policy.

The president has the power to appoint and replace the prime minister and presides over the cabinet. He or she can propose laws and, with the prime minister, can force them through parliament unless there is a successful no-confidence vote. The French leader has the power to propose a referendum without needing approval from parliament.

As head of the armed forces, he or she has the power to order the use of nuclear weapons. The president is immune from prosecution and has the power to pardon convicted criminals.

How is the president elected?

The president is elected in a direct popular vote of one or two rounds. Yesterday's run-off comes after neither candidate obtained an absolute majority in the first round. Every

French presidential election since 1965 has gone to a second round.

What happened in the first round

Macron won 24 percent of the vote and Le Pen finished second with 21.3 percent as France's traditional left and right parties were eliminated in the first round for the first time since the start of the Fifth Republic in 1958.

How does the election work?

A total of 47.58 million people are registered to vote. The country's 66,546 polling stations opened at 8:00 am (0600 GMT) and most closed at 7:00 pm, while those in Paris and other big cities remained open an hour longer.

What happens next?

The new president will take over from Socialist Francois Hollande and is expected to be sworn in by May 14. — AFP

GERMANS IN FAR NORTH VOTE IN TEST FOR MERKEL RIVALS Social Democrats keen to regain momentum after loss

KIEL, Germany: Germans in the far northern state of Schleswig-Holstein voted in force yesterday in the first of two regional polls the Social Democrats must win if they are to pose a serious challenge to Chancellor Angela Merkel in September's national election. The Social Democratic Party (SPD) enjoyed a revival in the opinion

polls early this year after nominating former European Parliament president Martin Schulz in January as its candidate to run against Merkel.

But the "Schulz effect" failed to deliver in Saarland, where his party flopped in a March state poll. In Schleswig-Holstein, the SPD is defending an incumbent state pre-

mier - Torsten Albig - for the first time since Schulz's nomination as party leader. "Last night we took a trip through lots of bars," a chipper Albig told reporters after voting in Kiel. "I think I only met undecided voters, and I think there is a lot of potential there."

Albig will need to capture the undecided vote. A survey by poll-

ster Forschungsgruppe Wahlen for national broadcaster ZDF published on Thursday put support for Merkel's CDU at 32 percent in his state, ahead of the SPD on 29 percent. Jobs and wind farm plans are among the regional issues in Schleswig-Holstein, a region of 2.3 million voters that juts north of Hamburg and borders Denmark.

"If Torsten Albig wins, whatever the coalition constellation, that will show people that the election in September is open," said Hajo Funke, political scientist at Berlin's Free University.

The state election commissioner in Schleswig-Holstein estimated that by 11 am (0900 GMT), 21.55 percent of eligible voters had cast their vote, up from 17.7 percent at the same stage in the last regional vote in 2012. The SPD's chances of toppling Merkel will be boosted further if they can hold onto power next Sunday in North Rhine-Westphalia (NRW), a large western region where elections in the past have served as an indicator of the national mood.

However, the left-leaning party



HANOVER: A police officer helps an old woman of the district Vahrenwald in Hanover, central Germany, during the evacuation yesterday. German police yesterday evacuated some 50,000 people from the northern city of Hanover in one of the largest post-war operations to defuse World War II era bombs. —AFP

BRITAIN'S LABOR PLEDGES NO TAX **RISE FOR MIDDLE-INCOME EARNERS**

LONDON: Britain's opposition Labor Party said middle and low earners would not face tax hikes to fund its spending plans if it wins next month's election, with the burden falling instead on the top five percent of earners and big business.

Prime Minister Theresa May's

"Jeremy Corbyn will have to raise taxes because his nonsensical economic ideas don't add up and he'll make a mess of the Brexit negotiations," said chief secretary to the Treasury David Gauke.

The BBC's Andrew Marr put it to McDonnell, who like Corbyn is on the far left of the Labour Party, that he would be



BERLIN: Hundreds of people attend a rally of the Pulse of Europe movement in Berlin vesterday. Pulse of Europe goes to the streets equipped with the symbols of Europe to demonstrate for a united Europe. —AP

has its work cut out. Two polls on Thursday showed Merkel's conservative bloc extending its lead over the SPD at national level to six and seven percentage points respectively. Polls suggest a power-sharing "grand coalition" between the SPD and the conservatives could be the sole governing option in Schleswig-Holstein - a scenario that could also arise again at the federal level after the September election. —Reuters

6,000 MIGRANTS RESCUED IN MEDITERRANEAN IN TWO DAYS

ROME: Some 6,000 migrants hoping to head to Europe were rescued in the Mediterranean on Friday and Saturday in dozens of frantic operations coordinated by the Italian coastquard.

Some 3,000 were picked up Saturday by the navy, coastguard, EU border agency Frontex and several NGOs, the coastguard said in a statement. Some of them have already been taken to shore in Italy while others, including 730 onboard a ship operated by Doctors Without Borders (MSF), were on their way. The Libyan coastguard told AFP it had picked up around 170 migrants off Tripoli on Saturday, but had failed to rescue others "due to a lack of means".

The rescues came a day after around 3,000 others were found floating in rubber boats and on makeshift rafts after having left Libya, heading towards Italy.

The International Organization for Migration meanwhile said fishermen had rescued 371 migrants Friday off the coast of the Libyan town of Zuwara. Italy and Libya have moved to boost cooperation in recent Laura Lanuza says the Golfo Azzurro, a for-

months in order to cut the number of people risking their lives by attempting the dangerous Mediterranean crossing.

The Italian government said in a deal signed with Libya in February that it would offer manpower as well as technical assistance to the Libyan coastguard. Rome said this week that it had delivered two speedboats to Libya at the end of last month, with eight more due by the end of June.

Some 37,000 people, many of them sub-Saharan Africans, have arrived in Italy from Libya since the start of the year-a figure some thirty percent higher than a year earlier, according to the Italian interior ministry. More than 4,500 migrants died or were missing and feared drowned in 2016, and another 1,000 have met the same fate this year.

Over 500 migrants who were trying to cross the Mediterranean in several small boats that were in danger of capsizing have been rescued at sea, a Spanish aid organization said yesterday.

Proactiva Open Arms spokeswoman

mer fishing trawler the group operates, plucked 514 migrants from over a dozen rubber and wooden boats during a 24-hour period from Saturday to yesterday morning. The people rescued were refugees fleeing the war in Syria and migrants from sub-Saharan Africa who had set sail from Libya, according to Lanuza.

The rescue boat was filled to capacity and headed for an Italian port since the weather was turning bad, she said. The Golfo Azzurro was operating as part of an NGO rescue fleet coordinated by the Italian coast guard.

Also yesterday, Spain's maritime rescue service said a rescue boat and helicopter worked together to save three migrants in a small vessel found 4 kilometers (2 1/2 miles) off the Spanish coast. Hundreds of thousands of migrants and refugees have crossed the Mediterranean Sea in smugglers' boats in hopes of a better life in Europe, but thousands die each year trying. Libya is one of the prime launching points. On Saturday, a Spanish navy frigate rescued another 651 migrants off the coast of Libya. —Agencies

UKRAINE BARS RUSSIAN JOURNALISTS ENTRY FOR EUROVISION

KIEV: Ukrainian officials yesterday said they had blocked several Russian journalists who visited the annexed Crimea peninsula from entering the country to cover the Eurovision Song Contest in Kiev.

Border service spokesman Oleg Slobodyan said two unnamed Russian journalists were on Sunday "not allowed across the frontier and banned from entering Ukraine for three years" over visits they made to the Crimea region seized by Moscow.

"The state border service notes that having accreditation for Eurovision does not give you the right to cross the border," Slobodyan wrote on Facebook. Officials said on Saturday they had also banned a Russian state news agency photographer from entering the country for the same reason.

This year's glitzy Eurovision contest-which culminates in the final on May 13 — has been overshadowed by a dispute between foes Ukraine and Russia after Kiev banned Moscow's entrant over a concert she held in Crimea. The spat saw Russia eventually turfed out of the competition after the country's state television refused to broadcast the event in protest. The former Soviet neighbors have been locked in a deep feud since Moscow snatched the Black Sea Crimea peninsula from Kiev in March 2014 after the ouster of

Ukraine's pro-Kremlin leader by protestors.

Russia subsequently backed insurgents who have taken over swathes of the east of the country in a bloody conflict that has cost some 10,000 lives. Ukraine's pro-Western leader Petro Poroshenko on Sunday said that Eurovision would draw international focus to the country as it struggles to break away from Moscow's grip.

"The attention of hundreds of millions of television viewers from the whole world will during these days be riveted on Ukraine, on our Europesan aspirations, on our fight for freedom and for independence," Poroshenko said. —AFP

Conservatives, which have a commanding lead in the polls, have attacked Labor's spending plans, claiming a victory for Jeremy Corbyn's party would lead to more debt and higher taxes. Labor's finance spokesman John McDonnell said he would guarantee no tax rises for five years for all those earning less than 80,000 pounds (\$104,000) if the party were elected.

There would be no hikes in valueadded sales taxes and no changes in national insurance either, he pledged. "Labor is now the party of low taxes for middle and lower earnings," he said in a speech yesterday. However, those earning above that threshold would be asked to pay "a modest bit" more to help fund public services, he said on the BBC's Andrew Marr show.

Businesses would also be asked to stump up to pay for upgrades to Britain's infrastructure, such as high-speed broadband and new railways. "As part of the new settlement, a Labor government will be asking business to contribute its fair share, with the largest companies paying a bit more in tax," he said. The details would be set out in Labor's manifesto published the week after next, he said.

The Conservatives said Labor would have to increase taxes to tackle what they said was a 45-billion-pound black hole in its spending plans.

the first Marxist Labour finance minister.

"I'm going to be the first socialist, in the tradition of the Labour party," McDonnell said.

When asked if he was a Marxist, he replied: "Well I'll tell you - I believe there is a lot to learn from reading (Das) Kapital." The Conservatives jumped on his comment. "The man Jeremy Corbyn wants to make Chancellor (finance minister) believes that the nonsensical ideas of Karl Marx - punitive taxes, closing down businesses and the removal of private property - should be at the heart of Britain's economic policy," said International Development minister Priti Patel.

May has said she would not increase value-added tax if she remains prime minister, but she has not extended the same promise to other taxes. The Conservative's campaign has focused on Brexit, with May asking voters to strengthen her hand as she seeks a mandate for her plan to quit the European Union's single market.

A commanding lead in opinion polls of up to 19 percentage points, and big gains made by her party in local elections last Thursday, put her on track to increase her majority, but pressure to look beyond Europe and detail her approach to tax and spend policies is mounting. —Reuters

ARMED MAN 'SEXUALLY HARASSED' FEMALE MONITOR IN UKRAINE

KIEV: A female member of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe mission monitoring the conflict in eastern Ukraine was "sexually harassed" by an armed man in rebel territory, the group confirmed yesterday. The OSCE has already limited its patrols in parts of the war-torn east since it sustained its first fatality of the three-year conflict when an American medic was killed in an apparent mine blast last month in the insurgent-controlled area.

A spokeswoman for the organization confirmed to AFP yesterday that the latest incident took place in territory seized from Kiev by Russianbacked separatists. "A man armed with an assault rifle (AK-47) sexually harassed a female patrol member and threatened to stop the patrol from moving east from Petrivske towards Rozdolne until his demands were met," the OSCE said in a statement released late Saturday.

The patrol then "left the area via a different road", it said, without specifying when the incident happened. The unarmed OSCE mission is the only international presence on the ground in Ukraine observing the implementation of a largely-ignored peace deal signed in February 2015.

Ukrainian forces and rebels clash sporadically along the volatile frontline as the conflict which has cost some 10,000 lives since April 2014 rumbles on. Kiev and the West accuse Russia of masterminding and fuelling the conflict, but Moscow denies evidence it has sent troops and weapons across the border. —AFP



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INTERNATIONAL

NEAR ALL-MALE PANEL IN S KOREA'S PRESIDENTIAL RACE

SEOUL: When Park Geun-Hye was elected South Korea's first female president five years ago she secured the largest-ever vote share of the country's democratic era. But after her term ended in impeachment and disgrace only one of the 13 candidates to succeed her is a woman.

Analysts say the near all-male panelepitomized by rows of campaign posters dominated by middle-aged men in dark suits-demonstrates the enduringly patriarchal nature of Korean society.

The only exception is Sim Sang-Jeung, a former labor activist who is the leftwing Justice Party's candidate. Park-the daughter of the late dictator Park Chung-Heewas ousted from power in March over a massive corruption and influence-peddling scandal centred on a secret female confidante that prompted millions to take to the streets calling for her ouster. She is now detained and awaiting trial for charges including abuse of power and bribery, and the public outrage unleashed a storm of sexist remarks online such as: "Don't even dream about having a female president for the next 100 years.

Sim condemns what she calls a sexual double standard, saying no one took issue with the gender of two previous presidents-both men-who were imprisoned in the 1990s for their part in crushing the Gwangju Uprising against the military-backed dictatorship. "We had two other ex-presidents jailed for slaughtering



SEOUL: South Korean presidential candidate Ahn Cheol-soo (center), of the People's Party is greeted by supporters during an election campaign in Seoul yesterday. — AP

countless citizens who were protesting against army rule. But not a single person said, 'No more male presidents'" she said in a campaign speech.

Park is a conservative who did little for women's rights while in office, and female politicians struggling with the glass ceiling say her humiliating downfall has done nothing to help. "I've seen recently many male voters, or even male politicians, saying, 'This is why women should never be in politics," said Han Jeoung-Ae, a two-term lawmaker with the centre-left Democratic Party. "We have no shortage of male politicians brought down by corruption and other crimes, but no one ever frames it as the failure of entire male politicians like they do over women," she told AFP.

Glass ceiling

Female politicians are still a relative rarity in the South, accounting for only 17 percent of parliamentary representatives, ranking it 30th among the 35 advanced nations of the OECD. That is an advance on the six percent of 2000, but it is still "extremely hard" for female politicians to secure electoral nominations, said Nam In-Soon, a Democratic lawmaker, who is pushing for parties to be legally obliged to select women as at least 30 percent of their candidates.

"We have made some progress over the years, but most internal networking within a political party's leadership is still based on the good old boys' club," she told AFP. "We still have this hard, thick glass ceiling all over our head." Park herself rose to power largely due to the popularity of her father, who remains widely revered by older voters who benefited from rapid growth under his 1961-79 iron-fisted rule. South Korea remains a deeply conservative society in many respects and, along with Japan, is seen as one of the worst places for working women among economically advanced nations. The two Asian neighbors were this year ranked at the bottom of the Economist's "Glass Ceiling index", which measures gender equality at work among 29 advanced nations.

'Superwoman Prevention'

Sim has no chance of victory at the

ballot box, with South Korea's leading pollsters both putting her in fourth place in the final surveys of the campaign, on 7.3 percent according to Realmeter and eight percent for Gallup Korea, far behind Democratic Party front-runner Moon Jae-In. But the 58-year-old scored well in debates and was the most vocal critic of Hong Joon-Pyo, the candidate of Park's conservative Liberty Korea Party, who is known as "Korea's Trump" for his outspoken rhetoric and sexist remarks and has been polling third. Hong, 62, drew fire for saying "washing dishes is women's work" in an interview, and for bragging in his memoir about helping a college friend with an attempted date rape by drugging a woman.

MONDAY, MAY 8, 2017

Sim targeted him repeatedly during a television debate until he forced out an apology. Sim is pushing for measures to help working mothers faced with the double burdens of employment and household duties, dubbed "Superwoman Prevention Laws", and rules to make half the cabinet women.

'The current reality faced by female politicians still looks bleak," said Lee Jin-Ock, head of Korea Women's Politics Solidarity think tank. But Sim offers a ray of hope as a "new female leader who climbs the political ladder on her own terms", she said, "unlike Park who symbolizes the patriarchal, patronage politics of the past". — AFP

PAKISTAN ARMY KILLS 50 AFGHAN SECURITY FORCES IN BORDER FIGHT

Afghan families flee as Taleban take key northern district

has destroyed at least five Afghan checkpoints near the border between the two countries, killing about 50 security forces. Maj Gen Nadeem Ahmad told reporters yesterday at the Chaman border crossing that two of his soldiers were also killed and another nine were wounded. The Pakistani and Afghan armies have been clashing at the border crossing in southwestern Baluchistan province since Friday.

Officials in Islamabad say the fighting began after Afghan security forces fired on Pakistani census workers and the troops escorting them, killing nine civilians and wounding 42, including

QUETTA, Pakistan: The Pakistani army says it women and children. Pakistan and Afghanistan routinely accuse each other of providing sanctuaries to their enemy insurgents - which both sides deny. Hundreds of Afghan families have fled fighting between the Taleban and government forces near the northern city of Kunduz as the insurgents captured a strategic district soon after launching their annual spring offensive. The militants began their assault on the Qala-e-Zal district in Kunduz province on Saturday and captured most of it including the district centre. The attack triggered intense fighting with government forces that sent civilians fleeing toward the provincial capital of Kunduz. The Norwegian

Refugee Council, which has offices in Kunduz, said in a statement that some families were forced to sleep in the open while others moved into the homes of relatives.

"Around 2.30 am Taleban fighters came to our houses and asked us to evacuate. They told us not to make any sound. We were all afraid," said Abdul Karim, 31 who fled Qala-e Zal with his family to Kunduz city, according to the statement. "Taleban fighters were shooting from one side of our house and the Afghan National Security Forces from the other side. A rocket landed in my garden. My wife told me that if I didn't flee, she would leave the house alone with our two daughters," said another resident, 29year-old Rahman Gerdi. Mahfuzullah Akbari, a government spokesman, said Afghan forces retreated from the district to avoid civilian casualties while a Taleban spokesman said in a statement they had forced them out.

"We have launched an operation to retake the district," Akbari told AFP. On April 28 the Taleban launched their "spring offensive", heralding a surge in fighting as the US tries to craft a new Afghan strategy and NATO considers sending more troops to break the stalemate against the resurgent militants. The annual spring offensive normally marks the start of the fighting season, though this winter the Taleban continued to battle government forces. An attack on a military base in the neighboring city of Mazar-i-Sharif left at least 135 soldiers dead earlier last month. The militants also claimed to have captured Sangin district in the volatile southern province of Helmand in March, underscoring their growing strength. The Taleban briefly seized Kunduz city in September 2015 in their biggest victory since they were toppled from national power by a US-led invasion in 2001. They were able briefly to re-enter the city centre in October 2016 before once again being pushed back. —Agencies



MANILA: Philippine National Police Bomb Squad remove items at the scene following two overnight explosions in Manila's Quiapo district, Philippines yesterday.—AP

PHILIPPINES SAYS BOMB SPARKED BY FEUD BUT IS CLAIMS ATTACK

MANILA, Philippines: A bomb explosion that killed two people in a Muslim community in Manila was sparked by a personal feud, Philippine police officials said yesterday, but the Islamic State group claimed its fighters were responsible.

have been killed and six others injured by detonating an explosive device by the Islamic State fighters in central Manila."

The death toll differed from details released by the police and other officials in Manila. There have been fears of the Sunni-Shiite violence spreading to the largely Roman Catholic Philippines, home to minority Muslims who are mostly Sunnis in the country's south. A Shiite center was bombed in the south in 2015 and two local Shiites were killed in an attack near Manila that same year. A pipe bomb also exploded in Quiapo on April 28 while President Rodrigo Duterte's administration was hosting an annual ministerial meeting of The Association of Southeast Asian Nations in a convention center a few kilometers (miles) away. Albayalde and other police officials said the April 28 blast was triggered by a gang feud and unrelated to Saturday night's bombing. Police, backed by a SWAT contingent, early Friday raided the house of a suspect in that explosion and found materials to be used for two more pipe bombs, along with shotgun ammunition and electrical bomb parts. The suspect, who was only identified as Saro, was not in the house in Manila, according to a police report. The bombings came amid ongoing military offensives against the Abu Sayyaf and other groups, which have pledged allegiance to the IS group. —AP





In this March 20, 2017 file photo, Pakistani paramilitary soldiers stand guard while people wait for the opening of the border crossing in Chaman, Pakistan. — AP

AFTER FACING DOWN SCANDAL, NAJIB VULNERABLE ON RISING COSTS

servants have long been one of the most reliable vote banks for Prime Minister Najib Razak's ruling coalition, but as he prepares to seek re-election he faces warnings that soaring living costs risk eroding that support.

Prices have risen sharply since Malaysia cut state subsidies and launched a national goods and services (GST) tax to plug a hole in its finances caused by falling oil and gas revenues, and rank-and-file government workers say they are feeling the pinch. "My wife earns some side income doing freelance work, but we just can't save," said 28-year-old Mohd Nizam, who has supported Najib's United Malays National Organisation (UMNO) in the past but, like around a dozen public sector workers who spoke to Reuters, did not want to say if he would do so again.

"I don't know how we'll manage if we have a child," said Nizam, who rides a motorcycle to work each day in the administrative capital Putrajaya, where he earns 3,000 ringgit (\$687) a month as a government clerk. Rising prices were a key factor that prompted urban and non-Malay voters to abandon the coalition led by UMNO over the past two elections.

But UMNO clung on to its rural Malay Muslim heartlands and the votes of rank-and-file civil servants - most of whom are ethnic Malays due to a decades-old positive discrimination policy that gives them priority for government jobs.

The next election is not due until 2018 but, after facing down a corruption scandal at state developer 1 Malaysia Development Berhad (1MDB), Najib is expected to capitalize on opposition disarray and call an election this year.

Analysts expect Najib to win, but he has little room for manoeuvre. In 2013 the UMNO-led Barisan Nasional (BN) coalition lost the popular vote but won most seats in parliament - if its majority were further eroded this time Najib could face an internal leadership challenge.

Rizalman Mokhtar, a grassroots leader with UMNO, said he feared civil servants - who make up around 15 percent of all voters could turn against the party if nothing is done about the rising cost of living. "We have to

on our support," he said.

Deeper debt

Malaysia's annual inflation hit an eight-year high of 5.1 percent in March, among the quickest in Southeast Asia and far outpacing Singapore, Indonesia, the Philippines and Thailand.

Private sector wage growth is expected to average 5.7 percent between 2013 and 2017, based on data compiled by the Malaysian Employers' Federation. But public sector wage growth was between 2 and 3 percent over the same period, according to the Congress of Unions of Employees in the Public and Civil Service (Ceupacs). Ceupacs President Azih Muda said civil servants have ended up heavily indebted to manage rising living costs, to the point

KUALA LUMPUR: Malaysia's 1.6 million public address this issue, or it will have a big impact that more than 60,000 of them risk bankruptcy. "This is a direct effect of the hike in cost of liv-

ing. Civil servants end up taking up a lot of loans and this is unsustainable and they are unable to

manage their finances," Azih told Reuters. Adib Zalkapli, an analyst with political risk consulting firm Vriens & Partners, agrees cost-ofliving issues threaten to eat into a core component of UMNO's support.

The hardest hit would be the rank-and-file civil servants working and living in major cities like Kuala Lumpur or Penang," Adib said, adding that civil servants had less flexibility to take parttime jobs than other low-paid urban workers. Naiib last month assured the public that managing cost of living remained his government's priority, arguing that Malaysia remained among the cheapest countries in the region. — Reuters



KARO: The Mount Sinabung volcano spews thick volcanic ash, as seen from Beganding village in Karo, early yesterday. — AFP

Police said a package being delivered by a man exploded late Saturday in downtown Manila's Quiapo district, killing him and another man receiving it at a Shiite center. Police said four others were wounded. Another explosive, either a homemade bomb or a grenade, went off more than two hours later near the scene of the first blast and wounded two policemen deployed to help secure the area and investigate the bombing, according to authorities.

Metropolitan Manila police chief Oscar Albayalde said the bombing apparently was set off by a personal feud, adding the package that contained the explosive was intended for a specific person who may have been the target of the attack.

Albayalde called for public vigilance following the bombing, the second in more than a week in Quiapo, a popular transportation, shopping and religious hub mostly for the working class in the capital. The Manila police went on alert following the explosions. The Islamic State group, through its Aamaq media arm, claimed responsibility for the Quiapo explosion, saying in a brief statement that "five Shiites

INDIA'S ANTI-GRAFT CRUSADER FACES BRIBERY ALLEGATION

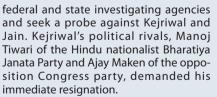
NEW DELHI: Anticorruption crusader Arvind Kejriwal's government in the Indian capital plunged into a crisis yesterday as a minister he fired over the weekend accused him of accepting 20 rupees million

(\$300,000) in cash as Arvind Kejriwal a bribe. There was no immediate comment from Kejriwal. His Aam Admi Party spokesman, Kumar Viswas, rejected the allegation by party lawmaker Kapil Mishra, describing it as an attack by rivals. "We don't want to give any credence to such wild allegations," said Ashish Khaitan, another party leader.

Mishra told reporters that in his presence, Kejriwal accepted the cash from another colleague and minister, Satyendra Jain, at his New Delhi residence on Friday. He said that Jain later told him that the money was paid in connection with a land deal worth 500 million rupees (\$760,000).

Mishra said he met Kejriwal on Saturday and asked him to explain the source of money to all party lawmakers but was fired. He said that Kejriwal told him that "such things happen in politics" and he would explain it later.

Mishra said he would meet officials of



The BJP is in opposition in the state legislature. Kejriwal launched the Aam Aadmi Party in 2012, and it won the Delhi state legislature election a year later, when he became the chief minister. Kejriwal, a 48-year-old former civil servant, campaigned to rid the Indian political system and governance of corruption and inefficiency.

The party's symbol - a broom- and its promise to sweep the administration of graft struck a chord with Delhi residents fed up with venal politicians, runaway inflation and slowing economic growth. The Congress party has been blamed for widespread corruption. But he resigned as the chief minister 49 days later because his minority government couldn't enact an anti-corruption law due to a lack of support from other political parties.

He took over as the chief minister for a second five-year term in 2015 after his party's stunning victory in the state elections when it grabbed 67 of 70 seats. However, his party seems to be losing the steam as it failed to win recent state legislature elections in northern Punjab state and western Goa state. — AP





MACRON ELECTED FRENCH PRESIDENT...

Continued from Page 1

"France is sending... an incredible message of hope to the world," veteran centrist Francois Bayrou, an ally of Macron, told France 2 television. "Anyone who bet on this has probably made a fortune."

Le Pen, 48, had portrayed the ballot as a contest between Macron and the "globalists" - in favor of open trade, immigration and shared sovereignty - and her "patriotic" vision of strong borders and national identities. In a short statement, Le Pen said she had called Macron to wish him "success" in tackling the "huge challenges" he faced and announced that she would lead the FN into June's parliamentary elections.

Macron will now face huge challenges as he attempts to enact his domestic agenda of cutting state spending, easing labor laws, boosting education in deprived areas and extending new protections to the self-employed. The philosophy and literature lover is inexperienced, has no political party and must try to fashion a working parliamentary majority after legislative elections next month.

His En Marche movement - "neither of the left, nor right" - has vowed to field candidates in all 577 constituencies, with half of them women and half of them newcomers to politics. "In order for us to act, we will need a majority in the National Assembly," the secretary general of En Marche, Richard Ferrand, told the TF1 channel, adding that only "half of the journey" had been completed. Many analysts are sceptical about Macron's ability to win a majority with En Marche candidates alone, meaning he might have to form a coalition of lawmakers committed to his agenda.

Furthermore, his economic agenda, particularly plans to weaken labor regulations to fight stubbornly high unemployment, are likely to face fierce resistance from trade unions and his leftist opponents. He also inherits a country which is still in a state of emergency following a string of Islamist-inspired attacks since 2015 that have killed more than 230 people.

The vote yesterday followed one of the most unpredictable election campaigns in modern history marked by scandal, repeated surprises and a last-minute hacking attack on Macron. Hundreds of thousands of emails and documents stolen from his campaign were dumped online on Friday and then spread by anti-secrecy group WikiLeaks, leading the candidate to call it an attempt at 'democratic destabilization''.

France's election authority said publishing the documents could be a criminal offence, a warning flouted by Macron's opponents and far-right activists online. It was the latest twist in an election that has consistently wrong-footed observers as angry voters chose to eject establishment figures, including one-time favorite Francois Fillon, a rightwing ex-prime minister. Unpopular President Francois Hollande was the first to bow to the rebellious mood in December as he declared he would be the first sitting president not to seek re-election in the French republic, founded in 1958.

In the first round of the presidential election on April 23, Macron topped the vote with 24.01 percent, followed by Le Pen on 21.30 percent, in a crowded field of 11 candidates. The results revealed Macron was favored among wealthier, better educated citizens in cities, while Le Pen drew support in the countryside as well as poverty-hit areas in the south and rustbelt northeast. — AFP

TRUMP SON-IN-LAW'S SIS WOOS CHINA 'GOLDEN...

Continued from Page 1

But they could fast-track the process by buying into the 1,476-unit complex in Jersey City, scheduled to break ground in early 2018.

The investment drive, hosted by Chinese governmentapproved immigration agency QWOS, has sought to highlight the project's connections to the "famous" clan, raising concern over potential conflicts of interest. Yesterday, Meyer was introduced in Chinese to investors as a representative of "a famed celebrity investment family". QWOS representatives courting potential investors on-site pointedly dropped the name of Trump's daughter Ivanka, who is Jared Kushner's wife and a popular icon on the mainland.

Attendees were reassured by an American lawyer that despite his tough talk on immigration, Trump himself was a key decision-maker for EB-5 policy and was unlikely to make any changes to it in the near future - making it a safe path to US residency. But acting sooner was better than later since investment thresholds were likely to rise come autumn and regulations tighten, he warned.

The housing complex, known as "One Journal Square", will include recreational facilities, child playrooms and a pet hospital, according to the QWOS website. EB-5 investment from China will account for around 15 percent of its

total \$976.4 million cost. The Chinese company's advertisements for the Journal Square development described the project as "Kushner 1", with punchy subtitles declaring that it has "government support" and is "founded by celebrity developers," without elaborating. Bi Ting, a 34-year-old woman who attended the Shanghai event, said having the name of the US president's son-in-law associated with it was "a bonus for the project".

Yesterday's presentations emphasized the complex's similarity to a Trump-branded luxury development a tenminute drive away. Those apartments were also developed by Kushner Companies, and about a quarter of the funding - around \$50 million - was obtained via EB-5 investment, according to a report last year by Bloomberg News. Most investors were Chinese and were brought in by QWOS, the company said.

Around a dozen clients had signed on for the new project after a Beijing event headed by Meyer the day before, QWOS representatives told AFP. There, Nicole Kushner Meyer told investors that the project "means a lot to me and my entire family", and mentioned her brother's former role as chief executive of Kushner Companies, the New York Times reported. Photos of the meeting showed promotional posters bearing the slogan: "Government supports it; Celebrity property developer builds it". — Agencies



PARIS: Supporters of French presidential election candidate for the En Marche! Movement Emmanuel Macron celebrate in front of the Pyramid at the Louvre Museum yesterday following the announcement of the results of the second round of the French presidential election. — AFP

20,000 EXPATRIATES DEPORTED IN 2016

Continued from Page 1

included a number of US and British citizens, in addition 🔰 number infected with hepatitis C. — Al-Qabas

to seven PhD holders. The sources also noted that 9,574 expats were deported because they were medically Well-informed sources stressed that deportees unfit, including 13 infected with HIV and a considerable

MONDAY, MAY 8, 2017

MP HAYEF SAYS GOVERNMENT DELAYING...

Continued from Page 1

MPs Waleed Al-Tabtabaei and Mohammad Al-Mutair have filed another grilling, which will be debated on the same day. The lawmaker said the outcome of the debate will decide whether the non-cooperation motion will be filed or not. Last week, a number of opposition MPs said the motion will be filed. Muwaizri warned that if the government violates the constitution

while dealing with the grilling, a new grilling will be filed against the prime minister.

MP Safa Al-Hashem said yesterday the financial and economic affairs committee discussed yesterday with State Minister for Economic Affairs Hind Al-Sabeeh the appointment of a new board of directors for Kuwait Airways Co. Hashem criticized the appointment because half of the members belong to a religious group.



E MAIL :info@kuwaittimes.net ads@kuwaittimes.net Website: www.kuwaittimes.net



<u>Kuwait 👞 Times 🌆</u>

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HOW DRUGMAKERS FACE PUSHBACK OVER HIGH PRICES

Focus

Pharmaceutical companies are under fire around the world as a wave of new treatments for cancer and other serious conditions reach the market at ever rising prices, and the pressure looks set to increase. This week the debate on drug pricing - a particularly heated topic in the United States - will move to Amsterdam as the Dutch government hosts a forum for World Health Organization (WHO) member states to promote "fair pricing".

After Donald Trump earlier this year accused drugmakers of "getting away with murder", shortly before he was inaugurated as US president, the May 11 event underscores the focus on medicine pricing in health ministries from Berlin to Beijing. In Europe, Germany's tough price negotiators have caused some firms to pull drugs off the market rather than accept price cuts, while Britain last month introduced new budget curbs on pricey products.

China and Japan, the two biggest non-Western markets for pharmaceuticals, are also bearing down on costs, and poorer countries find new drugs costing tens of thousands of dollars are simply out of reach, even with preferential pricing deals. "It's great that we have these treatments but we need to find a way to make them more affordable," Andrew Rintoul, the WHO health economist organizing the drug pricing forum, told Reuters.

Drugmakers know they must up their game to save their reputation - even as patients cheer the scientific advances behind their new products - and the industry is fighting to defend its corner more vigorously than ever. A major advertising campaign by the US Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America trade group, for example, includes accusations that insurers are failing to pass on the benefits of discounts negotiated with manufacturers.

This goes to the heart of a thorny issue. On the surface, the cost of medicines may be rising steeply but the picture is distorted by off-invoice discounts and rebates, which in the United States average around 30 percent, according to healthcare information firm QuintilesIMS. In Europe, such rebates amount to roughly 17 percent. "I personally don't believe in the talk of drug expenditure breaking the system," Thomas Cueni, who recently took over as director-general of the International Federation of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers and Associations, told Reuters. "When you look at the aggregate numbers, drug spending has been pretty stable in most OECD countries at around 10 to 15 percent of healthcare spending."

S President Donald Trump says collar president," said F. Vincent Vernuccio, labor unions have an open door to director of labor policy at the center-right his White House, but so far, he's nonprofit Mackinac Center for Public Policy holding the door a little more ajar for some in Michigan. "He's trying to bring back the organizations than others. Trump has put Reagan labor coalition and get the Blue out the welcome mat for the nation's con-Dog Democrats back." The White House struction trades, with whom he's had relasays the president is "open to meeting with tionships during decades of building office various individuals and groups on how to towers and hotels. Also invited in have improve the lives of all Americans." been auto, steel and coal workers who But even among unions with most-

favored status, there's some skepticism about whether he's for workers or just the executives who hire them. Trump got some boos and hisses during his address to the building trades union. And Chuck Jones, president of United Steelworkers Local 1999, with whom Trump feuded, raises an eyebrow at the talk coming from the White House. "I don't think from our perspective, he's a friend of the working class person," Jones said, noting that Trump's tax plan would benefit the president himself, and that Trump campaigned on "getting rid" of a long-standing free trade deal with Canada and Mexico. "Trump always had some kind of relationship with the building trades. But for regular manufacturing? This is not a good time for working people."

During his first 100 days, Trump has tried to appeal to those frustrated by seeing US jobs go overseas. For example, he scrapped US plans to participate in an Asia-Pacific trade pact and belittled the North American Free Trade Agreement, although he backed away from a campaign pledge to withdraw from it.

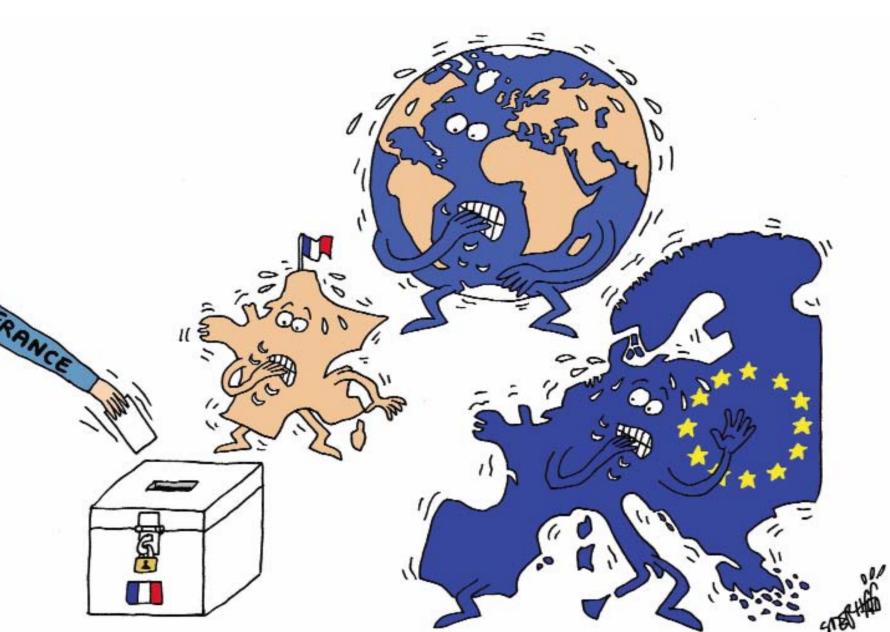
He's taken to Twitter to criticize American companies with plans to move some operations to other countries and threatened to tax any products they tried to sell in the US He's pushed a reluctant Republican-controlled Congress to pay for a \$1 trillion rebuilding of the nation's roads and bridges, and he's green-lighted the Keystone XL pipeline.

But while some unions have received the red carpet treatment, others have been largely ignored at the White House. Take teachers unions, traditional allies of Democrats. While Education Secretary Betsy DeVos joined Trump for White House sessions with teachers and other educators, neither of the two big teachers unions — the National Education Association and the American Federation of Teachers was invited. DeVos did accept an invitation from AFT President Randi Weingarten to tour a school in Ohio. stop the Republicans in Congress from trying to take out the protections for prevailing wage," she said. "Is he actually going to have enough money in there for projects?"

Trump is picking and choosing among labor unions at a vulnerable time for the movement in American politics. Union membership declined 240,000 in one year to 10.7 percent of the workforce in 2016, about half as much as when the Census Bureau began collecting such statistics in 1983. "There are some unions that, in fact, he has gone after. Teachers come to mind. Government employees come to mind," said the AFL-CIO's Richard Trumka, referring to the president's pledges to close or slash spending for the Department of Education and efforts to shrink the federal workforce.

Trump is starting with what he knows, and where labor is concerned, that means building trades go to the top of the list. "Did you ever think you'd see a president who knows how much concrete and rebar you can lay down in a single day?" he said at their conference last month. "We're a nation of builders, and it was about time we had a builder in the White House." This president, said Gary N Chaison, a labor historian at Clark University, "knows very well from his old days working in the hotel industry in Manhattan that it's important to get along with the construction unions." — AP

TRUMP WOOS SOME UNIONS MORE THAN OTHERS



ANALYSIS

MONDAY, MAY 8, 2017

More Disclosure

Still, the lack of price transparency is a major bugbear for policy experts like the WHO's Rintoul, who previously negotiated on pharmaceutical prices for the Australian government. Public sector officials see the obscurity surrounding prices as a big obstacle in efforts to negotiate effectively with pharmaceutical companies. There are also growing calls for greater disclosure on companies' R&D and production costs.

Transparency will be high on the agenda in Amsterdam, mirroring efforts by some US states to shine a light on costs. Vermont last year became the first such state to demand that companies justify drug price hikes by detailing factors behind the increase. Companies, however, are reluctant to specify exactly how they come up with drug prices and prefer to stress the value that their medicines bring to patients and society. "The industry has to stand up and argue its value proposition," said Cueni, who admits he is "apprehensive" about the tone of the WHO meeting. "I'm not a big fan of this term 'fairness' because, let's face it, fairness is in the eye of the beholder. There's no objective definition."

Drugmakers like Novartis and Takeda Pharmaceutical, which recently joined with the World Economic Forum to pilot schemes that will pay for drugs based on how well they work, would much rather the focus was on outcomes. But an expensive medicine that may be cost-effective, based on a particular methodology, can still prove to be unaffordable within limited national healthcare budgets. That has been the experience in many countries recently with highly effective new hepatitis C drugs from Gilead and others.

At the other end of the spectrum, the WHO meeting will also try to address the problem of shortages of some off-patent generic medicines, which should be cheap in principle but can hit supply problems if prices fall to unsustainably low levels. As well as tackling expensive drugs, some experts therefore believe minimum prices may be needed to keep certain vital products on the market. — Reuters

All articles appearing on these pages are the personal opinion of the writers. Kuwait Times takes no responsibility for views expressed therein. Kuwait Times invites readers to voice their opinions. Please send submissions via email to: opinion@kuwaittimes.net or via snail mail to PO Box 1301 Safat, Kuwait. The editor reserves the right to edit any submission as necessary. But he has not courted all union leaders or advocated for all labor priorities. For example, he's against a \$15-an-hour minimum wage and has let linger a rule expanding overtime pay. Much like President Ronald Reagan did, Trump is not so much pursuing a labor agenda but one that appeals to those who share his "Buy American, Hire American" priorities and happen to be union members.

backed him during the 2016 election.

But there's been no White House invita-

tion for other unions representing the

sprawling but shrinking pool of 14.6 mil-

lion workers who collectively bargain with

employers in the labor movement. "You

can tell Congress that America's building

trades and its president are very much

united," Trump told North America's

Building Trade Unions, even as he pledged

in the same speech, "America's labor lead-

ers will always find an open door with

Donald Trump."

"Trump is clearly working to be the blue

The 2016 election suggests labor is fertile political ground for Trump. Exit polls showed he pulled within 8 percentage points of Democrat Hillary Clinton among union members — a bigger margin than any GOP nominee since Reagan in 1984.

"Trump in New York was never involved in education. He was a blank slate on education," Weingarten said. "The big test for him even on infrastructure is: Is he going to

AS TRUMP WOOS XI, DALAI LAMA HAS TO WAIT

When Donald Trump was elected in November, the Dalai Lama said he was keen to meet the incoming US president, but since then Trump has cozied up to China's leader Xi Jinping, making it less likely the man Beijing deems a separatist will get an invite to the White House anytime soon. The United States has long recognized Tibet as part of the People's Republic of China, and does not back Tibetan independence. But that has not deterred all the recent US presidents before Trump from meeting the exiled Tibetan spiritual leader.

The United States is widely seen as the last major Western power that has still held meetings with the Dalai Lama despite Beijing's objections that such encounters foment separatism. In past meetings, the US had consistently voiced support for the protection of human rights of Tibetans in China, and called for formal talks between Beijing and the Dalai Lama and his representatives.

At a regular press briefing in Beijing on Friday, China's foreign ministry spokesman Geng Shuang reiterated that China resolutely opposes any foreign country allowing the Dalai Lama to visit or any foreign official having any form of exchange with him. He did not

say whether China had specifically requested Trump not meet the Dalai Lama. A US State Department spokeswoman and a White House official referred Reuters to the Dalai Lama's office when asked whether the Tibetan spiritual leader and his representatives had asked for a meeting with Trump and whether any such meetings were planned. "His Holiness was

supposed to go (to the US) in April, but it was postponed," Lobsang Sangay, head of the Tibetan government-inexile, told Reuters. That trip has been delayed until June due to a hectic schedule in the preceding months that had left the Dalai Lama physically exhausted, Sangay said, adding that Washington DC wouldn't be part of the June itinerary. The office of the Dalai Lama hasn't reached out to Trump to arrange a meeting yet, he said.

The Dalai Lama is taking a more considered approach with regard to any meeting with Trump, said a source with knowledge of the thinking of the winner of the 1989 Nobel Peace Prize. The unpredictable US president upset protocol in December when weeks before being sworn into office he took a telephone call from the leader of self-ruled Taiwan, which China regards as a renegade province, only to last week rebuff Taiwanese suggestions of another call.

In the interim, Trump has met and phoned Xi, and says he has built a strong relationship with the Chinese leader. He called Xi "a friend of mine" who was "doing an amazing job as a leader" in an interview with Reuters last week, and praised him for trying to rein in nuclear-armed North Korea. In return, the Chinese president has invited Trump to visit China this year.

In mid-2008, then British Prime Minister Gordon Brown met the Dalai Lama, to the anger of Beijing. Months later, the British Foreign Secretary at that time David Miliband ditched Britain's near century-long position on Tibet, describing it as an "anachronism", and explicitly recognized Tibet as part of China. Based on treaties signed at the turn of the 20th century by British-administered India and Tibet, Britain had previously said it would recognize China's "special position" in Tibet on the condition that Tibet was given significant autonomy.

Silence from Trump

Chinese troops took control of Tibet in 1950 in what Beijing calls a "peaceful liberation". Nine years later, the Dalai Lama fled to India after an abortive uprising and set up a government in exile, which China does not recognize. China sees the Dalai Lama as a dangerous separatist in a monk's robes, even though the Dalai Lama says he wants autonomy for his homeland, not outright independence. There have been no formal talks between Beijing and the Dalai Lama's representatives since 2010.

International rights groups and exiles say China stamps on the religious and cultural rights of Tibetans, accusations denied by Beijing. China says its rule has ended serfdom and brought prosperity to a once-backward trans-Himalayan region. Trump has

been silent on Tibetan issues. "The main change is that the US approach on Tibet seems

likely to become more transactional and therefore less consistent," said Robbie Barnett, director of the Modern Tibetan Studies Program at Columbia University. "It seems set to become more a question of contingency, dependent on how he calculates his relationship with China at any one moment." Reuters

Kuwait 🗠 Times 🛛 🌆

LEE SOARS TO ONEASIA

VICTORY IN SOUTH KOREA

SEOUL: South Korea's Lee Sang-hee built on the momentum of a pair

of front-nine eagles to card a final round three-under-par 68 to claim a

two-shot victory at the OneAsia GS Caltex Maekyung Open yesterday.

Lee, who started the day three behind overnight leader Phachara

five-over 76. —Reuters

Khongwatmai of Thailand, finished on eight-

under 276 for the tournament, a couple clear of

compatriot and 2015 champion Moon Kyong-

jun. A trio of Koreans were grouped in a tie for

third, with defending champion Park Sangh-

yun (73), Park Hyo-won (72) and Kim Seung-



SHANGHAI SIPG DENY CLAIMS HULK PUNCHED RIVAL COACH

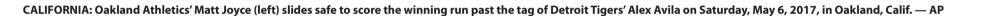
HONG KONG: Brazilian striker Hulk has been accused of punching the coach of a rival team on Saturday because he "despises the Chinese people", a claim his club Shanghai SIPG denied after their latest win in the Chinese Super League. Hulk, who joined SIPG from Zenit St Petersburg in an Asian record deal worth 55 million euros (\$60.47 million) in June last year, allegedly punched Guizhou Zhicheng assistant coach Yu Ming at halftime during his side's 3-0 win. "There were some arguments in the first half and their coaches took the initiative to insult us during the game, that was why we had the arguments with them," said out-going Guizhou head coach Li Bing, who is due to be replaced by Spanish coach Gregorio Manzano." This lasted until the break, and later, in the corridor, Hulk cursed our assistant coach in English. We argued with him and he punched our assistant coach Yu Ming and Yu fell to the ground. "Foreign players come here to help with the development of Chinese football, but no matter how well you play, you can't despise Chinese people, let alone beat our Chinese coaches." SIPG, who won the game after a heated first half that saw referee Gu Chunhan disallow two Guizhou goals in the opening 45 minutes, denied the allegations on social media.— Reuters

AUSTRALIAN OLYMPIANS MISS DRUG TESTS: REPORT

SYDNEY: Olympic silver medalist Madeline Groves and two other Australian Olympic swimmers are facing possible two-year bans for missing drug tests, reports said yesterday. Groves, two-time Olympian Thomas Fraser-Holmes and Rio Olympic open water swimmer Jarrod Poort missed three drug tests in a 12-month period, the Sunday Telegraph reported. Swimming Australia said it was informed by the Australian Sport Anti-Doping Authority (ASADA) and the sport's world governing body FINA that some team members may have failed to update their whereabouts. "ASADA and FINA are yet to finalize their processes and to confirm the final outcomes in relation to these matters," SA said in a statement. "Under ASADA and FINA rules, Swimming Australia is unable to announce details on any individual swimmers who may have failed to update their whereabouts appropriately until ASADA and FINA have completed their process." Athletes are required to keep their whereabouts updated for the purpose of drug testing. —AFP

hyuk (66) all sitting four strokes adrift of Lee at Namseoul Country Club. The 18-year-old Khongwatmai, bidding to become the OneAsia Tour's youngest winner, ended up tied in sixth after a error-strewn round that saw him rack up seven bogeys and a double-bogey on the final hole in a





HICKS, CASTRO LIFT YANKEES OVER CUBS

CHICAGO: Aaron Hicks tied a career high with four hits and Starlin Castro homered and drove in three runs against his former team as the New York Yankees pounded Brett Anderson and the Chicago Cubs 11-6 in Major League Baseball on Saturday. Hicks connected for a three-run homer in the eighth inning as the AL East leaders earned their fourth straight win, extending their surprising start. Jordan Montgomery (2-1) pitched into the seventh for his first road win in his fifth major league start. Castro, a three-time All-Star with the Cubs before he was traded to the Yankees in December 2015, hit an RBI double in New York's five-run first. He drove a 3-1 pitch from reliever Felix Pena deep into the bleachers in left for a two-run shot in the fourth, giving the Yankees an 8-0 lead. Anderson (2-2) allowed hits to six of his first seven batters before he was pulled with one out in the first with lower back tightness. He also committed a throwing error that brought in a run.

NATIONALS 6, PHILLIES 2

Ryan Zimmerman homered, drove in three runs and led Washington over Philadelphia. AJ Cole (1-0) allowed a run over six innings in his first start of the season and helped the Nationals win their fourth straight game. The Nationals lead the majors with a 21-9 record and won the last two games without 2015 National League Most Valuable Player Bryce Harper. Harper strained his left groin on Thursday and could return to the lineup. Zimmerman's 13th homer of the season gave the Nationals a 2-1 lead and gave him a 13game hitting streak. Anthony Rendon hit a three-run homer off Phillies starter Vince Velasquez (2-3) in the sixth.

INDIANS 3, ROYALS 1

Carlos Santana and Francisco Lindor hit back-to-back home runs with two outs in the ninth inning to lift Cleveland over Kansas City. Kelvin Herrera (1-1) gave up the home runs in a span of three pitches. Santana took a 2-0 pitch out to right-center. Lindor hit his eighth, which landed in the Indians' bullpen. Andrew Miller (2-0) picked up the victory, while Cody Allen earned his eighth save in as many opportunities. The Royals led 1-0 going into the eighth, but the bullpen could not hold it. Joakim Soria, the third Kansas City pitcher, gave up three hits and the tying run in the eighth for his second blown save. Jason Kipnis' two-out single scored Michael Brantley.

PIRATES 2, BREWERS 1, 10 INNINGS

Josh Harrison singled home Gift Ngoepe with one out in the 10th inning to lift Pittsburgh over Milwaukee. Ngoepe led off the inning with a single against Carlos Torres (1-3),

Baseball results/standings

Seattle 8, Texas 2; LA Angels 2, Houston 1; Oakland 6, Detroit 5; LA Dodgers 10, San Diego 2; Colorado 9, Arizona 1; NY Yankees 11, Chicago Cubs 6; NY Mets 11, Miami 3; Cincinnati 14, San Francisco 2; St. Louis 5, Atlanta 3; Baltimore 6, Chicago White Sox 5; Pittsburgh 2, Milwaukee 1 (10 innings); Washington 6, Philadelphia 2; Cleveland 3, Kansas City 1; Tampa Bay 6, Toronto 1; Boston 11, Minnesota 1.

		n League Division				Nationa Eastern			
	W	L	РСТ	GB	Washington	21	9	.700	-
NY Yankees	19	9	.679	-	NY Mets	14	15	.483	6.5
Baltimore	19	10	.655	0.5	Miami	12	17	.414	8.5
Boston	16	14	.533	4	Philadelphia	12	17	.414	8.5
Tampa Bay	16	16	.500	5	Atlanta	11	17	.393	9
Toronto	10	20	.333	10		Central			
	Central	Division			Chicago Cubs	16	14	.533	_
Cleveland	16	13	.552	-	5				-
Minnesota	15	13	.536	0.5	Cincinnati	16	14	.533	-
Chicago White Sc	x 15	14	.517	1	St. Louis	15	14	.517	0.5
Detroit	15	14	.517	1	Milwaukee	15	16	.484	1.5
Kansas City	10	19	.345	6	Pittsburgh	14	16	.467	2
nullisus city		Division		0		Western	Divisior	n	
Houston	20	11	.645	-	Colorado	19	12	.613	-
LA Angels	16	16	.500	4.5	Arizona	18	14	.563	1.5
Seattle	14	17	.452	6	LA Dodgers	17	14	.548	2
Oakland	13	17	.433	6.5	San Diego	12	20	.375	7.5
Texas	13	18	.419	7	San Francisco	11	20	.355	8

advanced to second on a wild pitch and took third on pinch-hitter Jose Osuna's fly ball. Harrison drove a ball over the head of right fielder Domingo Santana for his seventh career walk-off hit. Tony Watson (1-0) pitched two scoreless innings for the Pirates. Pittsburgh's Gerrit Cole and Milwaukee's Matt Garza each allowed a run over seven innings.

DODGERS 10, PADRES 2

Clayton Kershaw pitched into the eighth inning, rookie Cody Bellinger hit a grand slam and drove in five runs and Los Angeles beat San Diego. Kershaw (5-2) allowed a run and five hits over 7 1/3 innings, striking out nine and walking four. Ryan Schimpf had a pinchhomer in the eighth off Kershaw. Clayton Richard (2-4) gave up five runs and seven hits while striking out five with a career high-tying six walks.

METS 11, MARLINS 3

Asdrubal Cabrera doubled to spark a fiverun first inning against fill-in starter Odrisamer Despaigne (0-1), then joined New York's long injury list when he hurt his left thumb and was forced to leave a rout of Miami. Jay Bruce drove in three runs with a pair of doubles, and Michael Conforto forced home runs with a pair of bases-loaded walks as the Mets won for the sixth time in eight games. Miami has lost nine of 11. A sloppy evening included a 39-minute rain delay after Cabrera landed on his thumb diving for Marcell Ozuna's ground single through the shortstop hole in the third inning. Robert Gsellman (2-2) gave up three runs and eight hits in five innings for New York.

ORIOLES 6, WHITE SOX 5

Dylan Bundy pitched six effective innings to earn his fourth straight victory, Trey Mancini homered and drove in three runs and Baltimore beat Chicago. Manny Machado hit his team-leading eighth home run for the Orioles, who will seek to complete a threegame sweep on Sunday. Bundy (5-1) allowed three runs and six hits, walking one and striking out three. Mychal Givens surrendered a two-run homer to Jose Abreu in the eighth before Darren O'Day worked the ninth for his second save. The Orioles are without a clearcut closer after lefty Zach Britton was placed on the disabled list for a second time Saturday with a strained left forearm. Still seeking his first major league victory, Chicago rookie Dylan Covey (0-3) gave up six runs and 10 hits in four-plus innings.

ROCKIES 9, DIAMONDBACKS 1

Tyler Anderson matched a career high with 10 strikeouts, Mark Reynolds homered for the second consecutive game and Colorado routed Arizona. Nolan Arenado also went deep and Charlie Blackmon added three hits for the Rockies, including a double and a run-scoring triple as the surprising NL West leaders moved 1 1/2 games ahead of Arizona. Anderson (2-3) pitched out of early trouble and went six innings. He punctuated his outing by striking out six of his last seven batters. Patrick Corbin (2-4), who entered with five straight quality starts, allowed a season-high eight runs and nine hits in four-plus innings.

REDS 14, GIANTS 2

Adam Duvall, Patrick Kivlehan and Eugenio Suarez each hit a solo home run in the first three innings, and Cincinnati set a season high in runs for the second straight game with a rout of San Francisco. Nine players drove in at least one run for the Reds, who got 18 hits and have scored 27 runs over a two-game span for the first time since May 2010 against Houston. Nine of Cincinnati's 18 hits went for extra bases. Reds rookie left-hander Amir Garrett (3-2) turned in his fifth start of six or more innings in six appearances. Left-hander Ty Blach (0-2) became the first Giants pitcher to allow as many as 10 runs in one game since the San Diego Padres scored 10 in 5 1/3 innings against Jamey Wright during a 10-4 win at San Francisco on May 1, 2006.

MARINERS 8, RANGERS 2

Danny Valencia drove in two during Seattle's seven-run seventh inning and the Mariners beat Texas. The Mariners sent 11 batters to the plate during their biggest inning of the season, getting five hits, a walk and a hit by pitch. Valencia's single came off reliever Dario Alvarez, who then allowed an RBI double to Taylor Motter and a two-run single to Ben Gamel. The inning started with Gamel's single off Martin Perez (1-5). James Pazos (1-1) worked one inning in relief following rookie starter Chase DeJong for Seattle.

RED SOX 11, TWINS 1

Rick Porcello pitched seven sharp innings and got some rare run support for his first victory since opening day, and Chris Young homered twice to lead Boston over Minnesota. After equaling last season's loss total in less than a month, the reigning American League Cy Young Award winner finally got to pitch

with a lead again when Boston took advantage of a costly Minnesota error and scored eight two-out runs in the second. Porcello (2-4) cruised the rest of the way, allowing only Robbie Grossman's homer in the third. Nick Tepesch (0-1) gave up seven runs - six unearned - in his first major league appearance since last June, and his second since the 2014 season.

ATHLETICS 6, TIGERS 5

Adam Rosales hit a two-run single off closer Francisco Rodriguez with two outs in the ninth inning, lifting Oakland over Detroit. Rodriguez (1-3) retired the first two batters before walking Bruce Maxwell. After Matt Joyce doubled, Rosales lined the first pitch he saw into left field. Maxwell scored easily and Joyce slid into home plate to beat the throw from Justin Upton. Yonder Alonso homered twice, Ryon Healy also went deep and Frankie Montas (1-0) retired three batters for his first major league win for the A's.

ANGELS 2, ASTROS 1

Andrelton Simmons singled in a run with one out in the ninth inning, helping Los Angeles break a three-game losing streak. Bud Norris (1-1) picked up the win in relief, while Chris Devenski (2-2) took the loss. Kole Calhoun walked to lead off the ninth, and Albert Pujols hit a single into short left field to send Calhoun to third with no outs. After Luis Valbuena struck out, Simmons hit a chopper to shortstop Carlos Correa, and Calhoun easily crossed home plate before the throw.

CARDINALS 5, BRAVES 3

Mike Leake won his fourth straight decision, Matt Carpenter and Matt Adams homered and St Louis beat Atlanta. Leake (4-1) allowed three hits, three runs, two walks and struck out two in seven innings. Cardinals closer Seung Hwan Oh earned his seventh save in eighth opportunities Braves ace Julio Teheran (2-3) gave up nine hits, four runs, two walks and struck out three in five innings.

RAYS 6, BLUE JAYS 1

Logan Morrison and Colby Rasmus hit tworun homers and Jake Odorizzi pitched seven strong innings for Tampa Bay in a victory over Toronto. Odorizzi (2-1) gave up a run in seven innings, the seventh straight time the righthander has given up two runs or fewer in starts against Toronto. Marco Estrada (1-2) gave up five earned runs in six innings.— AP





LOUISVILLE: John Velazquez rides Always Dreaming to victory in the 143rd running of the Kentucky Derby horse race at Churchill Downs on Saturday, May 6, 2017.—AP

ALWAYS DREAMING WINS 143RD KENTUCKY DERBY

LOS ANGELES: Always Dreaming won the 143rd Kentucky Derby on Saturday, pulling away in the final straight on a sloppy track at Churchill Downs in Louisville to claim the first jewel in US flat racing's Triple Crown. The triumph gave both jockey John Velazquez and trainer Todd Pletcher a second Kentucky Derby victory, but their first together. Pletcher saddled 2010 Kentucky Derby winner Super Saver, while Velazquez was aboard 2011 winner Animal Kingdom.

"It means a lot," Velazquez said of winning with Pletcher, the trainer he has teamed with so successfully over the years. "We have so much success in the past and we haven't won the Derby (together). Finally we got it together with this horse-incredible horse." Lookin at Lee finished second from the first post with Battle of

LOS ANGELES: Always Dreaming won the 143rd Kentucky Derby on Saturday, pulling away in the final straight on a sloppy track at Churchill Downs in Louisville to claim the first

Between them, he and Velazquez were twofor-63 in the fabled race that kicks off the coveted treble completed by the Preakness and Belmont Stakes. "You know, there has been a lot of talk about our Derby record," an emotional Pletcher said. "We were hoping for another one, and this one is all the more sweet." Thanks to support from the bettors-based on a stellar showing in the Florida Derby on April 1 and strong workouts since-Always Dreaming was sent off at 9-2 and became the fifth straight betting favorite to win the Kentucky Derby.

Under Velazquez, he broke well from the fifth post and was always near the front. State

of Honor set the early pace, with Battle of Midway and Irish War Cry near the lead. Always Dreaming hit the front going into the final turn. He withstood a challenge from Irish War Cry before pulling away in the straight to leave the late charging Lookin At Lee, a 33-1 shot trained by Steve Asmussen and ridden by Corey Lanerie, to finish second 2 3/4 lengths behind. Battle of Midway, trained by Jerry Hollendorfer and riden by Flavien Prat, held on for third at 40-1.

"Todd and I talked about it-just make sure you come out running and get a position you would like to have," Velazquez said of his intentions for his relatively inexperienced mount. "Once he got a comfortable position on the turn with the other horses I went to the outside. He got into the bridle beautiful in the backstretch. From then on we sat there until the quarter pole when I asked him to run." Pletcher admitted to a few anxious moments during the race. "I was a little worried on the back side. I thought a couple of times he wasn't completely in the bridle," Pletcher said. "But I could tell Johnny was riding him very confidently."

REALLY RUNNING

Pletcher also noticed Irish War Cry's jockey Rajiv Maragh peek under his shoulder as they headed into the stretch "like he thought he had a lot of horse". By that time, Velazquez said, he knew any challengers were "going to have to run really hard to get him, because he was really running." Classic Empire, winner of the 2016 Breeders' Cup Juvenile and the morning line favorite, was jostled at the start. He raced wide in the middle of the 20-horse field down the backstretch and rallied to finish fourth. Irish War Cry, sent off as co-favorite at 9-2, faded to finish 10th.

It was yet another Kentucky Derby disappointment for the Godolphin stables of Dubai ruler Sheikh Mohammed Al-Maktoum as their UAE Derby winner, Thunder Snow, broke awkwardly from the gate and was pulled up by Belgian jockey Christophe Soumillon. An initial examination indicated no serious injury to the horse. The US racing world's attention now turns to the Preakness at Pimlico in Baltimore on May 20. The Triple Crown concludes with the Belmont Stakes in New York on June 10. American Pharoah became just the 12th horse to complete the treble in 2015 and the first since Affirmed in 1978.— AFP



INDIA TO TAKE PART IN CHAMPIONS TROPHY

BCCI UNHAPPY WITH REVENUE SHARE FROM ICC

NEW DELHI: India confirmed their participation in next month's Champions Trophy in England and Wales yesterday after initially delaying the announcement of their squad over a revenue sharing disagreement with cricket's governing body. The dispute intensi fied when India failed to submit a squad for the one-day international tournament by an April 25 deadline after its cricket board (BCCI) was unable to stall a new income model being adopted by the International Cricket Council (ICC). "The Board unanimously authorized the acting honorary secretary of the BCCI to continue negotiations with the ICC in the best interest of the BCCI while keeping its legal options open," the BCCI said after a special general meeting. "The BCCI... unanimously decided that the Indian cricket team will participate in the upcoming ICC Champions Trophy. "The all-India senior selection meeting will be held tomorrow, May 8, in New Delhi to pick the team." At last month's ICC meetings, the BCCI was outvoted 13-1 in its bid to halt the revised deal which considerably slashes India's share from global events in the 2015-23 cycle. Unimpressed by the \$293 million forecast, down from the \$570 million it would have received under a 2014 arrangement, the BCCI responded by refusing to name a squad for the June 1-18 eight-team competition. Acting BCCI secretary Amitabh Choudhary will now continue to negotiate with the world governing body to get a bigger share of ICC revenues during the next eight-year cycle. "The ICC welcomes the unanimous decision from the BCCI special general meeting this morning to confirm the participation of defending champions India in next month's Champions Trophy," the ICC said in a statement to Reuters. "The hundreds of millions of cricket fans around the world just want to see good cricket and now we can all look forward to a superb event in England and Wales starting on 1 June." The option to boycott the event by revoking the Members Participation Agreement (MPA) between the ICC and the BCCI had been gaining traction within the board prior to Sunday's meeting despite a number of former players opposing any withdrawal. The four Supreme Court-appointed administrators (COA), who currently supervise BCCI operations, however, instructed the board to ensure the team continued their preparations to defend their title. The COA stepped in to try and end the dispute with the panel also meeting BCCI members on Saturday to remind them that a confrontational approach would not be in the board's interests. "We wanted them to take a middle ground and strive for a negotiated outcome with the ICC," a COA source said. "We are glad that we have achieved that and the team will play in the Champions Trophy." The top eight sides in the world rankings compete in the Champions Trophy with India winning the last edition in 2013.— Reuters



LAS VEGAS: Canelo Alvarez (right) throws a left at Julio Cesar Chavez Jr in the third round of their 164.5-pound catchweight bout in Las Vegas, Nevada. Alvarez won by unanimous decision. —AFP

BOXING

ALVAREZ PUMMELS CHAVEZ IN LOPSIDED VICTORY

LOS ANGELES: Saul "Canelo" Alvarez cruised to a unanimous decision over Julio Chavez Jr in a 12-round mismatch Saturday then announced in the ring that his next fight would be against Gennady Golovkin. After crushing Chavez, the World Boxing Organization light middleweight champ said he is set to face middleweight champ Golovkin on September 16. "Golovkin, you are next, my friend. Where are you? It's on," Alvarez said before bringing Golovkin into the T-Mobile Arena ring with him.

Golovkin didn't have to travel far to make the announcement as he watched Alvarez's fight from ringside in Las Vegas. "Congratulations," he told Alvarez. "I feel excited to be part of this big drama show." With his win over Chavez, Alvarez claimed Mexican bragging rights on Cinco de Mayo weekend. "I showed I can move, box and do all those things against a fighter who was bigger," Alvarez said. "He wouldn't throw punches." The 26-year-old Alvarez used Chavez for target practice, landing jabs, hooks and combinations at will as he won every round of the 164-pound (75 kg) fight on all three judges' scorecards.

Chavez, who has a four inch (10 cm) height advantage, was booed during and after the fight by the Vegas crowd. Alvarez

treated the lopsided bout as if it were a sparring session, even standing between rounds for the entire fight. "I never sit down during sparring and it is not necessary there and it wasn't necessary here. I told my corner I wouldn't sit down until it was necessary," Alvarez said. He landed 228 punches to just 71 for Chavez and an incredible 31 percent of his jabs connected as he had his way with former champion Chavez, who has largely made his career off the name of his famous boxing champion father Julio Cesar Chavez Sr.

Alvarez improved to 49-1-1 with his only loss coming against Floyd Mayweather in 2013. There was no title on the line Saturday as Alvarez moved up in weight to fight the much bigger Chavez at a catchweight of 164lbs. Alvarez was the heavy favorite going into the fight and it didn't take long to see why. Chavez had no answer for the punches from Alvarez which often came in combinations of three, four and sometimes even six. Chavez, 31, was bleeding from the left nostril in the fifth round. By the final round, he was bleeding from both nostrils and his left eye was almost swollen shut. He said Alvarez's counterpunches were taking a toll on him. "He beat me. If I attacked more, I would be open for more counterpunches," Chavez said.—AFP

OTTAWA: The Ottawa Senators celebrate after Kyle Turris scored the game-winning goal during overtime against the New York Rangers in Game 5 in the second round of the NHL hockey Stanley Cup playoffs on Saturday, May 6, 2017. — AP

OVECHKIN AND CO BEAT PENGUINS TO STAY ALIVE

WASHINGTON: Alex Ovechkin answered his critics as the Washington Capitals scored two third period goals just 27 seconds apart to beat the Pittsburgh Penguins 4-2 in game five of their NHL playoff series Saturday. Ovechkin and fellow Russian Evgeny Kuznetsov scored back to back to cap a three goal third period rally and cut the Penguins lead in the Eastern Conference second round series to 3-2. "I knew we were going to come through sooner or later," said Capitals' goaltender Braden Holtby, who made 20 saves. "We are sick of talk and we want to prove we can get it done. We have got to take that mindset into game six." The Penguins will try again to close out the series when it shifts back to Pittsburgh for game six today night.

Andre Burakovsky and Sweden's Nicklas Backstrom also scored for the Capitals, who had been outscored in the series despite peppering Penguins goalie Marc-Andre Fleury with more shots. Fleury stopped 28 shots on Saturday for Pittsburgh who got goals from Carl Hagelin, of Sweden, and American Phil Kessel. The game marked the return of Penguin superstar Sidney Crosby who suffered the fourth concussion of his career when he was crosschecked in the head by Washington defenceman Matt Niskanen.

Crosby took a regular shift, played on special teams and finished with one assist. Questions also surrounded Ovechkin heading into game five as the Russian dynamo struggled in game four and was looking at reduced ice time if he was unable to turn his fortunes around. Ovechkin responded with a superb individual effort to score the Capitals' fourth goal at 7:47 of the third to round out the scoring. He goal came just 27 seconds after Kuznetsov scored to make it 3-2 and give the Capitals their first lead of the contest.

Ovechkin cut across the top of the left faceoff circle and his initial shot was blocked by Ron Hainsey. Ovechkin collected the loose puck and then beat Canada's Fleury high to the glove side. Ovechkin now has two goals and five points in the series. The Penguins pulled their goalie for the extra attacker with over two minutes remaining in the third but were unable to get even one past Holtby.

Senators 5, Rangers 4 (overtime)

Kyle Turris scored at 6:28 of overtime to give the Ottawa Senators a come-from-behind 5-4 victory over the New York Rangers at Canadian Tire Centre on Saturday. The win gives the Senators a 3-2 lead in the best-of-seven Eastern Conference semi-final series that moves to New York for Game 6 on Tuesday. Turris' attempted first shot was blocked by a Rangers defender, but he was able to get control of the loose puck and beat goalie Henrik Lundqvist to end the game.

New York nearly won the contest two minutes earlier as Michael Grabner knocked a pass from Kevin Hayes out of mid-air at 4:12 of overtime. Officials quickly negated the tally on the basis of a high stick. Rangers winger Jimmy Vesey scored his first goal of the playoffs with 7:12 left in regulation to snap a 3-3 deadlock on a play that needed to be reviewed. Vesey dove across the crease to swat at the puck, but it wound up in the trapper of diving goalie Craig Anderson.

However, the replay showed that Anderson's glove was just on the other side of the goal line when he caught the puck. As the extra attacker that jumped on the ice when Anderson rushed to the bench, former Ranger Derick Brassard sent the game into overtime with 1:26 left on the clock. Off a scramble in front of the crease, Brassard batted the puck that went off a couple of Rangers before sliding behind Lundqvist. Jesper Fast, Nick Holden and Ryan McDonagh had the other Rangers goals while Mark Stone, Tom Pyatt and Mike Hoffman scored for the Senators. Lundqvist made 32 saves while Anderson stopped 29 shots.— Agencies

Konta shocked by Siegemund

MADRID: British number one Johanna Konta was knocked out in the Madrid Open first round by Laura Siegemund in the early hours of yesterday in a match that finished after 2 am. With all six scheduled matches on the main Manolo Santana court going the full three sets, the on-form Siegemund, fresh from winning in Stuttgart last week, and sixth seed Konta didn't get on court until just before midnight. Konta appeared to have handled the long wait better as she took the first set 6-3.

However, Siegemund battled back to take her winning streak to six matches, four of which have come against top 10 players, by taking the final two sets 7-5, 6-4. Eugenie Bouchard set up a potential mouth-watering second-round clash with Maria Sharapova by registering her first win on the WTA Tour since January's Australian Open over France's Alize Cornet 6-4, 4-6, 61. Bouchard called Sharapova "a cheater" last week and suggested the Russian should be banned for life after testing positive for meldonium. Sharapova faces Mirjana Lucic-Baroni in the first round on Sunday as the Russian continues her comeback from a 15-month ban. "I hope I can play Maria," said Bouchard.

"Once I step on the court, everything will be to the side. "But, you know, inside myself, I think I'll have a bit more motivation." World number three Karolina Pliskova was the only seed in action on Saturday to survive and even the Czech was pushed hard by Lesia Tsurenko before winning 7-6 (7/5), 2-6, 6-2. Ninth seed Madison Keys was beaten by Japan's Misaki Doi 6-4, 4-6, 6-4. And 12th seed Elena Vesnina's poor form since winning in Indian Wells in March continued with a straight sets 6-4, 6-4 defeat to Romanian Irina Begu.— AFP





Mitchell Drummond of the Crusaders

RUGBYU

CRUSADERS TAME BULLS IN KIWI RAMPAGE

SYDNEY: The Canterbury Crusaders stacked up their 10th-straight win as New Zealand continued on a Super Rugby rampage at the weekend, leaving South African and Australian teams scattered in their wake. The unbeaten seven-time champion Crusaders, even without key All Black forwards Kieran Read and Sam Whitelock, minced South Africa's Northern Bulls 62-24 in Pretoria to hold on to their lead in the fiercely-competitive New Zealand conference. It was the Crusaders' second-biggest victory margin this year after a 50-3 rout of the Japanese Sunwolves. They have totted up 167 points in their last three games, all against South African opposition.

The Christchurch outfit top the New

Zealand standings by four points from the Waikato Chiefs, with defending champions the Wellington Hurricanes a further four points back with a game in hand."We were really fired up for this match as the team has struggled to win at Loftus," skipper and flanker Matt Todd said, referring to the Crusaders' last win in Pretoria nine years ago. "Facing the Bulls, we needed early momentum and achieved that goal. However, our victory was not as easy as the scoreline suggests." It was yet another masterclass from the benchmark Super Rugby team, hammering the hapless Bulls 10 tries to three, prompting local pundits to call for the head of Bulls' coach Nollis Marais.

The Chiefs kept in touch of the high-flying

Crusaders with a bonus-point 46-17 win over the Queensland Reds in New Plymouth, marking the successful return of Charlie Ngatai. Ngatai was out of action for 12 months with concussion issues but showed no sign of rust on his return to join a logjam of talent vying for a start in the All Blacks midfield when the British and Irish Lions arrive next month. There were concussion issues for All Blacks hope Sonny Bill Williams as the Auckland Blues staved off the fast-finishing NSW Waratahs 40-33 in Sydney. Double World Cup-winning centre Williams left the field for a head injury assessment just before half-time and never returned.

LIONS ROAR PAST REBELS

Defending champions Wellington Hurricanes held off a fightback from South Africa's Western Stormers to extend their winning home run to 11 matches. The Hurricanes scored seven tries to one in the 41-22 victory, including two each for Jordie Barrett and Ngani Laumape, to inflict the Stormers' fourthstraight loss. The Otago Highlanders capped a sensational weekend for Kiwi teams with an incredible comeback to squeeze a 45-41 win over the Central Cheetahs in Bloemfontein. Trailing by 17 points in the 76th minute, the Highlanders rushed in three tries to stretch a winning streak to six matches, a feat they last achieved in 2005.

South Africa's red-hot Golden Lions posted their biggest win in Australia with a thumping 47-10 victory over the Rebels in Melbourne. The Johannesburg-based Lions hammered the hapless Rebels seven tries to one for their seventh-straight win and further extended their lead over the Coastal Sharks at the top of the South Africa 2 conference. The yellow-carding of Western Force centre Curtis Rona cost his side dearly as they lost 37-12 to the Sharks in Durban. The Jaguares of Argentina snapped a four-match losing streak with a come-frombehind 46-39 victory over the Sunwolves in Buenos Aires. Australia's ACT Brumbies and South Africa's Southern Kings had byes this weekend.— AFP

RUGBYL

AUSTRALIA'S CHIEF DEFENDS NRL AFTER COCAINE SCANDALS

SYDNEY: Australia's National Rugby League chief has defended the game following a series of drug scandals as one of the New Zealand players involved quit his country's Test captaincy. The sport in the past few days has been hit with cocaine-linked allegations involving a club chairman and three leading players in three separate incidents. "Can we do more education? Can we do more testing? We can. We do a hell of a lot of it," NRL chief executive Todd Greenberg told reporters late Saturday. But he defended the code, saying: "I don't think the game's got any bigger problem than what society has on a weekly and daily basis in confronting these sorts of challenges. "We've hundreds of young men inside the rugby league network. We do a huge amount of education, we do a huge amount of testing, we're still going to have issues, we know that. 'That's the realistic nature of the way we do our business. But we're no different than the rest of society." Greenberg's comments came as Gold Coast Titans and Kiwi star Kevin Proctor issued a statement saying he was "extremely embarrassed and sorry" for his actions. Proctor and fellow New Zealand forward Jesse Bromwich were allegedly caught attempting to buy cocaine outside a Canberra nightclub after losing a Test match to Australia on Friday. Bromwich said he would step down as New Zealand Test captain. His club Melbourne Storm announced they would stand him down for two NRL matches and from the club's leadership group. Proctor said the night was "a bit sion in Sydney on Thursday.— AFP

of a blur as I obviously had too much to drink before the incident". "Although I can't remember exactly what happened, I don't deny it," the 28-year-old said. "I am devastated by the whole thing and can't apologize enough to my Kiwi team mates, the NRL, the Titans, and all fans of the game." The Titans said Proctor was issued with a breach notice to appear before the



club's board, where any action or sanction against him would be determined.

'BREACHED CODE OF CONDUCT'

The New Zealand Rugby League said management and senior players would meet this week to consider possible sanctions. "The players have breached their code of conduct," NZRL chief executive Alex Hayton said in a telephone press conference, adding that he first heard about the incident through the media. Banning the pair from the New Zealand World Cup squad "could be one of a number of sanctions" to be considered, he added.

The Rugby League World Cup will be held from late October in Australia, New Zealand and Papua New Guinea. The NRL's Integrity Unit was looking into all the allegations, with Greenberg vowing "big consequences" if the cases are proven true. "There must be conseguences for actions and poor decisions ultimately cost people livelihoods in the game," he said. Cronulla Sharks club chairman Damian Keogh stepped aside following his arrest late Friday for alleged drug possession. Sydney Roosters' Kiwi centre Shaun Kenny-Dowall was charged over drug posses-

SALT LAKE CITY: Golden State Warriors forward Kevin Durant (right) fouls Utah Jazz forward Gordon Hayward (20) during Game 3 of the NBA basketball second-round playoff series on Saturday, May 6, 2017. — AP

WARRIORS OVERPOWER JAZZ TO TAKE 3-0 LEAD

LOS ANGELES: Kevin Durant scored 38 points and the Golden State Warriors withstood a determined Utah effort to down the Jazz 102-91 on Saturday to take a commanding 3-0 lead in their NBA playoff series. The Warriors will try to close out the best-of-seven Western Conference second-round series in game four on Monday in Salt Lake City. The Jazz had hoped a return to their home floor on Saturday would spark a resurgence, and it briefly looked as if it had. Although the Warriors got off to another fast start, leading by 10 after the first quarter, the Jazz, fueled by a standout performance from

French center Rudy Gobert, responded. They seized the lead for the first time in the

nine points in the final four minutes, Curry warming up late to contribute to the surge with series when they went up 48-47 in the second a three-pointer that made it 89-84. On the next possession Durant came off a screen and period, and led 50-49 at halftime. The hosts drained a pull-up three over Gobert to make it stretched their lead to as many as nine in the third quarter before the Warriors reasserted 92-84. Not long after, Durant and Gobert were themselves. Durant did the heavy lifting as involved in a testy exchange, with Durant called Stephen Curry connected on just six of 20 shots for a flagrant foul and a technical. Gobert, howen route to 23 points and Klay Thompson made ever, missed both free throws. Gobert finished just one basket in scoring six points. Trailing 75the night with 21 points and 15 rebounds for the 74 early in the fourth, the Warriors launched a Jazz, who were led by Gordon Hayward's 29 10-4 scoring run to regain a lead they wouldn't points but still find themselves one defeat away relinquish. The Warriors out-scored the Jazz by from elimination.—AFP



BUENOS AIRES: Sunwolves Shunsuke Nunomaki (center) is tackled by Jaguares' Joaquin Tuculet, left and Juan Martin Hernandez during a Super Rugby match on Saturday, May 6, 2017. — AP

JAGUARES HIT BACK TO PIP SUNWOLVES

BUENOS AIRES: Jaguares of Argentina snapped a four-match losing streak with a come-frombehind 46-39 victory over Sunwolves of Japan Saturday in a Super Rugby try fest. The hosts turned a 39-27 deficit 14 minutes from time into a seven-point victory thanks to tries from Matias Alemanno, Agustin Creevy and Matias Moroni. Jaguares scored seven tries and Sunwolves five at Estadio Jose Amalfitani in a lively conclusion to round 11 of the regular season.

Victory left the hosts with a slim chance of making the quarter-finals-they trail Coastal Sharks of South Africa by eight points with five games to play. Sunwolves are playing for pride having won just one of 10 matches, but running Jaguares close in their first visit to Buenos Aires confirmed recent improvement. They arrived in Argentina after finishing a three-match tour of New Zealand with an encouragingly narrow 27-20 loss to twice champions Waikato Chiefs.

"It was not our best performance this season, but we are very happy to have finished so strongly," said Jaguares No 8 and try scorer Leonardo Senatore. "A win is a win and securing four points is most welcome for us after losing four matches in a row, including one at home."We play in Buenos Aires again next weekend, against the Western Force, and Australian teams are very fast, so our preparations must take that into account." Sunwolves' Samoa-born centre Timothy Lafaele said: "Crucial mistakes in the closing stages cost us the match.

"The Jaguares also managed to slow play down at times which did not suit our style of play. "We have a bye next weekend before playing the Sharks and that gives us time to analyse this match and learn from our mistakes." A Will Tupou try in the second minute gave Sunwolves the perfect start and they led 25-22 after a first half which ended with lock Sam Wykes being yellow-carded. Jaguares failed to score against 14 men and appeared in trouble when a Wykes try converted by fly-half Yu Tamura gave the Tokyobased side a 12-point advantage.

But the power and direct approach of the Argentine pack told in the closing stages with two of the three tries coming from forwards while replacement back Moroni claimed the decisive score. Senatore, Emiliano Boffelli, skipper Creevy (2), Alemanno and Moroni scored tries for the Jaguares and they were awarded a penalty try, which is worth seven points in Super Rugby. Veteran playmaker Juan Martin Hernandez, who had a rare off-day in general play, kicked two conversions and a penalty and Joaquin Diaz Bonelli one conversion. Tupou, Shota Emi, Tamura (2) and Wykes were Sunwolves' try scorers while Tamura slotted four conversions and two penalties to finish with a 24-point haul.—AFP



HARDLINE CONTE TELLS CHELSEA TO GO FOR THE KILL

verge of winning the Premier League in his first season at Chelsea and the uncompromising Italian has challenged his players to now go in for the kill. Buoyed by second-placed Tottenham's 1-0 defeat West Ham on Friday, Conte's side host Middlesbrough today knowing they need six points from their last four games to be crowned champions. A title race that looked set to go down to the wire now seems certain to be a lengthy coronation party for Chelsea, who can clinch the trophy with a victory at West Bromwich Albion next Friday, providing they defeat Middlesbrough first. That would cap an incredible revival of Chelsea's fortunes under Conte's astute leadership. When the former Italy and Juventus

squad split into feuding cliques following Jose Mourinho's sacking the previous season. Against that acrimonious backdrop it was something of a gamble by Chelsea owner Roman Abramovich to hire a manager with no experience of the Premier League. At first Conte seemed unsure how he would tame a team of prickly and fragile egos and the alarm bells were ringing when Abramovich felt compelled to make a visit to Chelsea's training ground following successive defeats against Liverpool and Arsenal in September. Those chastening results have been

he faced the tricky task of uniting a

heralded as the turning point in Chelsea's season as Conte switched to his preferred three-man defensive sys-

LONDON: Antonio Conte is on the boss arrived at Stamford Bridge last July tem and the Blues immediately reeled off 13 consecutive league wins. But, just as significantly, Conte persuaded his players to buy into his belief that the foundations for success are laid on the training pitch, where focus on tactical discipline, patterns of play and supreme physical fitness have all been rewarded. Ensuring that powerful dressing room voices like John Terry, Diego Costa and Cesc Fabregas weren't granted special treatment also won over players who felt undervalued during Mourinho's turbulent reign.

WINNING MENTALITY

Conte this week gave a glimpse of the steely streak he has imposed on his players so impressively. "I like to underline a concept, I don't have to keep the

"You speak about 'happy'. I speak about 'to win' and to work very hard. "Players are not always happy to work very hard. But I think my target is to put in the mind of my players a winning mentality. "It's very difficult to keep 20 players happy. I want players ready to fight and to try to put themselves in the team, to try to win together.

"Then, if you are happy or unhappy, l don't care." Having won Serie A five times with Juventus, Conte knows how to insulate his players from the pressures of the title battle and it would be a major surprise if they surrender their four-point lead over Tottenham. The 47year-old isn't taking anything for granted however and urged his players to focus on beating Middlesbrough rather

players happy. We must win," Conte said. than looking ahead to a potential title celebration later in the week.

"For me it's not the first time to win the title. I have a good experience to face this type of situation," he said. "But it won't be easy until the end. My expectation for this game is we must play a great game against Middlesbrough. They are struggling to avoid relegation. We must be ready to fight, ready to find the right way to take three points." With only one win in their last 18 matches, second-bottom Middlesbrough must win today and hope other results go their way to have any chance of a dramatic escape from relegation. "We've not had much luck this season. If that comes our way over the next few days, then we'll take it," Middlesbrough manager Steve Agnew said.— AFP

ROBSON SET BENCHMARK FOR ENGLISH MANAGERS ABROAD

LONDON: English football managers should take a leaf out of the late Bobby Robson's book, Manchester United's Jose Mourinho told the Mail yesterday. Mourinho formed a close friendship with Robson-who died in 2009 from cancer-first as his interpreter at Sporting Lisbon and then at Porto whilst at the same time becoming a tactical analyst, the duo's time together peaking at Barcelona.

Mourinho, who later Sunday tackles Arsenal in a pivotal match in the race to finish in the Premier League top four and earn Champions League qualification, spoke to the newspaper as part of the 20th anniversary of Robson coaching Barcelona to a Cup Winners Cup victory over holders Paris Saint-Germain. Robson, who guided England to the 1990 World Cup semi-finals where they lost to the then-West Germany on penalties, was able to adapt to European football, said Mourinho, and handled the fallout of replacing Dutch legend Johan Cruyff at the helm brilliantly.

"Sir Bobby's mentality was to be very open-minded," Mourinho told the newspaper. "He enjoyed living and coaching abroad, meeting different people. "He was humble despite his experience. "He wanted to learn the differences between the leagues and didn't mind asking for advice or asking for help. "He changed and improved through the new experiences. He arrived in Portugal as a 4-4-2 coach when every team there played with lots of people in midfield. "He understood that he needed to change so he became more multi-functional. Even as an older manager."

Mourinho, who said Robson proved a rock when he lost his sister and mother-inlaw in the same year as his daughter was born, said this spirit of adventure and willingness to learn new things by coaching abroad is no longer a characteristic of English managers. "Nowadays it looks to me that English managers either don't like to go abroad or people abroad think English managers are for the English game," said Mourinho. "They haven't had someone to open the door for them in the last decade. "To be honest, I think that myself, (Pep) Guardiola and (Carlo) Ancelotti are guilty of why it's quite trendy to have managers from Portugal or Spain or Italy.

"Obviously the other guys then have to do well to keep it going, Leonardo Jardim at Monaco is doing phenomenal, Antonio Conte at Chelsea, others. "Maybe also in England, they don't have the jobs that give access to the big prizes. If you have a British manager like Tony Pulis and you are at West Bromwich Albion, it is very difficult to win a European Cup." Mourinho, who has gone on to be one of the most successful managers in club football, said it was no surprise that several of the Barcelona side went on to become really successful club coache.

Amongst those are Luis Enrique, who coached Barcelona to the treble in 2015, Guardiola, who led Barcelona to two Champions League triumphs amongst a plethora of other trophies, and Juan Antonio Pizzi, who won the 2016 Copa America with Chile. "When you are intelligent, you learn to drink from every source and Cruyff and (Louis) Van Gaal (who replaced Robson) were also important," Mourinho said. "But Bobby's leadership was phenomenal and that is a very important part of management." Mourinho said Robson had taught him another important lesson. "I would always get really upset after bad results, I am still the same, but Bobby helped me by saying if I thought of the other dressing room, that the other guys are very happy, it makes you feel less sad," said Mourinho.—AFP



NEWCASTLE: Newcastle United manager Rafa Benitez celebrates with the Championship trophy after they won their English Championship soccer match against Barnsley at St James' Park, Newcastle yesterday. - AP

BLACKBURN MAKE UNWANTED HISTORY, NEWCASTLE WIN TITLE

Former EPL champion Blackburn plunge into 3rd tier



Manchester City's Spanish manager Pep Guardiola

GUARDIOLA URGES PLAYERS TO SHOW MORE RUTHLESS STREAK

MANCHESTER: Pep Guardiola says Manchester City are the Premier League's most creative team, but the Spaniard warned his players must show a more ruthless streak despite their 5-0 rout of Crystal Palace. Guardiola's side were in prolific form as they thrashed Palace at Eastlands on Saturday to climb to third place, at least until Liverpool play Southampton. However, it was only City's third win in nine league matches, and their inconsistency this season has left them 12 points adrift of leaders Chelsea with three games to play.

Guardiola believes City would have been worthy champions this season had they been more clinical in front of goal. And he argued that the only time this season that they have created fewer chances than their opponents was at Tottenham in early October, when City lost 2-0. "Maybe I remember one game this season where the opponent create more chances. One at White Hart Lane. The others, no chance," Guardiola said. "We are better than all the other teams. Against Chelsea, we create more chances both here and at Stamford Bridge but in the boxes we are not good.

"We are the best team in the Premier League for creating clear chances. We are the best one. But we are not able to score goals. "The most difficult thing in football, basketball, tennis - in all the sports is that final moment." Without the injured Sergio Aguero, City enjoyed their biggest league victory under Guardiola, with goals from David Silva, Vincent Kompany, Kevin De Bruyne, Raheem Sterling and Nicolas Otamendi.

AMAZING TEAMS

Yet the manager can cite many examples of games where City did not take their chances and suffered as a result, most notably their 4-0 defeat in January at Everton, who scored their goals with their only four shots on target. "In the game against Everton, they arrive four times and we lose 4-0. We arrive more times than any other team," he said. "You see Real Madrid, Barcelona and Juventus, they create enough chances, similar to us, but they score goals. We've miss that this season a lot." City are effectively in a three-way fight with Liverpool and Manchester United for the final two Champions League places.

There is, though, the possibility that all three could still qualify, if United win the Europa League and finish fifth. "Today was important because we are playing for the future of the club," he said. "The Premier League is tough. There are four amazing teams fighting for the final two places. "I hope United can focus on the Europa League and next season we can have five English teams in the Champions League. It will be amazing." Palace manager Sam Allardyce was critical of his players, suggesting that they effectively gifted City the win.

Allardyce's side remain on 38 points after falling to a third successive defeat that kept them from securing their topflight survival. "Defensively we made too many mistakes and they punished us heavily," Allardyce said. "Our recovery from the first goal was good but we fell into the same shape at the start of the second and it was a bit of a capitulation. "All five goals could have been avoided if we had defended properly. That is the biggest disappointment. "Manchester City, normally when they beat you here, produce outstanding skills but we gifted them easy chances to score and they thrashed us."— AFP

LONDON: Blackburn Rovers became the first Premier League champions to drop into the third tier of English football on Sunday whilst Newcastle claimed the Championship title on a nerve-racking final day of the regular season. Wins for another historic club, two-time European champions Nottingham Forest - 3-0 over Ipswich-and Chinese-owned Birmingham City, who beat Bristol City 1-0, condemned Rovers, owned by Indian poultry firm Venkys, to the drop. Rafael Benitez-managed Newcastle did what they had to do beating Barnsley 3-0 but it took a howler from Brighton goalkeeper David Stockdale to ensure they returned to the top flight as champions.

Brighton-who started the day a point ahead of Newcastle-looked to be heading to a 1-0 win over Aston Villa until Stockdale somehow failed to prevent Jack Grealish's long range effort going into the net and the Seagulls were held 1-1. Blackburn at least departed with a 3-1 win over Brentford but that was little consolation as they contemplate League One and third tier football for the first time since 1980.

"We gave it everything we had today. It is a really disappointed day because we gave it absolutely everything," Rovers midfielder Jason Lowe told Sky Sports. "We knew if we won today we still didn't know what it would mean."

Things had looked extremely rosy for Rovers early on as they stormed into a 2-0 lead-Scottish international midfielder Charlie Mulgrew's goal, a delightful freekick, the pick of the two. However, by the time Craig Conway converted a late penalty to make it 3-1 the game was up as Forest and Birmingham were winning. Forest's hero was Congolese striker Britt Assombalonga who set them on their way with a first-half

penalty-shortly after a superb save by their 'keeper Jordan Smith had kept the scores leveland added his second and the hosts' third with an excellent solo effort in the second-half.

That had Forest manager Mark Warburton, who took the job after an acrimonious departure from Scottish giants Rangers earlier this season, charging down the touchline fist pumping in celebration. Birmingham, whose wounds were largely self-inflicted with a disastrous run under Gianfranco Zola after the owners removed Gary Rowett despite being just outside the play-offs, scraped the win they needed at the very least. A first-half goal by Che Adams-in front of Bristol City's biggest crowd for 37 years of more than 25,000 - raised a smile from veteran caretaker manager Harry Redknapp and sighs of relief from the fans.— AFP

SYDNEY FC GRAB A-LEAGUE CROWN

SYDNEY: Player of the season Milos Ninkovic converted the winning penalty to crown Sydney FC the champions of Australia's A-League in a gripping shootout win over Melbourne Victory in the grand final yesterday. The Serbian midfielder fittingly put away the clinching penalty to win the shootout 4-2 after the two sides were locked at 1-1 following extra time. The victory completed a record-breaking season for Graham Arnold's Sky Blues, who won their third championship title.

"It's not the greatest way to win or lose," Arnold told reporters. "I wanted it so badly for the players, for all they have done this year." Melbourne Victory, who finished 17 points adrift of Sydney FC after the 27-round regular season, looked on track for an upset following a 20thminute strike by the A-League's all-time leading scorer Besart Berisha. The Kosovo striker turned defender Alex Wilkinson and then fired past goalkeeper Danny Vukovic to put Victory ahead.Sydney FC forced extra time when defender Rhyan Grant rammed home David Carney's partially saved volley with just over 20 minutes of normal time remaining.

An intense struggle was only decided when Vukovic kept out Marco Rojas's penalty attempt in the shootout with a diving right-hand save. Ninkovic, who won the John Warren Medal as the A-League's best player, then stepped up to put away the winning penalty and spark jubilant scenes among the sold-out 41,500 crowd at Sydney's Allianz Stadium. It was the first championship for Vukovic and Wilkinson after three previous losing grand finals. The Sky Blues have been hailed as the A-League's greatest team after finishing the regular season with a record 66 points from 20 wins and just one defeat in 27 games.

Yet due to the unique nature of Australian finals football, Sydney FC had to beat Melbourne Victory for a fourth time this season to lift their third A-League championship. Berisha scored for the fifth time in an A-League grand final and is the competition's all-time leading scorer with 102 goals. Melbourne Victory, coached by Kevin Muscat, were chasing their fourth championship. "It's gut-wrenching trying to find the words now to explain to the players how they have lost. They didn't deserve to lose," Muscat said.— AFP



SYDNEY: Sydney FC's team celebrates their victory after the 2017 A-League Grand Final football match against Melbourne Victory at Allianz Stadium yesterday. Player of the season Milos Ninkovic converted the winning penalty to crown Sydney FC the champions of Australia's A-League in a gripping shootout win over Melbourne Victory in the grand final.— AFP



FIFA GATHERS IN BAHRAIN UNDER A FRESH CLOUD

DOHA: Two years on from the corruption crisis which consumed FIFA, football's governing body meets for its latest annual Congress in Bahrain this week still far from free of suspicion. It was May 2015 in Switzerland, as delegates prepared for that year's Congress, when plain-clothes officers pounced and arrested scores of FIFA officials. The ramifications of that are still being feltwith ongoing investigations in the US and Switzerland-and 24 months later fresh problems are emerging for the still relatively new leadership of president Gianni Infantino.

The run-up to this year's event in Manama, on May 11, has been overshadowed by the resignation from the FIFA council of powerbroker Sheikh Ahmad al-Fahad al-Sabah, who is facing corruption allegations in the US. Kuwaiti Sheikh Ahmad has been named as a coconspirator of disgraced Guam football chief Richard Lai, who recently pleaded guilty to receiving nearly \$1 million in bribes from football officials wanting his help to influence FIFA. Sabah's prominence across sport cannot be underestimated, as he also heads the Association of National Olympic Committees, the Olympic Council of Asia and has other senior sport administration posts, including with the Asian Football Confederation (AFC).

Issues on FIFA's agenda this week could also prove contentious. Item 16 is a proposal to look at how FIFA allocates its most prestigious tournament, the World Cup. Under current rules, the event cannot be staged in the same region more than once every 12 years. However, any change to this policy could allow football's emerging power, China, to make a bid for the 2030 tournament, just eight years after its AFC colleague, Qatar, controversially hosts the 2022 World Cup.

Any such move is likely to be challenged by Argentina and Uruguay which wants to jointly host the tournament in 17 years' time to mark the centenary of the very first World Cup, played in Montevideo. Another contentious issue is that of Israel and Palestine. The Palestine Football Association argues that the presence of six Israeli clubs on its territory is in

breach of FIFA statutes, which forbids another member association playing on another territory without permission. Israel argues that FIFA rules are unenforceable as there is no permanent border.

AFC FINALLY VOTES

But even before the FIFA Congress convenes, there could be controversy in Manama.BRN On May 8, in the same venue, the AFC will hold its rescheduled congress to finally elect its FIFA Council members. This vote has been delayed since last September when the AFC took just 27 minutes to abandon their extraordinary congress in Goa. The meeting was abruptly cancelled after Saoud Al-Mohannadi, Qatar Football Association's vice-president, was stopped at the very last minute from standing for election for the FIFA council.

He was then banned from football for a year after being accused of not cooperating with a FIFA corruption enquiry. However, last month, in a rare reversal, Mohannadi won his appeal against the ban handed down by a FIFA ethics committee. This exoneration though was too late for him to apply to stand for the council again. Mohannadi though has said he will be in Bahrain and has been "examining" ways to run again for election. Another item for the AFC to decide is whether or not to agree to Iraq's request to end the international ban on hosting football matches.—AFP

GERMAN ROUNDUP

HAMBURG, MAINZ IN RELEGATION DANGER

BERLIN: Hamburger SV and Mainz played out a scoreless draw yesterday, leaving both teams in danger of relegation with two rounds of the Bundesliga to go. Hamburg's Christian Mathenia was the busiest of the two 'keepers in a scrappy game of few clear-cut chances. Mathenia produced a good save to deny Jhon Cordoba and then Yoshinori Muto from the rebound early on. A long ball put Bobby Wood in a good position at the other end but Mainz captain Stefan Bell cleared for a corner. Hamburg is the only founding member of the league never to have been relegated. It remained in the relegation playoff spot, while Mainz was immediately above Hamburg on goal difference. Augsburg and Wolfsburg are both two points clear, while Ingolstadt and lastplaced Darmstadt have already been relegated. Freiburg was hosting Schalke in the late game.—AP



ENGLISH PREMIER LEAGUE Chelsea v Middlesbrough 22:00 beIN SPORTS HD 2

SPANISH LEAGUE PRIMERA Leganes v Real Betis 21:45 belN SPORTS HD 3



French Roundup

Lyon beat Nantes 3-2

PARIS: With top scorer Alexandre Lacazette off the pitch, promising forward Maxwell Cornet showed what he could do with two goals as Lyon beat Nantes 3-2 in the French league yesterday. The 20-year-old Cornet put Lyon 2-1 up in the 70th minute with a powerful header and volleyed in the winner 10 minutes later, shortly after captain Guillaume Gillet had equalized for Nantes. The win all but guaranteed Lyon will finish in fourth place, but the result was harsh on a Nantes side that played attacking football throughout. After scoring with a bullet header from a corner, Gillet pointed to the team bench and raced over to slide into the arms of coach Sergio Conceicao. What a difference Conceicao has made since taking charge in early December, with Nantes languishing in 19th place and morale at rock-bottom. The team is now in eighth place and everyone playing for each other. The straight-talking Conceicao, a former Portugal winger, has instilled great confidence in players who were clearly lacking motivation. Midfielder Valentin Rongier put Nantes 1-0 up in the 19th minute when he beat goalkeeper Anthony Lopes from the edge of the penalty area. Lyon equalized in the 65th when Fekir won and converted a penalty after running at the heart of the defense.

inside. With penalty-taker Lacazette going off moments earlier, Fekir stepped up and shot confidently beyond goalkeeper Maxime Dupe's reach. Cornet nodded in from Memphis Depay's corner from the right to make it 2-1. Neither team could defend set pieces and - after Gillet leveled in the 75th -Depay headed on from another corner and Cornet beat Dupe with a firm strike. Lyon needs more goals on Thursday, when it faces Ajax in the return leg of their Europa League semifinal. The Dutch club won 4-1 in Amsterdam last week. Later, third-placed Nice was away to Marseille. Nice is still hoping to finish second and ensure direct qualifiROME: Lazio's midfielder (from Brazil) Felipe Anderson kicks and scores a penalty during the Italian Serie A football match Lazio vs Sampdoria at the Olympic Stadium yesterday. — AFP

LAZIO DEMOLISH SAMPDORIA

Immobile sparks rout as Lazio pile pressure on Roma

MILAN: Ciro Immobile hit a brace as Lazio thrashed Sampdoria 7-3 to cut the gap on third-placed Roma to five points in Serie A yesterday. A week after a 3-1 romp secured the bragging rights in the Rome derby, Lazio extended their impressive endof-season run of form to lead 5-1 by half-time. Simone Inzaghi's men made sure there was little chance of a comeback from the Genoa side with Senad Lulic hitting their sixth just after the hour before Immobile completed his double 20 minutes from time. Lazio's 21st win of the campaign left the capital side in fourth but Roma, and a possible Champions League qualifying place, remain in sight with three games left to play. Now 11 points ahead of sixthplaced AC Milan, Lazio are guaranteed at least Europa League football next season. "We played great," said Lazio left-back Jordan Lukaku. "It wasn't easy to produce a repeat of our derby win, but every one of us put everything into this game." Roma, 10 points behind leaders Juventus and two behind Napoli, visit the San Siro later where they can expect to meet a fired-up AC Milan after the Rossoneri were given extra incentive in their bid to claim a Europa League place. Milan trail fifthplaced Atalanta by six points but were buoyed after the men from Bergamo were held 1-1 by Udinese. Vincenzo Montella's side were probably even happier by seeing city rivals Inter stretch their winless run to seven games after succumbing 1-0 at Genoa after a 70th-minute strike by Goran Pandev. It was Inter's third defeat on the trot, their fifth in their past seven games and left them in seventh place, nine points behind Atalanta and with virtually no chance of qualifying for Europe. Coach Stefano Pioli rejected suggestions he could resign, saying: "I haven't seen anyone else before me do it, so I won't." But, with four Champions League places up for grabs in Serie A as of next season, he hinted Inter were happy to avoid the Europa League to focus completely on securing a top-four finish next year. "The important thing for us is to finish this campaign and have clear ideas with a view to next season."

TEN-MAN TORINO END JUVE WINNING STREAK

MILAN: Juventus' record winning streak at did not elbow Dybala. Juventus continued to home was ended by 10-man Torino 1-1 in an waste chances, forcing coach Massimiliano.

did not elbow Dybala. Juventus continued to waste chances, forcing coach Massimiliano Allegri to send on Higuain, whom he was resting for the Champions League semifinal against Monaco on Tuesday. Higuain rescued Juve by controlling Miralem Pjanic's pass with one touch on the edge of the box and drilling into the bottom left corner.

The penalty appeared harsh on defender Koffi Djidji, even though he appeared to slightly block Fekir with his arm as he cut cation for the Champions League, while Marseille is engaged in a close battle with Bordeaux for fifth and a spot in the Europa League. Monaco took a big step toward the league title with a 3-0 win away to Nancy on Saturday, while defending champion Paris Saint-Germain maintained an outside chance with a 5-0 home win against Bastia.

RENNES 1, MONTPELLIER 0

When Montpellier defender half Daniel Congre slipped near the halfway line, Congolese striker Firmin Mubele took full advantage. He whipped the ball from Congre's feet, sprinted down the left and then curled in a neat finish for an 80thminute winner for 10th-placed Rennes. Montpellier is in 15th place, six points clear of the relegation zone.— AP

SKRINIAR DISMISSED

Keita Balde has been enjoying a rich vein of form, scoring twice last week in a win that ruined what was Roma icon Francesco Totti's final derby as a player. And the Senegal international showed no signs of letting up amid reports he is desperate to fashion a move away from the club. After just two minutes, Balde fired Lazio in front from a difficult angle. Lazio goalkeeper Thomas Strakosha pulled off a great double save from Milan Djuricic and Karol Linetty's strike from the rebound, but minutes later Lazio had doubled their lead. Balde sprinted into the area and after being hauled down by Milan Skriniar, who was sent off for the foul, Immobile stepped up to fire the spot-kick past Christian Puggioni.

Samp looked to be on their way back when Bartosz Bereszynski rolled across for Linetty, unmarked at the back post, to tap the ball past Strakosha. But Lazio netted three in succession, Wesley Hoedt heading home a corner before Felipe Anderson beat Puggio with another penalty after being fouled by Vasco Regini. Lazio made it five on the stroke of half-time when Dutch defender Stefan De Vrij coolly placed his shot into the bottom corner from Lucas Biglia's cut-back. The hosts kept the pressure on as Lulic scored their sixth on 65 minutes and Immobile then finished off a onetwo with Balde to beat Puggioni from a tight angle. It was the right decision as a defiant Samp reduced arrears with two goals from striker Fabio Quagliarella, one from the spot, in the closing minutes.— AFP

enthralling Derby della Mole on Saturday. Adem Ljajic's sublime 52nd-minute free kick looked to have given Torino a rare derby victory but Juventus escaped thanks to substitute Gonzalo Higuain's stoppage-time strike. Four minutes after Torino scored, midfielder Afriyie Acquah was sent off for a second booking. Torino coach Sinisa Mihajlovic was so incensed that he aggressively approached the fourth official and referee and was dismissed as well.

"Just as I could see that he took the ball cleanly, the fourth official should have seen it too," Mihajlovic said. "You don't need a nuclear engineer to understand it wasn't a foul. It was an unjustifiable mistake, even if I regret my reaction. But what should I have done? Give him a kiss? "I asked the fourth official why he didn't help the referee. What are they doing? They don't even have the courage to talk. The mistake changed the match, that's clear."

Despite a man advantage, Juventus missed extending its league record to 34 successive home wins. But it was still on the brink of an unprecedented sixth successive Serie A title. Juventus moved 10 points clear of Roma, which needs to at least draw at AC Milan on Sunday to avoid handing the Bianconeri the title. There are three rounds remaining and Roma hosts Juventus next weekend.

Torino had not won at Juventus since 1995, and it took a surprise lead seven minutes after the break when Ljajic curled a free kick into the top left corner. Torino went down to 10 men when Acquah was shown a second yellow card for a sliding tackle on Mario Mandzukic, despite getting the ball. Acquah's first booking was considered harsh, too, as video replays showed he

NAPOLI 3, CAGLIARI 1

Dries Mertens marked his 30th birthday with two goals and an assist to help Napoli move into second in Serie A, two points above Roma. "I've run out of adjectives for Dries," Napoli coach Maurizio Sarri said. "Since I've been here he's played in every position and he's done so in an extraordinary way. "I'm also happy that he's shaken off the label of a super sub. He's starting matches and showing he was right to want to play more." Mertens took less than two minutes to open the scoring, getting in front of his marker to fire home Faouzi Ghoulam's cross for Napoli's 100th goal in all competitions.

Napoli dominated and had chances to take the lead, with delightful interplay between Mertens, Lorenzo Insigne, and Jose Callejon. Marek Hamsik almost scored an astonishing goal from near the halfway line as he spotted Cagliari goalkeeper Rafael off his line, but his cheeky lob landed on the roof of the net as the whole stadium applauded. Mertens doubled his tallv after the break, his 30th goal of the season, and turned provider with a through ball to Insigne, who controlled it as he turned and lifted it into the far side of the net. Mertens and Insigne were given standing ovations when they were replaced in the final 15 minutes. Substitute Diego Farias netted a consolation for Cagliari in stoppage time.— AP



TURIN: Juventus' Colombian forward Juan Cuadrado is tackled by Torino's Italian defender Cristian Molinaro during the Italian Serie A football match Juventus vs Torino FC at the Juventus stadium on May 6, 2017.—AFP



DECINES-CHARPIEU: Nantes' French midfielder Valentin Rongier challenges Lyon's French midfielder Nabil Fekir (back) during the French L1 football match between Lyon and Nantes at the Parc Olympique Lyonnais stadium yesterday. — AFP

TORONTO DOWN SOUNDERS

SEATTLE: Jozy Altidore scored on a penalty kick early in the first half as short-handed Toronto FC beat the Seattle Sounders 1-0 on Saturday in a rematch of last year's MLS Cup final. Altidore was the best player on the field with his side playing without star Sebastian Giovinco, and starters Victor Vazquez and Eriq Zavaleta. Even though Seattle dominated possession, Altidore and Toronto had the best chances at goal and earned a minor bit of payback for last year's cup final. Altidore's goal came in the 23rd minute after he was chopped down from behind by Seattle defender Roman Torres in the penalty box. Altidore calmly put his shot into the right corner of the net as Seattle goalkeeper Stefan Frei went the opposite direction. Seattle had a 14-game home unbeaten end. Toronto won its fourth straight match, including a domi-

nant midweek victory over Orlando City at home when Giovinco scored twice.

FC DALLAS 3, REAL SALT LAKE 0

Maximiliano Urruti scored two goals and 21-year-old Jesse Gonzales had his fourth shutout of the season in FC Dallas' victory over Real Salt Lake. FC Dallas moved into a tie with Sporting Kansas City atop the Western Conference standings and is unbeaten in its last 13 regular-season MLS games, dating to Sept. 10, 2016. Gonzalez tied his career high with six saves. Urruti converted from the spot in the third minute after Demar Phillips was called for a handball near the endline. Matt Hedges made it 2-0 in the 67th, and Urruti added another goal - his seventh of the season - in the first minute of stoppage time. Real Salt Lake has lost three in a row.—AP



'Canelo' Alvarez pummels Chavez in lopsided victory



Immobile sparks rout as Lazio pile pressure on Roma



MONDAY, MAY 8, 2017

FIFA OFFICIALS GATHER IN BAHRAIN UNDER A FRESH CLOUD



LIVERPOOL: Liverpool's English midfielder James Milner heads the ball during the English Premier League football match between Liverpool and Southampton yesterday. — AFP

MUNER TAKES BLAME FOR REDS STALEMATE



LIVERPOOL: Liverpool's James Milner missed a penalty as his side wasted a chance to bolster their bid to qualify for the Champions League in an uninspiring 0-0 draw with Southampton yesterday. With rivals Arsenal and Manchester United clashing in yesterday's late kick-off, Jurgen Klopp's team had a golden opportunity to seize the initiative in the race for a top-four finish. But

the Reds never got out of first gear at Anfield in a terrible contest best remembered for Fraser Forster's brilliant penalty save from Liverpool skipper Milner.

It was Milner's first missed penalty since November 2009, when he was playing for Aston Villa against Bolton, and it summed up the feeling that this would not be Liverpool's day. Liverpool moved above Manchester City into third place, but they will hope fifth-placed United fail to close the gap with a win at Arsenal. Philippe Coutinho started despite suffering a dead leg against Watford last week yet he had little impact during a match where nobody in a red shirt stood out.

Liverpool had failed to score against Southampton in their three previous encounters this season, once in the Premier League and in both legs of their League Cup semi-final tie, and the opening stages of this game contained very little attacking ambition from either side. In fact, this match furthered the idea that Liverpool struggle against Premier League sides of a lesser calibre, especially those teams that look to do little else but cling on for a point, as Southampton did for most of this match. In the opening 45 minutes, the home side had the lion's share of possession but they did very little with it as Southampton sat deep and were more than happy to contain the likes of Divock Origi, Emre Can and Roberto Firmino.

FRACTIOUS

Firmino had the first real effort of note after 15 minutes, firing a shot straight at Maya Yoshida and Anfield soon became as stale and as flat as the contest itself. The match became increasingly

fractious as Liverpool grew frustrated by their inability to break down the disciplined visitors. Immediately after the interval, Sofiane Boufal had the visitors' first effort, dribbling through a packed six-yard box but his tame effort was easily smothered at the last second by Liverpool's defense. The half-time break had done few favors for either side though as Liverpool remained dull and Southampton were more than happy to get nine men behind the ball and concentrate on defense at all costs. Firmino's trickery could not unlock Southampton's back-four while Origi and Coutinho remained virtually anonymous during an occasion when Liverpool really needed them at their best.

Finally though, Liverpool got the opportunity they needed to punish Southampton as Jack Stephens elbowed away the ball inside the area after challenging Origi.It was well spotted by referee Bobby Madley and although Milner's spotkick was right in the corner, Forster did well to get down and palm the effort away. The passionate way Southampton's players celebrated the fine save was also an indicator of how desperate they were to hold on for a point.

Klopp brought Daniel Sturridge and Adam Lallana on with 20 minutes to go in a bid to give Liverpool a spark. But the Liverpool boss became increasingly restless and angry on the sideline. Sturridge could have lifted the mood when 12 yards out but he poked an effort straight at Forster. Lallana then had his own 20-yard effort saved by Forster with five minutes left before the Southampton keeper made another stunning save in stoppage-time, tipping over a Marko Grujic header to help the visitors hang on. — AFP

SLICK ARSENAL END MAN United unbeaten run

ARSENAL REVIVE TOP FOUR BID



LONDON: Arsenal scored twice in three minutes through a deflected Granit Xhaka strike and Danny Welbeck's header to claim a deserved 2-0 win over Manchester United yesterday and inflict a first Premier League defeat on the visitors in 26 games. The victory at the Emirates Stadium keeps sixth-placed Arsenal's hopes of a top-four finish alive, but they are six points adrift of Manchester City, who currently occupy the final Champions League qualifying slot, albeit with a game in hand.

The win also takes Arsenal within two points of fifth-placed United, who stay four points behind City having played the same number of games as their local rivals. "Hopefully this result will give us confidence," said man-of-the-match Aaron Ramsey. "I said a couple of weeks ago we had to win every match and unfortunately we didn't do that against Tottenham (in a 2-0 loss last weekend). But we will see."

For all of United manager Jose Mourinho's pre-match bluster about fielding a weakened team, his only concession to youth in eight changes from his midweek Europa League team was 19-year-old defender Axel Tuanzebe, who made his Premier League debut. Everything else was familiar, with United under orders to produce the sort of bodies behind the ball performance that makes them so hard to beat. However frustrating the tactics, there is no doubting their effectiveness and the first half finished with Arsenal having spurned a series of chances and the Emirates again jittery.

Twice United defenders had denied Welbeck on the six-yard area while darting runs from the ever impressive Ramsey almost saw him get on the end of pinpoint balls from Aaron Sanchez. United also had their chances before the break, with Arsenal goalkeeper Petr Cech saving from Anthony Martial. But after a battling first-half display, the visitors were undone after the interval with Xhaka's 25metre shot looping up off Ander Herrera to catch out United keeper David De Gea after 54 minutes and then Welbeck adding a second against his former side with a header from Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain's cross.

There was no way back for United and, for once in a troubled season, the Arsenal fans could relax and forget the will he-won't he concerns about whether manager Arsene Wenger will renew his contract. The win could not have been better timed and was Wenger's first over Jose Mourinho in a league game. For United, the only realistic route to Champions League qualification now lies in winning the Europa League in which they host Spaniards Celta Vigo at Old Trafford in the semi-finals on Thursday holding a 1-0 win from the first leg. "Yes is all on the Europa league," said Mourinho, "but you cannot say we did not try to win."—Reuters



LONDON: Arsenal's Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain (top) jumps on Manchester United's Jesse Lingered during the English Premier League soccer match between Arsenal and Manchester United at the Emirates stadium yesterday. —AP

BENATIA IN A LIVE TV RACISM STORM

MILAN: Italian football has been hit by a second racist storm inside a week after Juventus defender Mehdi Benatia was insulted live on air during a live, postmatch television interview with Italian state broadcaster Rai. Benatia, a Morocco international, was being interviewed following a 1-1 Serie A draw at home with city rivals Torino when it was cut embarrassingly short by what seemed like a studio technician's gaffe. As he was speaking to studio presenters about Juventus, Benatia heard a voice over his radio earpiece say: "What are you saying, shitty Moroccan?" Benatia, who had been answering a question about Juventus winning their sixth consecutive Serie A title, stopped midsentence and said: "Who said that? What stupid person is speaking?"

Presenters also heard the remark, but tried to brush it off, telling Benatia: "It seems there are some technical problems. No one hear has been heard making any insults." A visibly angry Benatia wiped his brow as presenters thanked him for his time before bringing the interview to an abrupt end. It is thought the remark came from a careless studio technician who had left a microphone on, but it put racism firmly back in the spotlight a week after the controversy surrounding Ghana's Sulley Muntari.

Pescara midfielder Sulley Muntari says Saturday he felt "treated like a criminal" after being sanctioned for walking off the pitch during a 1-0 loss at Cagliari last week where he fell victim to racial abuse. Muntari was booked by the referee for complaining about the abuse and then shown a red card for walking off the pitch in the final minutes. After he personally appealed to league bosses, his ban was rescinded on Saturday when he said: "I was being treated like a criminal. How could I be punished when I was the victim of racism?"— AFP



S Koreans want new leader to create jobs minus corruption

ADB hoping US will step up and help lead regional lender

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'EN MARCHE' FOR A THIRD INTEREST RATE HIKE

QNB Group inaugurates its Riyadh branch

26



KOLKATA: An Indian labor moves bricks through a brick factory on the outskirts of Kolkata yesterday. With the demand for bricks increasing to meet the growing infrastructure and housing needs of a rapidly urbanizing economy, the pace of shift to modern and environment-friendly brick making technologies is picking very slowly still the traditional fixed chimney kilns which emit large quantities of carb — AFP

Warba Bank net profit rises 298% to KD 1.3m Overall revenues increased by 54% to KD 12.1 million in Q1 2017

KUWAIT: Warba Bank, Kuwait's best investment bank and corporate consultancy institute that operates according to the Islamic sharia, announced achieving excellent financial results - thanks to God Almighty - during the first quarter of 2017, reflected by a 298 percent increase in net profits which reached KD 1.3 million compared to KD 328,000 during the same period last year. These profits were achieved as a result of overall revenue growth, supported by the strong performance of all business units, reaching to KD 12.1 million, and recording a 54 percent increase compared to the first quarter of 2016. Meanwhile, the operating income increased by 31 percent after reaching KD 7.7 million by the end of the first quarter of 2017 compared to KD 4.8 million in the same period of 2016.

The bank's overall assets also increased to KD 1.3 billion thanks to its expansion strategy in the local and regional markets, and investing in high quality, low risk assets. The financing portfolio recorded a notable increase as well, reaching KD 971 million; up by 64 percent compared to the first quarter of 2016. This is an indication to the quality of the financing portfolio, with a default percentage of 0.6 percent, which is one of the lowest rates in the local banking sector. In the meantime, the level of allocations' coverage for default reached 256 percent by the end of the first quarter.

Commenting on the first quarter's results, Abdulwahab Abdullah Al-Houti, Warba Bank's Board Chairman, said that thanks to God Almighty, the bank was able to achieve excellent results during the first quarter of 2017. This is the beginning of the bank's developmental strategy with the goal of cementing its role as a leading bank in corporate Islamic banking services and investment in Kuwait, in addition to providing advanced digital retail services.

Profit indicators

Based on this strategy, all profit indicators increased excellently. "The great first quarter's results reflect the bank's exception-

al performance and achievements in innovative corporate and retail Islamic banking solutions," Houti said. "This is a promising start that brings hope for a year full of achievements, especially that the bank continues to develop its operations, invest in innovating services and products that enrich the Islamic banking sector, and expand its branches to meet clients' demands."

Houti also pointed out the bank's plans to expand its global investments, saying that it will soon begin considering investment opportunities inside and outside Kuwait that will surely strengthen its investment portfolio and guarantee feasible returns for investments. He further explained that all indicators provide promising indications to the bank's high quality performance at all levels and departments.

In addition, he noted that the bank currently plans to support the corporate and investment sector with innovative Islamic banking solutions, develop its technological infrastructure, and create new banking services in line with its 'Distinguished by Solutions' motto.

"The first quarter's results matched our expectations, especially in light of the quality profits that the bank earned by the end of 2016, which reached KD 2.6 million with a 158 percent growth," he added, "This was realized first and foremost through continuous efforts from the bank's management and staff in accordance with the bank's strategy to support operations through the retail and corporate sectors, including banking or financing operations."

Meanwhile, Shaheen Hamad Al-Ghanim, Warba Bank's CEO, said that the bank made pioneering achievements in the financing and investment sector during the first quarter, thus cementing its position as an Islamic bank that offers regular and growing investment opportunities for investors. This development comes in accordance with the bank's strategy that aims to provide leading banking investment tools and distinguished financing services, as well as necessary support to the corporate sector, he added.

Financing and investment solutions

The first quarter witnessed a big step forward in Warba Bank's operations, as it achieved remarkable success in marketing its \$250 million sukuks, and managed to cover the subscription by 5 times more than the estimated volume of issued sukuks of \$1.3 billion. The bank's marketing tour featured stops in various regional and international markets, as the sukuks were recently listed in Nasdaq Dubai and Ireland's stock market.

In this regard, Al-Ghanim said: "Warba

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locally, regionally, and internationally by choosing the best investment opportunities to strengthen its role in Kuwait's Islamic banking sector.

And in line with the bank's commitment into presenting innovative financing solutions according to the Islamic sharia to clients, Warba Bank signed a renewable agreement with Al-Mulla International Finance Company, by which the bank increases its acquired share of the bank's financing portfolios to KD 50 million. The deal comes in accordance with the bank's

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branches that reaches 11 today, and to remain closer to its clients, Al-Ghanim added.

Digital infrastructure

Al-Ghanim explained in this context that the bank continues during 2017 to develop its digital infrastructure and improve digital banking in Kuwait. He added that during the first quarter, the bank launched an Apple Watch application that allows clients to follow up with their bank accounts and operations done via banking cards through their digital watches. Furthermore, he indicated that the bank prepares to launch new digital services designed to add more flexibility and efficiency to banking transactions done online or through smartphone apps.

Marketing campaigns

Al-Ghanim also revealed that Warba Bank launched the salary campaign earlier this year, which goes in line with its strategy that seeks to provide services that the society needs and present an integrated system of Islamic products that meet clients' aspirations. Furthermore, the bank improved Al-Sunbula Account by increasing the number of winners to 12 each month, for prizes of up to KD 20,000. It is worth mentioning that the mentioned accounts have become increasingly popular due to the facilitations and valuable prizes they offer. The bank made sure at the beginning of 2017 to introduce improvements to both accounts that earned clients' satisfaction.

Society comes first

Speaking on Warba Bank's social activities during the first quarter of 2017, Al-Ghanim said that the activities included the 'Word for Kuwait' campaign that launched during the national holidays at the Wonder Village Festival at Kuwait International Fairground. Warba Bank's pavilion featured various patriotic activities, including a board where visitors of the village could sign their names and show their love and appreciation for Kuwait.

Warba Bank also sponsored activities held to mark the World Sleeping Disorders Day which was organized at the Islamic Medical Center at the Sabah Medical Zone. The bank's participation comes as part of its strategy towards developmental social responsibility, and its commitment towards public health in Kuwait.

In addition, Warba Bank took part in the career fair organized by Gulf University for Science and Technology (GUST), where a team from the bank introduced graduates to the Islamic banking's work process, and gave them explanations about the bank's services to encourage them to join this emerging sector.

Valuable prizes

Warba Bank's quality performance and achievements have earned it the prestigious '2016 Bank of the Year - Kuwait' award from The European. This award is a valuable addition to the series of awards that the bank has earned last year in recognition of its distinguished performance and rapid growth, and for offering innovative financing solutions and investment tools with rewarding returns for investors. Al-Ghanim noted that this award is a new addition to the series of awards that the bank has earned in 2016 due to the great achievements made by all of its business units. These awards serve as a testimony to the bank's distinguished performance.

Al-Ghanim concluded by saying: "We promise to take advantage of the strong performance of all of the bank's indicators during the first quarter, and use it as a platform to achieve significant results by the end of 2017. We rely in our quest to achieve this goal on our investors' trust in the bank's performance, and on the hard work of the bank's team who spare no efforts to help it reach a pioneering status in reinforcing the market with unmatched financing and investment solutions in the Islamic banking sector."

Bank achieved a quantum leap in its operations during the first quarter of 2017, and marketed its sukuks with great success that adds to the bank's achievements in addition to its contributions in earning investors' trust."

Abdulwahab

Abdullah Al-Houti

In addition, the bank worked during the first quarter on acquiring a new car importing and exporting facility in the United Kingdom. The irrevocable 9-million-pound long-term contract is leased to Kia Motors until 2037. Al-Ghanim said that this deal comes as part of the bank's expansion strategy to support the Islamic banking sector and the economic sector

INDIA'S PROPERTY LAW SEEKS TO PROTECT HOME BUYERS

GREATER NOIDA, India: In 2010, Neena Nagpal and her husband spent their life savings on a flat outside Delhi that was never built. Now, a new law seeks to protect thousands of home buyers like her from unscrupulous property developers. "The entire experience has been painful," says the 54-year-old, whose husband recently died, leaving her to take care of their partially deaf son alone in a tworoom house in a run-down part of the Indian capital. "When you don't walk what you talk, it really hurts us." From the mid-2000s onward, millions of middle class Indians eager to own their own homes poured cash into new building projects on the outskirts of major cities as a property boom took hold across the country.

Many were young workers in the burgeoning IT sector eager to break away from the traditional joint family set-up. But the industry was riddled with problems and buyers were almost always the victims. "What was shown and what was delivered was always different," said Gulam Zia, executive director at real estate consultancy Knight Frank India. "Developers got away with whatever they wanted and consumers always got a raw deal. Now a developer can't hide anything and he can't go back to his old habit of taking the consumer for a ride." Developers could face jail sentences of up to three years and substantial fines under the new law, which took effect on May 1 and applies to ongoing as well as new projects.

State governments will be responsible for keeping tabs on developers' progress and ensuring they stick to their plans for everything from the number and size of apartments to the construction schedule. Buyers' money will have to be deposited in an escrow-like account and can only be used for the property they are investing in-not to launch the developer's next project.

If the flats are not delivered on time, the developer will have to pay the monthly interest on the buyers' bank loans. The Confederation of Real Estate Developers' Associations of India, a trade body, welcomed the new law saying it had been calling for better regulation. "This will go a long way in restoring consumer faith in the real estate sector," said its president Jaxay Shah.

Thousands of cases

The road from Delhi to the satellite city of Noida provides ample evidence of the problems, lined as it is with half-built apartment buildings, most behind schedule. Among them is Lotus Panache, where Nagpal and her family were hoping to make a home. The 3C Company sold the development as "an enviable blend of sheer luxury and suburban lifestyle", touting ambitious plans for a creche and

135,000 square-foot (12,500 square-metre) sports and leisure centre. The reality-rows of unfinished shells-is a far cry from that. Although every buyer has paid at least 90 percent of the price, only about 800 of the 4,200 promised apartments have been delivered so far and the project is nearly four years behind schedule. The promised sports and leisure facilities amount to some workout equipment in one of the empty flats, a small swimming pool and some swings for kids on a brown patch of land. About 600 buyers have filed a case against the developer in a consumer court demanding the homes they paid for and fair compensation for the delay. But the slow pace of India's overburdened judicial system means they are still waiting. One couple borrowed two million rupees (\$44,000) to buy an apartment on the 19th floor of a development being built on the outskirts of Delhi by Supertech.—AFP



Shaheen Hamad Al-Ghanim

expansion strategy in the local and regional markets.

Strategic expansion

Al-Ghanim further noted that the bank opened its newest branch in Al-Shuhada area, which is the first standalone branch that applies the latest technologies in banking operations and facilitates transactions for clients, including people with special needs, who are served by a special team dedicated to handle their banking transactions. The bank continues its local expansion strategy by selecting strategic areas to increase the number of its

Kuwait 🗻 Times 🌆



S KOREANS WANT NEW LEADER TO CREATE JOBS MINUS CORRUPTION

Months-long protests lead to arrest of Samsung chief

SEOUL, South Korea: Creating jobs, ending corruption and boosting stubbornly low birthrates should be high on a to-do list for South Korea's next president after a campaign mostly dominated by security and foreign policy issues. There's concern that the economy will likely take a backseat to North Korea when South Koreans pick their next leader tomorrow. Voters have been rattled by a row over who should foot the bill for a US anti-missile system deployed in the country to defend against North Korean aggression, after President Donald Trump suggested that South Korea should pay more for US security commitment.

Public demand for change in South Korea's

reform agenda to change the economic system," said Park Sang-in, a professor at Seoul National University's Graduate School of Public Administration. "Their talks on jobs and innovation were so superficial that they could not win public support."

On jobs, the two main contenders hold different views on what the government should do. Moon Jae-in, the front-runner from the main opposition Democratic Party, believes that a bigger government would be better for creating jobs and says South Korea needs more public workers. His main rival Ahn Cheol-soo also puts jobs high on his policy agenda but says the government should not be heavy-handed in inter-



SEOUL: In this Nov 30, 2016 file photo, members of the Korean Confederation of Trade Unions carry an effigy of South Korean President Park Geun-hye as they march during a rally calling for Park to step down in Seoul.—AP

economic system remains high as growth and wealth continue to be concentrated in the hands of top few family-run business giants known as chaebol. Anger over allegations of collusion between big businesses and the government helped trigger massive months-long protests that led to the ouster of President Park Geun-hye in March and the arrest of the de-facto leader at Samsung, South Korea's largest business group. Leading presidential contenders have tried to tap into the discontent over economic injustice, high youth unemployment and increased inequality between those with full-time jobs at chaebol and those who are underemployed or looking for work.

But the lack of concrete reform plans means that none of their economic agenda gained much attention during the campaign. "Candidates fell short of expectations from the public and could not thoroughly cover the

vening in the private sector and instead focus on making the markets fair and friendlier for innovation. "The origin of every crisis in South Korea is jobs," Moon said during an economic debate. "It is because economic growth has continued without creating jobs and markets have failed to create jobs for a long time."

Moon's campaign pledges include creating 810,000 jobs in the public sector, including bureaucrats, firefighters and social workers, at a cost of 4.2 trillion won (\$3.7 billion) per year. Moon said he will add an extra budget of 10 trillion won (\$8.8 billion) immediately once he takes office and a lion's share of that will be allocated for job creation. Ahn's campaign has argued that Moon's approach is no different from the previous governments that have relied on chaebol for economic growth, showering them with special treatment that resulted in cozy ties that in many cases led to corruption.

Instead, his team supports the idea of easing regulations to encourage companies to take risks while the government focuses on supporting small firms. "So far, South Korea's growth has been led by the government while giving special treatments to chaebol. That should change now," Ahn said. "When the private sector, especially when small- and medium-sized companies and venture firms grow, more quality jobs will be created."

The two leading candidates also differ in what would be the best way to help small companies and encourage the country's young talents who are drawn to high wages and job security at Samsung, Hyundai and other big businesses, to take more risks and work at small firms.

Moon has pledged that the government will pay the salary of one in every three workers at small companies for three years. Ahn has promised that the government will guarantee high wages to young workers at small firms by giving \$440 per month to an employee hired by a small company for two years. The new South Korean president, who will take office May 10, will face a narrowing window of opportunity to restore the vitality in Asia's fourth-largest economy.

There has been a growing sense of doom and lack of hope, especially among South Korea's young generations. Youth unemployment has surged last year to nearly 10 percent - the highest since 2000. Flagging birthrates have never surpassed 1.3 babies per woman for nearly two decades.

Government welfare spending is among the lowest in the world. Corporate culture is famous for being unfriendly to family or to raising children with one of the world's longest working hours. That has created a vicious cycle of growing number of people who postpone or even give up on starting a family.

Both Moon and Ahn recognize that the next administration should change all: the hereditary succession at the big businesses that distort market rules; the gaps between the full-time, stable jobs and contract jobs; the corporate culture and long working hours hostile to raising children. Whoever wins, South Korea will likely see attempts to limit the power of chaebol's founding families, whose influence is compared to emperors even though they hold a small stake in publicly listed companies founded by their fathers or grandfathers.

To pass down the companies to the next generation of the founding families, it was common for them to make an elaborate scheme involving giving lucrative businesses to their sons and daughters and creating a complicated web of cross-shareholding. On chaebol reforms, Moon and Ahn's pledges have been almost identical. They have promised to stop such unfair business leadership successions and to respond sternly to the white collar crimes committed by chaebol's founding families. The role of the trade regulator will be increased, they say. —AP



PALMA, Mozambique: A Mozambican woman walks in Palma, on February 16, 2017. The small, palm-fringed fishing town of Palma was meant to become a symbol of Mozambique's glittering future, transformed by one of the world's largest liquefied natural gas projects, but it is now under threat from construction delays, fallen gas prices and a huge government debt scandal. —AFP

MOZAMBIQUE'S GAS BOOM DREAM UNDER THREAT

PALMA, Mozambique: The small, palmfringed fishing town of Palma was meant to become a symbol of Mozambique's glittering future, transformed by one of the world's largest liquefied natural gas projects. But construction has fallen far behind schedule and the town's fate is uncertain after gas prices fell and the government became engulfed in a \$2 billion debt scandal.

Tucked between the turquoise waters of the Indian Ocean and thick tropical forests, Palma remains a sleepy village of 3,000 people, still waiting for the promised arrival of new jobs and infrastructure. The discovery of gas reserves in 2010, estimated at 180 trillion cubic feet (five trillion cubic metres) in the surrounding Rovuma Basin, was the biggest natural gas find in recent decades.

Experts have predicted that Mozambique could become the world's third-largest exporter of liquefied natural gas (LNG) and an African version of wealthy Qatar. Plans to exploit the reserves moved fast, and Palma's residents were soon looking for opportunities to lift themselves out of poverty in one of the world's poorest nations. "It's only through such projects that we will get proper jobs because otherwise we just depend on the sea," said 46-year-old fisherman Pedro Abuda-Nchamo. Since the discovery of the gas, the face of the town has started to change. Excavators and construction vehicles are working on the planned liguefaction plant and export facilities. A gated residential complex for the anticipated influx

of skilled workers is almost ready, and the town's first shopping mall is being built.

MONDAY, MAY 8, 2017

But the much-touted gas project has run into strong headwinds. Initial estimates were that the first LNG would come on stream in 2016 but now it is expected in 2023 — or later. The plunge in global gas prices has led energy companies to slow down capital expenditure. Meanwhile the government in Maputo is caught up in a debt scandal that has triggered an economic crisis unseen since the end of the southern African country's civil war in 1992.

Vast secret debts

News emerged last year that the government had borrowed massively-including three secret loans amounting to \$2 billionbetween 2012 and 2014 to fund a coastal protection project. As a result, the International Monetary Fund and World Bank have suspended budgetary support. The loans, which the government is unable to repay, were taken out in anticipation of the gas windfall that remains elusive. "The government thought it would repay the loans with gas money," said Borges Nhamire, analyst with CIP, an anti-corruption non-governmental organization. Analysts fear that Mozambique's state-owned Empresa Nacional de Hidrocarbonetos (ENH), a minority partner in the gas project, may now struggle to raise its contribution of the share capital-although ENH insists it will

Amazing news from Al-Tijari..

honour its share of the deal. —AFP

BURGAN BANK ANNOUNCES WINNERS OF YAWMI DRAW improved its performance over the

largest in terms of assets, announced yesterday the names of the daily draw winners of its Yawmi account draw, each taking home a cash-prize of KD 5,000.

The lucky winners are:

1. Mubarak Awadh Almutairi 2. Waleed Mohammad Alshuaib 3. Veronica Patrick Mills 4. Tamather Essa Al-Sultan 5. Rafie Saleh Almaajoun

In addition to the daily draw, Burgan Bank also offers a quarterly draw with more chances to win higher rewards, offering the chance to one lucky customer to win KD 125,000 every three months. The Yawmi Account offers daily and quarterly draws, wherein the quarterly draw requires customers to maintain a minimum amount of KD 500 in their account for two months prior to the draw date. Additionally, every KD 10 in the account will entitle customers to one chance of winning. If the account balance is KD 500 and above, the account holder will be qualified for both the quarterly and daily draws. Burgan Bank encour-



ages everyone to open a Yawmi account and/or increase their deposit to maximize their chances of becoming a winner. The higher the level of the deposit, the higher the likelihood to win.

Established in 1977, Burgan Bank is the youngest commercial Bank and second largest by assets in

Kuwait, with a significant focus on the corporate and financial institutions sectors, as well as having a growing retail, and private bank customer base. Burgan Bank has majority owned subsidiaries in the MENAT region supported by one of the largest regional branch networks. The Bank has continuously

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

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

Burgan Bank, a subsidiary of KIP-CO (Kuwait Projects Company), is a strongly positioned regional Bank in the MENA region.

gives you the biggest daily prize in Kuwait!



AL-TIJARI ANNOUNCES WINNERS OF AL-NAJMA ACCOUNT DRAW

held the Al-Naima Account daily draw on yesterday. The draw was held under the supervision of the Ministry of Commerce & Industry represented by Abdulaziz Al-Ashkanani.

The winners of the Al-Najma Daily draw are:

Ebita Sharla Rodrigues — KD 7000, Mohammed Abdullah Al-Aet — KD 7000, Saud Awadh Al-Rasheedi— KD 7000, Faisal Saad Al-Rakyan — KD 7000, Abeer Abdullah Al-Shammari — KD 7000.

Al-Najma awards are now brighter and bigger than ever. With the revamped Al-Najma account, all your dreams will be turned to reality. On top of offering the highest daily prize in Kuwait for KD 7,000,

KUWAIT: Commercial Bank of Kuwait now our Mega prize draws got bigger to reach KD 250,000.

> The new prizes scheme for Al-Najma account. Daily draw to win KD 7000. Quarterly draws to win great prizes that would start from KD 100,000 to KD 250,000.

- 1ST Quarter KD 100 000,
- 2ND quarter KD 150 000, 3RD quarter KD 200 000,
- 4TH guarter— KD 250 000.

With Al-Najma you have more chances to win greater prizes. Each KD 25 kept in your account gives you one chance to win. Each KD 25 kept in your account for one week will give you a chance to enter the daily draw. Each KD 25 kept in your account for 3 months will give you chance to enter the quarterly draw.

EXCHANGE RATES

AL-MUZAINI EXCHANGE CO.	Swiss Franc Australian Dollar US Dollar Buying	309.170 229.780 303.950	Chinese Yuan Renminbi Thai Bhat	44.745 9.860		Indonesian Rupiah Japanese Yen	0.000018 0.002636	0.000024 0.002816
ASIAN COUNTRIES	US Donar Buying	303.930	Turkish Lira	84.130		Kenyan Shilling	0.003046	0.003046
Japanese Yen 2.721		GOLD				Korean Won	0.000257	0.000272
Indian Rupees 4.759	20 Gram	255.770	BAHRAIN EXC	CHANGE CON	APANY WLL	Malaysian Ringgit	0.066521	0.072521
Pkistani Rupees 2.909	10 Gram	130.810				Nepalese Rupee	0.003013	0.003183
Srilankan Rupees 2.003 Nepali Rupees 2.979	5 Gram	66.250	CURRENCY	BUY	SELL	Pakistan Rupee	0.002714	0.003004
Nepali Rupees2.979Singapore Dollar219.610				Europe		Philippine Peso	0.006008	0.006308
Hongkong Dollar 39.219	DOLLARC	O EXCHANGE CO. LTD	British Pound	0.390046	0.400046	Sierra Leone	0.000068	0.000074
Bangladesh Taka 3.725	DOLLARC	O LACHANGE CO. LID	Czech Korune	0.004539	0.016539	Singapore Dollar	0.212450	0.222450
Philippine Peso 6.111			Danish Krone	0.041017	0.046017	South African Rand	0.016712	0.025212
Thai Baht 8.878	Rate for Transfr	Selling Rate	Euro	0.330491	0.339491	Sri Lankan Rupee	0.001635	0.002215
	US Dollar	304.800	Norwegian Krone	0.031460	0.036660	Taiwan	0.009784	0.009944
GCC COUNTRIES	Canadian Dolla	226.525	Romanian Leu	0.084528	0.084528	Thai Baht	0.008470	0.009020
Saudi Riyal 81.428	Sterling Pound	392.135	Slovakia	0.009127	0.019127	marbant	0.000470	0.009020
Qatari Riyal 83.867	Euro	328.485	Swedish Krona	0.030651	0.035651		Arab	
Omani Riyal 793.009 Bahraini Dinar 810.810	Swiss Frank	305.110	Swiss Franc	0.303091	0.314091	Bahraini Dinar	0.802448	0.810949
UAE Dirham 83.136	Bahrain Dinar	808.430	Turkish Lira	0.080649	0.090949			
GAE Diman 65.150	UAE Dirhams	83.380				Egyptian Pound	0.014040 0.000084	0.019948
ARAB COUNTRIES	Qatari Riyals	84.605		Australasia		Iranian Riyal		0.000086
Egyptian Pound - Cash 19.600	Saudi Riyals	82.175	Australian Dollar	0.218551	0.230551	Iraqi Dinar	0.000195	0.000255
Egyptian Pound - Transfer 16.770	Jordanian Dinar	429.815	New Zealand Dollar	0.205184	0.214684	Jordanian Dinar	0.424824	0.433824
Yemen Riyal/for 1000 1.226	Egyptian Pound	16.978				Kuwaiti Dinar	1.000000	1.000000
Tunisian Dinar 128.760	Sri Lankan Rupees	2.005		America		Lebanese Pound	0.000157	0.00257
Jordanian Dinar 430.390	Indian Rupees	4.728	Canadian Dollar	0.218258	0.227258	Moroccan Dirhams	0.020372	0.044372
Lebanese Lira/for 1000 2.034 Svrian Lira 2.176	Pakistani Rupees	2.907	Georgina Lari	0.137755	0.137755	Nigerian Naira	0.001262	0.001897
Morocco Dirham 31.233	Bangladesh Taka	3.742	US Dollars	0.300900	0.305300	Omani Riyal	0.785787	0.791467
Morocco Diman 51.255	Philippines Pesso	6.121	US Dollars Mint	0.301550	0.305450	Qatar Riyal	0.082964	0.084414
EUROPEAN & AMERICAN COUNTRIES	Cyprus pound	168.208				Saudi Riyal	0.080247	0.081547
US Dollar Transfer 305.150	Japanese Yen	3.795		Asia		Syrian Pound	0.001293	0.001513
Euro 334.600	Syrian Pound	2.420	Bangladesh Taka	0.003418	0.004002	Tunisian Dinar	0.124489	0.132489
Sterling Pound 395.320	Nepalese Rupees	3.950	Chinese Yuan	0.042762	0.046262	Turkish Lira	0.080649	0.090949
Canadian dollar 222.900	Malaysian Ringgit	70.185	Hong Kong Dollar	0.037239	0.039989	UAE Dirhams	0.081616	0.083316
Turkish lira 86.880	ivialaysian Kinggit	/0.185	Indian Rupee	0.004165	0.004853	Yemeni Riyal	0.000992	0.001072

Kuwait 🗠 Times 🍜



GIG ACQUIRES AIG SIGORTA, TURKISH NON-LIFE INSURER

KUWAIT: Gulf Insurance Group KSCP ["gig"] (KSE: GINS), a leading insurance service provider in the Middle East and North Africa region, announced on the 3rd of May 2017 that it has successfully acquired 100 percent stake of 'AIG Sigorta Anonim sirketi' (AIG Sigorta A S), a Turkish non-life insurer.

AIG Sigorta, established in 1976 and it offers innovative insurance solutions covering property, engineering, marine and specialized liability and financial lines solutions. AIG Sigorta is also a key player in the consumer field covering personal accident, travel, home, auto and extended warranty products through various alternative distribution channels and providing superior services and customer experience.

With more than 200 employees, the company practices its insurance services through five regional offices in the key cities in Turkey in addition to the headquarters. AIG gross written premiums recorded in 2016 stands at \$86.8

million

Khaled Saoud "It is our absolute Al-Hasan pleasure to have AIG

Sigorta joining Gulf Insurance Group", said Khaled Saoud Al-Hasan, gig's Group CEO. "AlG has a strong presence in the Turkish market for over 40 years and we are delighted to strengthen our presence in this market through this acquisition. This is in line with our regional expansion strategy and paves the way to diversify our Insurance activities for continuous growth and profitability and to serve our clients and Kuwaiti investors operating in the Turkish market," he added.

Gulf Insurance Group is the largest insurance Group in Kuwait in terms of written and retained premiums, with operations in both life and non-life insurance. Gulf Insurance has become one of the largest insurance networks in the Middle East and North Africa with companies in Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Egypt, Algeria, Iraq, Bahrain, Emirates, Turkey and Kuwait. Its reported consolidated assets stand at \$ 1.23 billion as at 31 December 2016.

KIPCO - Kuwait Projects Company - is Gulf Insurance Group's largest shareholder, followed by the Canadian-based Fairfax Financial Holding Ltd.

Gulf Insurance Group enjoys the privilege of being the first triple-rated insurance group in Kuwait. The group holds a Financial Strength Rating of 'A' (Excellent) and issuer credit rating of 'a' with stable outlook from A.M. Best Europe - Rating Services Limited, a Financial Strength Rating of BBB+ with stable outlook from Standard & Poor's and an Insurance Financial Strength Rating (IFSR) of 'A3' from Moody's Investors Service carrying a stable outlook.



ATHENS: Members of the Greek Communist labour union (PAME) shout slogan during a protest against the opening of shops 30 Sundays per year, a condition under Greece's bailout yesterday. — AFP

GREEK UNIONS PROTEST AGAINST SUNDAY TRADING

ATHENS: Hundreds of people gathered in central Athens to protest against plans to increase yesterday trading hours in a rally organized by unions and communist groups. Yesterday's demonstration largely drew members of the PAME communist labor union alongside others representing small- and medium-sized businesses (SMEs) who oppose reforms demanded by Greece's international creditors.

Demonstrators rallied in the city centre carrying flags and banners in Greek reading "Never work on Sunday," an AFP correspondent said. Shops in Greece are currently compelled to open on the first Sunday of every month in a step imposed three years ago by the country's creditors.

The reform would increase the number of Sundays from 12 times a year to 30. Union and the International Monetary Fund, which are among the measures that must be approved by the Greek parliament by mid-May. Unions have called a 24-hour general strike on May 17 to protest against the new measures, whose adoption is a prerequisite for unblocking a new sevenmillion-euro (\$7.7 million) tranche of loans that Athens needs to meet its debt repayment schedule in July.

Deregulation has been at the heart of the "reforms" demanded by Greece's creditors since the explosion of the country's debt crisis in 2010, with the aim of boosting growth. Following an unprecedented six-year recession, the Greek economy is still struggling to recover with growth flat in 2016. For 2017, the European Commission has revised down its growth

ADB HOPING US WILL STEP UP AND SUPPORT REGIONAL LENDER Trump prefers to bilateral cooperation

YOKOHAMA: The head of the Asian Development Bank said yesterday he is hoping the US will step up and support the regional lender despite President Donald Trump's avowed preference for bilateral cooperation.

ADB President Takehiko Nakao told reporters at a news conference wrapping up the bank's annual meeting that it "isn't really good" that the second largest shareholder in the development bank is lacking a permanent appointee to the US executive directorship.

Nakao said he hoped Washington would nominate an ambassador soon. Many such positions have yet to be filled, and the previous US ambassador to the ADB was ordered back to the US along with many other appointees of the previous administration.

For a country that is a co-founder of one of the world's most influential lending institutions, the US presence at the ADB annual meeting - one marking its 50th year of operations was low key. Japan is the largest donor to the ADB and plays a leading role in its management. It is unclear what Trump's "America First" foreign policy stance means for the ADB, or even for Asia in general.

Soon after taking office in January, Trump announced the US would withdraw from the Trans-Pacific Partnership regional trade agreement, saying he prefers country-to-country trade deals.

Trump recently appointed Eli H. Miller, chief of staff at the Treasury Department, as acting director of both the ADB and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development pending a permanent appointment. Miller did not attend the ADB's annual meeting. The top US representative in Yokohama was Robert Kaproth, US deputy assistant secretary for Asia.

The ADB is preparing to set its long-term strategy for the years leading to 2030, and



TOKYO: Asian Development Bank (ADB) President Takehiko Nakao leaves the closing press conference of an ADB annual meeting in Yokohama, near Tokyo yesterday. - AP

Nakao said he intends to make the lender "stronger, better and faster." He said the regional bank, which has dozens of member countries from the Asia-Pacific region and beyond, has been a relatively efficient source of support for development of a region that once was characterized by extreme poverty.

"The US investment in Asia has been very efficient and productive. I hope the US government will look at these issues and continue to invest in the ADB," Nakao said. A top priority for the ADB and other regional institutions is to help countries weather natural disasters and other threats. Apart from investing in infrastructure such as power plants, bridges and hospitals, the ADB provided financial support for countries during the 1997 Asian financial crisis, and is seeking ways to leverage more private investment to help make up for shortfalls in funding.

One of the bank's key roles has been to help reduce risks for investments in developing countries, thanks to its strong links to local governments. — AP

THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE FILL ARENA TO HEAR FROM WARREN BUFFETT

Extending Sunday trading is one of a list of projections for Greece, from 2.7 percent to demands by the creditors, the European 2.0 percent. — AFP

AUB HOLDS AL-HASSAD **ISLAMIC ACCOUNT DRAW**

KUWAIT: Ahli United Bank recently conducted its Al-Hassad Islamic account weekly draw, Kuwait's leading shariacompliant rewards program that offers a broad range of prizes to the largest number of winners, on the 3rd May. The account provides 26 weekly prizes that are comprised of KD 25,000 as a grand prize and 25 other prizes valued at KD 1,000 each. AUB also offers four quarterly prizes that are valued at KD 250,000 to each winner allowing them to achieve their dreams of travelling, studying abroad, or owning their dream home or car.

On this occasion Ahli United Bank announced, "With this draw, we are adding 26 new winners and prizes to the Al-Hassad Islamic account whereby, the total number of winners annually will include more than 1300.

The weekly grand prize winner of KD 25,000 is Yousef Ahmad Al-Mailam.

25 other winners who won prizes of KD 1,000 are as follows: Mohd A/Aziz Al-Harran, Osama Zahir Ibrahim, Nadiah Abdullah Al-Enezi, Mohammad Shoeb Mohammad, Mohammad Salem Al-Senafi, Saba Mohammad Qandaqji, Khaled S A Al-Masoud, Ameer Abdulhameed Al-Sayegh, Zainab Hussain Ahmed, Wadhha Mohammad Suwailem, Nawaf Thaar Al-Saeed, Abdulkareem Abdullah Baqer, Reslan Adnan Mohammad, Hasan Salah Al-Sadeq, Saad Mudarhem Al-Otaibi, Mahmood



Ebrahim Abbas, Fadhel Abdulla Ali, Abdulla Saleh Janah, Nadia Shawkat Ali, Fahad Mohamed Sharif, Pattath Venugopalan, Abdulaziz Abbas Abdulla, Hiba Abdulaziz Abdulla, Hussain Ali Hasan Alhaddad, Sayed Hameed Husain, Basemah A. Ali Hameed.

Ahli United Bank added, "There are increased opportunities that await our current customers and those who are interested in opening an Al-Hassad Islamic account to benefit from the wide range of prizes and opportunities offered this year."

Individual customers can open their accounts with a minimum deposit of KD 100, qualifying them to enter the draw. For every KD 50 deposited in the account, customers are given one chance to enter the quarterly draw. They must have held the minimum deposit requirement for at least two weeks prior to the draw date. The more deposits made, the higher the chances of winning on a weekly basis. Al-Hassad Islamic account's customers in Kuwait and Bahrain are eligible to participate in the draw in line with the program's terms and conditions.

OMAHA: Listening to Warren Buffett never gets old to the thousands of Berkshire Hathaway shareholders who filled an arena Saturday to listen to the billionaire investor at the company's annual meeting.

More than 30,000 people came to Omaha to hear Buffett and Berkshire Vice Chairman Charlie Munger talk. The 86-year-old CEO and his 93-year-old partner have been leading the conglomerate for more than five decades, but the crowd is always listening for new tidbits of wisdom. Buffett is known for his candor and plain speaking.

Berkshire's top two executives acknowledged Saturday that they missed out on investing in Google years ago, but they expressed pride in the company they built through acquisitions and said they believe it will thrive for decades to come. "In retrospect, I think we were smart enough to figure out Google early, and we didn't," Munger said.

Buffett and Munger avoided technology investments for most of their careers because they said it was too hard to figure out which companies will win. Berkshire does now own 133 million Apple shares, but it just sold off onethird of its 81 million IBM shares because Buffett misjudged that firm.

Buffett had harsh words for Wells Fargo's managers who failed to respond promptly to the sales practices scandal that cost the former CEO his job last year. The bank said last fall that its employees opened up 2 million bank accounts without customer approval to meet unrealistic sales goals.

"The main problem was they didn't act when they learned about it," Buffett said. Berkshire is Wells Fargo's biggest shareholder. Buffett said he still believes in the long-term prospects of the bank even though Wells Fargo mishandled the scandal.

Buffett said there's no change in Berkshire's plan to eventually replace him. He said one of



OMAHA: A image of Warren Buffett towers over Berkshire Hathaway shareholders as they visit and shop at company subsidiaries in Omaha at the Berkshire Hathaway shareholders meeting. —AP

the most important qualities his successor will need is a talent for wisely investing Berkshire's cash.

"We need a money mind as CEO," said Buffett, who has no plans to retire. Berkshire plans to name one of its existing managers CEO after Buffett is gone, and the decentralized structure of the company allows Berkshire's subsidiaries to largely run themselves. "We have an extraordinary group of good managers," Buffett said. The executives who run Berkshire subsidiaries look forward to the meeting just as the shareholders do.

Brooks Running CEO Jim Weber said he's always careful about how much of Buffett's

time he takes up when he talks to him, so those conversations tend to focus just on Brooks' running-shoe business. The annual meeting offers one of the few times Weber gets to hear Buffett discuss other topics.

"I want to hear him talk about the economy and investing," Weber said. "I'm looking forward to hearing him as much as everybody else." Dozens of companies Berkshire owns set up booths in an adjoining 200,000-square-foot exhibit hall to sell their products and take questions about their businesses. The event offers Geico insurance quotes, See's Candy, Justin cowboy boots, RVs and homes manufactured by Clayton Homes. — AP

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UK SUPER-RICH GOT RICHER DESPITE BREXIT: RICH LIST

LONDON: Britain's super-rich "kept calm and carried on making billions" despite worries about Brexit, according to The Sunday Times newspaper's Rich List for 2017, with more billionaires living in the country than ever before. In the past 12 months, the total

wealth of Britain's richest 1,000 individuals and families surged 14 percent to £658 billion (\$854 billion, 777 billion euros), the paper said. It said that there

are now more UK-based billionaires than ever before, at 134. Industrialist brothers Sri and Gopi Hinduja topped the list with a combined wealth of £16.2 billion, up £3.2 billion over the previous year. "While many of us worried about the outcome of the EU referendum, many of Britain's richest people just kept calm and carried on making billions," said the list compiler, Robert Watts. — AFP





ZCASH, THE VIRTUAL MONEY MAKING ITS MARK

has been a smash success since its launch seven months ago, drawing in new users with promises of unrivaled privacy protection.

But the new virtual money could face a tough battle integrating into the wider financial system. After debuting on currency trading platforms in October, Zcash took off, hitting an exchange rate of \$1,000 per unit, putting it in league with the much better established Bitcoin, the virtual currency pioneer created in 2009.

While its value has since come down to earth, Zcash is attracting the interest of Russian, Chinese, Venezuelan and, as of May 4, South African consumers. Brazilians now use Zcash to

NEW YORK: Zcash, the latest virtual currency, pay taxes and electricity bills and make purchases. To make its mark in the world of virtual currencies, Zcash boasts that it protects user privacy. But because of that guarantee it does not offer the transparency demanded by authorities who want to prevent these new tender from being used in money laundering, financing terrorism, evading taxes or fraud.

Untraceable transactions

Zcash was developed by researchers at Johns Hopkins University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in the United States and Tel Aviv University and the Technion-Israel Institute of Technology in Israel. Only five of the six people who developed the cryptography have been publicly identified. It is based on a technology dubbed zk-Snark, which allows untraceable transactions.

The resulting data are encrypted but users are free to identify themselves. Other cryptocurrencies such as Dash and Monero offer a level of privacy, but Zcash goes further, even obscuring the origin of a payment.

This is the opposite of Bitcoin, which uses blockchain technology that publicly records transaction details including the unique alphanumeric strings that identify buyers and sellers.

"You don't expose all of your communications or all of your transactions to random peo-

_{جلوبل} Global

162,492,980 20,923,610 4,447

ple on the internet you barely know," said Zooko Wilcox, CEO of Zerocoin Electric Coin Company, which manages Zcash. Virtual currencies are produced, or "mined," by banks of computers solving complex algorythms, an operation that can be expensive. Wilcox told AFP he hoped the expanded privacy protection could overcome businesses' reluctance to adopt Zcash as a trustworthy alternative to traditional state-controlled currencies.

But Jonathan Levin, co-founder of Chainalysis, a start-up that helps banks and authorities trace the origins and destinations of virtual currency payments, doubts Zcash will find its place in the wider financial system. "It is hard for existing financial institutions to integrate these types of crypto currencies as information on the origin of funds is very hard to ascertain," he said.

Financial institutions began to take an interest in Bitcoin, and in particular in its blockchain technology, once the darknet marketplace known as Silk Road was closed in 2013.

Silk Road facilitated Bitcoin transactions but was also platform for the sale of illegal drugs. "Nobody has ever used Zcash for any kind of crime as far as anyone knows," Wilcox said, while conceding that "all technologies can be misused." — AFP



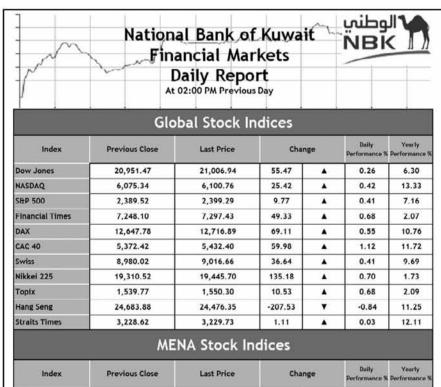
Sunday 07 May 2017

Index	c	Change	Closing	Last Closing	High	Low	
Price index	٧	-188.13	6,564.66	6,752.79	6,752.79	6,547.03	Volume
Weighted Index	v	-9.85	392.56	402.41	402.41	391.72	Value (KWD)
KSX 15	v	-22.70	883.68	906.38	906.38	883.62	Number of Trades

ecurity	High	Low	Volume	Value (KD)	Trades	Last	Cł	nange	Security	High	Low	Volume	Value (KD)	Trades	Last	Ch	nange
MARIN	62	61	256113	15,627	15	61	٧	-1.0	SOKOUK	48.0	45.0	2648159	121,491	77	45.0	v	-2.
PG ARESCO	390	385	4,982	1,943	2	385		-10.0	KRE	57	55	2,480,007	137,405	37	55	٣	-2.
APESCO NERGYH	1,460 45.0	1,380	22,337	31,157	17	1,380	v	-100.0	NRE	89 102	84 98	30 264,385	3 26,438	2	89 100		0. -2
PI	42.0	39.5	9,952,935	399,745	162	40.0	٧	-2.0	SRE	375	355	191,508	68,008	8	355		-15
BAR	88	85	14,683	1,258	10	88	-	0.0	TAM	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	420	-	0.
il & Gas			10,313,105	452,371	215	989.99	Ψ.	-55.45	AREEC MASSALEH	168 48.0	160 45.5	4,802	807	3 20	160 45.5	¥ ¥	-8
FOUC	310	280	4	1	2	280	٧	-25.0	ARABREC	34.5	32.5	3,315,788	110,575	104	33.5	٧	-1
PCC	570	560	514,005	287,983	12	560	۷	-10.0	ERESCO	40.5	38.0	2,873,368	111,177	81	39.0	٧	-1
LKOUT LQURAIN	690 330	690 315	2	1	1 44	690 320	*	-10.0	MABANEE	820	810 0.0	180,139	145,913 0	14	810 93	٧	-10
asic Materials	330	315	1,686,823	545,671 833,656	59	1257.16		-35.75	INVESTORS	25.0	23.5	4,588,329	110,127	76	23.5		0. -2
							_		IRC	35.0	31.0	1,201,711	38,249	81	31.0	٧	-2
CEM	475	475	12	6	1	475	¥	-25.0	ALTIJARIA	75	74	341,500	25,429	14	74	¥	-1
ABLE	430 226	420 220	99,412 32,276	42,001 7,138	14	420 220	¥ ¥	-10.0	AAYANRE	50 80	50	1,000 236,505	50	1	50 79	¥ ¥	-5
CEM	980	950	8	8	2	950	¥	-20.0	AQAR	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	82	-	0.
APER	285	285	9,910	2,824	2	285	٧	-25.0	ALAQARIA	40.0	38.0	313,000	12,094	9	38.0	Ψ.	-2
IRC CICO	0.0 290	0.0 280	0 40,013	0	0	76 290	-	0.0	ADNC	0.0	0.0	3,635,408	402,097	112	106	¥	-10
CC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	208	-	0.0	THEMAR	80	80	900,000	72,000	7	80	¥	-5
BMMC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	136		0.0	TIJARA	53	53	79,162	4,196	1	53	Ψ.	-5
QUIPMENT	0.0 58	0.0	626.210	0 35.063	0 23	212 55	-	0.0	TAAMEER	38.0 83	36.0 80	9,268,773	340,707	176	36.0 80	¥ ¥	-2
	90	90	626,210 2	0	1	90	*	-5.0	ARKAN	0.0	0.0	55,010 0	4,479	0	188	-	-3
YPSUM	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	95	-	0.0	ABYAAR	25.0	23.0	9,345,368	222,858	130	23.0	¥	-2
ALBOOKH	63	58	435,670	25,651	23	59	Ψ	-4.0	MUNSHAAT	55	51	1,167,368	62,504	18	53	٧	-2
GLTY DU	620 290	600 280	937,074	571,379 281	26	600 280	¥ ¥	-20.0	FIRSTDUBAI KBT	57 52	51 50	1,450,422 626,472	76,828	68 19	51 51	v	-5 -2
LEANING	49.0	45.0	203,403	9,157	18	45.0	¥	-20.0	REAM	0.0	0.0	020,472	0	0	285	-	-2
GL	61	57	934,643	54,852	37	57	٧	-5.0	MENA	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	32.0	-	0.
CPC	154	140	37	6	6	154	*	10.0	ALMUDON MARAKEZ	43.5 48.5	41 0	1,233,190	52,087	31 2	41.0		-2
UMANSOFT	4,000	3,900	276,015 0	1,088,177	48	3,900 140	-	-20.0	REMAL	48.5	48.0 62	3,500	168 88,846	54	48.5 62	*	-5
FC	68	59	123,708	7,559	7	62	¥	-2.0	AWJ	74	72	10,100	727	3	74	٧	-3
	27.0	25.0	3,532,854	91,894	60 38	25.5		-1.5	Real Estate			48,187,247	2,303,493	1,179	934.90		-36
GC ITCC	570 0.0	550 0.0	552,710 0	309,753 0	38	570 56	-	10.0	KINV	94	90	123,157	11,157	14	90	٧.	-5
PAC	760	760	2	2	1	760		10.0	FACIL	162	160	51,802	8,292	8	160	¥	-4
LAFCO	260	250	430,141	109,686	11	255	-	0.0	IFA	40.5	39.0	838,193	33,282	44	39.0	Ψ.	-2
IUBARRAD OGISTICS	78 65	74 61	10,032	782	4	78 61	-	0.0	NINV KPROJ	104 380	98 365	676,634	67,852	20 60	100	¥ ¥	-4
CEM	90	90	1,680,619 485	103,101 44	1	61 90	*	-5.0 3.0	COAST	380 44.0	42.0	1,309,605 2,027,056	485,266 86,167	60 42	370 44.0	¥ ¥	-20
CEM	79	77	105,421	8,237	9	77	۷	-1.0	SECH	47.0	44.5	1,511,653	68,393	42	44.5	٧	-2
IC	96	86	116	11	4	86	٧	-5.0	SGC	99	99	20	2	1	99	(1, -)	0
CEM	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	85 99	-	0.0	ARZAN MARKAZ	36.5 94	34.0 94	601,532 3,000	20,529	9	35.0 94	v	-1
PEC	85	85	96,979	8,243	3	85	¥	-2.0	KMEFIC	28.5	26.5	346	10	3	28.5	-	0
ndustrials			10,128,752	2,487,257	414	1761.92	٧	-26.55	ALAMAN	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	49.5	-	0
eu.	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	400	1255	0.0	ALOLA	48.0	45.5	1,614,050	73,714	54	46.0	*	-1
SH	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	188	-	0.0	GIH	19.5 42.0	18.0 39.5	4,452,022 61,567	84,275 2,447	75 13	18.5 39.5	¥ ¥	-1 -2
APCO	100	100	20	2	1	100	۲	-10.0	AAYAN	48.0	46.0	8,931,361	416,826	107	46.0	۳	-2
ATTL	216	206	52,993	11,340	15	216		8.0	BAYANINV	49.5	47.5	830,172	39,660	33	47.5	٧	-2
OOD	86 2,500	82 2,420	2,127,029	175,903 8,512	58	83 2,420	*	1.0 -80.0	OSOUL KFIC	60 42.0	55 42.0	64,000 48,900	3,536	6	55 42.0	v	-5
onsumer Goods	1,000		2,183,447	195,757	77	1103.29		-17.32	KAMCO	91	89	86,900	7,778	15	90	¥	-4
NUM .		10,11							NIH	64	59	188,303	11,446	79	63	۳	-1
IHC TC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	335 1,100	-	0	MADAR	48.0	45.5	1,502,708	69,099 0	8	46.0 12.5		-2
IACO	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	210	-	0	ALDEERA	35.0	33.5	10,932	366	5	35.0		1.
ealth Care			0	0	0	1405.03	-	0.00	ALSALAM	48.0	46.0	1,406,115	66,511	41	46.0	¥	-2
CIN	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	1 220	1.4.5		EKTTITAB	37.0	34.5	2,491,761	87,531	70	34.5	*	-2
CIN HOT	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	1,320	-	0	ALMADINA NOOR	46.5 51	44.0 48.0	1,572,207 548,954	70,969 26,921	21 13	45.0 50	*	-1
ULTAN	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	67	-	0	TAMINV	315	300	14,771	4,431	9	300		-1(
ABLETV	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	22.5	-	0	EXCH	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	158	-	0
YAS AHR	395 0.0	395	10	4	1	395 192	*	-25	KSHC ASIYA	37.5 38.5	34.5 37.5	2,325,781 71,007	82,031 2,690	74 13	34.5 37.5	* *	-2
ULAFUEL	126	120	117,006	14,249	19	192		-4	GNAHC	38.5	34.5	797,566	2,690	22	34.5	v	-1
IUNTAZAHAT	80	76	41,006	3,199	5	79	۷	-2	AMWAL	68	65	196,412	13,044	35	66	۳	-1
AZEERA	520	495	27,129	13,573	7	500	*	-10	ALIMTIAZ	168	158	6,362,140	1,024,614	122	158	*	-10
OOR UTUREKID	124 120	122	16,037 4	1,971	11	122	¥ ¥	-6 -10	MANAZEL NIND	54 116	51 112	1,681,820 584,698	88,041 66,798	34 29	53 112	v v	-2 -6
LRAI	136	128	438,648	57,488	33	128	¥	-10	BIIHC	0.0	0.0	0	00,750	0	21.5	-	-0
МАН	55	52	290,944	15,526	16	52	٧	-3	SENERGY	40.0	38.0	134,826	5,270	16	38.0	٧	-2
ezzan onsumer Services	1,000	980	317,946 1,248,730	314,767 420,778	21	980 860.46	v	-10	AGHC KPPC	93 52	92 50	110,000 950,490	10,210 48,345	4	92 50	¥	-5
	76		12401100	1001110	110	550.40			TAHSSILAT	29.0	26.5	3,537	48,345	6	29.0	-	-2
AIN	425	410	4,204,292	1,753,232	106	415	٧	-10	JEERANH	47.0	47.0	37,397	1,758	6	47.0	٧	-2
OREDOO	1,200	1,200	5,457	6,548	4	1,200	¥	-60	EKHOLDING	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	198	-	0
ITSTELEC	43.0 880	40.5 850	2,326,382 67,362	95,766 57,852	73 40	40.5 860	¥ ¥	-3 -20	GFH INOVEST	190	184 95	336,606 473,589	62,722 46,044	28 36	190 96	¥ ¥	-4
elecommunication	11.010120	500	6,603,493	1,913,399	223	612.02	Ŧ	-20.96	Financial Service			45,033,590	3,228,840	1,249	697.53	W	-26
							-								100		
BK BK	670 246	650 242	3,250,846 875,681	2,147,283 214,662	78 25	650 244	*	-20	Investment Instru	iments		0	0	0	1081.97	0-0	0.
BK	365	365	8	3	1	365	*	-20	ASC	265	248	4,316	1,077	10	265		17
вк	310	300	11,032	3,420	8	310	-	0	osos	134	124	20,543	2,685	6	130	٧	-4
	420	405	45,818	18,843	9	415	¥	-5	HAYATCOMM	85	79	47,779	3,835	8	83	V	-1
IB URG	246 330	242 325	1,126,025 278,516	274,384 91,410	29 12	242 325	v v	-4	Technology			72,638	7,597	24	680.88		-0.
FIN	490	475	9,344,003	4,522,360	276	480	¥	-15	SANAD	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	100		0.
OUBYAN	400	395	499,378	198,193	19	395	٧	-5	AFAQ	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	170	-	0.
UB	210	204	2,316,190	477,065	59	206	¥	-2	ALSHAMEL	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	335	-	0.
HMR ARBABANK	47.5 246	44.5 242	17,037,306	767,748 324,879	261 78	45.0 242	¥ ¥	-2 -4	EFFECT AJWAN	35.0 87	33.0 87	181,514 54,452	6,041 4,737	8	33.5 87	¥ A	-0
anks	~ 17	a-76	36,117,274	9,040,249	855	907.73	¥	-17.98	MASAKEN	0.0	0.0	0	4,737	0	72	-	0.
									DALQAN	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	350	-	0
INS	248	228	10,002	2,480	3	248		10	ALEID	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	86	-	0
INS	0.0 480	0.0 480	0 40,020	0 19,210	2	550 480		0.0 -15.0	MIDAN	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	1,220		0
INS	90	87	25,538	2,248	7	88		-4.0	AMAR	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	57	-	0
UWAITRE	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	194	-	0.0	Parallel Market			235,966	10,778	10	#REF!	#REF!	#R
ті	62	59 51	85,955	5,164	12	62 51	v	-2.0									
ETHAO		21	6,389	332	3	21		-2.0									
ETHAQ KIKWT	53 0.0	0.0	0	0	0	355	-	0.0									



NEW YORK: After debuting in October Zcash hit an exchange rate of \$1,000 per unit, putting it in league with the much better established Bitcoin, the virtual currency pioneer.



							perintmance a	Performance 5
Kuwait	6,75	52.79	6,56	4.66	-188.13	•	-2.79	14.88
Saudi Arabia	6,92	4.08	6,85	8.29	-65.79	•	-0.95	-3.97
Dubai	3,41	9.73	3,38	4.05	-35.68	T	-1.04	-3.15
Abu Dhabi	4,61	7.16	4,57	0.24	-46.92	۲	-1.02	1.56
Bahrain	1,33	1.22	1,32	4.85	-6.37	•	-0.48	9.08
Qatar	9,93	8.28	9,83	3.58	-104.70	•	-1.05	-4.78
Oman	5,47	5.92	5,45	0.28	-25.64	•	-0.47	-5.31
Lebanon	1,17	8.59	1,17	8.59	0.00		0.00	-2.82
Jordan	2,16	2.30	2,16	6.50	4.20	•	0.19	-0.37
Egypt	12,7	09.93	12,67	73.85	-36.08	•	-0.28	2.96
Morocco	11,7	89.50	11,74	43.86	-45.64	•	-0.39	0.86
Tunisia	5,67	4.28	5,71	5.16	40.88	•	0.72	3.38
	Glo	bal Cu	rrenci	es Exc	hange	Rate		
Currency	Kuwaiti Dinar	Saudi Riyal	US Dollar	Euro	Sterling Pound	Swiss Franc	Japanese Yen	Australian Dollar
Kuwait Dinar		12.2166	3.2712	2.9738	2.5192	3.2280	368.69	4.4056
Saudi Riyal	0.08186		0.2678	0.2434	0.2062	0.2642	30.18	0.3606
US Dollar	0.30570	3.7346		0.9091	0.7701	0.9868	112.71	1.3468
Euro	0.33627	4.1081	1.1000		0.8473	1.0859	123.99	1.4823
Sterling Pound	0.39695	4.8494	1.2985	1.1802		1.2818	146.29	1.7499
Swiss Franc	0.30979	3.7846	1.0134	0.9209	0.7802		114.25	1.3648
Japanese Yen	0.00271	0.0331	0.0089	0.0081	0.0068	0.0088		0.0119
Australian Dollar	0.22698	2.7729	0.7425	0.6746	0.5715	0.7327	83.69	
	ME	NA Cu	rrencie	es Exc	hange	Rate		
Currency	US Dollar	Kuwaiti Dollar	Saudi Riyal	Bahraini Dinar	Qatari Riyal	Omani Riyal	Emirates Dirham	Egyptian Pound
US Dollar		0.30570	3.7346	0.3740	3.6267	0.3832	3.6570	18.0300
Kuwaiti Dinar	3.2712		12.2166	1.2234	11.8636	1.2534	11.9627	58.9794
Saudi Riyal	0.2678	0.08186		0.1001	0.9711	0.1026	0.9792	4.8278
Bahraini Dinar	2.6738	0.81738	9.9856		9.6971	1.0245	9.7781	48.2086
Qatari Riyal	0.2757	0.08429	1.0298	0.1031		0.1056	1.0084	4.9715
Omani Riyal	2.6099	0.79786	9.7471	0.9761	9.4655		9.5446	47.0573
Emirates Dirham	0.2734	0.08359	1.0212	0.1023	0.9917	0.1048		4.9303
Egyptian Pound	0.0555	0.01696	0.2071	0.0207	0.2011	0.0213	0.2028	
		Glo	bal Int	erest	Rates			
			2.11	onth	6-M	onth	1-Y	'ear
Currency	1-Week	1-Month	3-M				1.000	
the second second second	1-Week	1-Month 1.38		63	1.	88	2.	13
Kuwaiti Dinar			1.	63 18	13.07	88 43	-	13 77
Kuwaiti Dinar US Dollar	1.00	1.38	1. 1.		1.	Teach I	1.	No. C. C.
Kuwaiti Dinar US Dollar Euro	1.00 0.94	1.38 0.99	1. 1. -0.	18	1.	43	1.	77
Kuwaiti Dinar US Dollar Euro Sterling Pound	1.00 0.94 -0.40	1.38 0.99 -0.40	1. 1. -0. 0.	18 36	1. -0. 0.	43 26	1. -0. 0.	77 .14
Kuwaiti Dinar US Dollar Euro Sterling Pound Swiss Franc	1.00 0.94 -0.40 0.23	1.38 0.99 -0.40 0.25	1. 1. -0. 0. -0.	18 36 32	1. -0. 0.	43 26 46	1. -0. 0.	77 .14 68
Kuwaiti Dinar US Dollar Euro Sterling Pound Swiss Franc Australian Dollar	1.00 0.94 -0.40 0.23 -0.80	1.38 0.99 -0.40 0.25 -0.78	1. 1. -0. 0. -0. 1.	18 36 32 73	1. -0. -0. -0. 1.	43 26 46 66	1. -0. 0. -0.	77 14 68 .49
Kuwaiti Dinar US Dollar Euro Sterling Pound Swiss Franc Australian Dollar	1.00 0.94 -0.40 0.23 -0.80 1.56	1.38 0.99 -0.40 0.25 -0.78 1.65 -0.02	1. 1. -0. 0. -0. 1.	18 36 32 73 63 00	1. -0. -0. 1. 0.	43 26 46 66 62	1. -0. 0. -0.	77 14 68 .49 64
Kuwaiti Dinar US Dollar Euro Sterling Pound Swiss Franc Australian Dollar Japanese Yen Country	1.00 0.94 -0.40 0.23 -0.80 1.56 -0.02 2-Y	1.38 0.99 -0.40 0.25 -0.78 1.65 -0.02 Glu	1. 1. -0. -0. 1. 0. 0. 0. 0. 5-Y	18 36 32 73 63 00 ond Yi	1. -0. -0. 1. 0. elds	43 26 46 60 62 02 Year	1. -0. 0. -0. 1. 0.	77 14 68 .49 64 13 Year
Kuwaiti Dinar US Dollar Euro Sterling Pound Swiss Franc Australian Dollar Japanese Yen Country United States	1.00 0.94 -0.40 0.23 -0.80 1.56 -0.02 2-Y 1.	1.38 0.99 -0.40 0.25 -0.78 1.65 -0.02 Glo 'ear 31	1. 1. -0. -0. 1. 0. 0. 0. 5-Y	18 36 32 73 63 00 ond Yi ear 88	1. -0. -0. 1. 0. elds 10-*	43 26 46 60 62 02 7'ear 35	1. -0. 0. -0. 1. 0. 30-Y	77 14 68 49 64 13 Year 99
United States Europe	1.00 0.94 -0.40 0.23 -0.80 1.56 -0.02 2-Y 1. -0.02	1.38 0.99 -0.40 0.25 -0.78 1.65 -0.02 Glo 'ear 31 .71	1. 1. -0. -0. 1. 0. 0. 5-Y 1. -0.	18 36 32 73 63 63 00 00 00 Vi ear 88 88 31	1. -0. -0. 1. 0. elds 10- 2. 0.	43 26 46 66 62 02 7 rear 35 42	1. -0. 0. -0. 1. 0. 30-1 2. 1.	77 14 68 49 64 13 Year 99 19
Kuwaiti Dinar US Dollar Euro Sterling Pound Swiss Franc Australian Dollar Japanese Yen Country United States Europe	1.00 0.94 -0.40 0.23 -0.80 1.56 -0.02 2-Y 1. -0.02	1.38 0.99 -0.40 0.25 -0.78 1.65 -0.02 Glo 'ear 31	1. 1. -0. -0. 1. 0. 0. 5-Y 1. -0.	18 36 32 73 63 00 ond Yi ear 88	1. -0. -0. 1. 0. elds 10- 2. 0.	43 26 46 60 62 02 7'ear 35	1. -0. 0. -0. 1. 0. 30-1 2. 1.	77 14 68 49 64 13 Year 99
Kuwaiti Dinar US Dollar Euro Sterling Pound Swiss Franc Australian Dollar Japanese Yen Country United States	1.00 0.94 -0.40 0.23 -0.80 1.56 -0.02 2-Y 1. -0.02	1.38 0.99 -0.40 0.25 -0.78 1.65 -0.02 Glo 'ear 31 .71	1. 1. -0. -0. 1. 0. 0. 0. 0. 0. 0. 0. 1. 0. 0. 0. 0. 0. 0. 0. 0. 0. 0	18 36 32 73 63 63 00 00 00 Vi ear 88 88 31	1. -0. -0. 1. 0. elds 10- 2. 0. 1.	43 26 46 66 62 02 7 rear 35 42	1. -0. 0. -0. 1. 0. 30-1 2. 1.	77 14 68 49 64 13 Year 99 19
Kuwaiti Dinar US Dollar Euro Sterling Pound Swiss Franc Australian Dollar Japanese Yen Country United States Europe	1.00 0.94 -0.40 0.23 -0.80 1.56 -0.02 2-Y 1. 1. -0.02	1.38 0.99 -0.40 0.25 -0.78 1.65 -0.02 Glo 'ear 31 .71	1. 1. -0. 0. -0. 1. 0. 0. 0. 5-Y 1. -0. 0. Comm	18 36 32 73 63 00 00 Vi ear 88 31 53	1. -0. 0. -0. 1. 0. elds 10- 2. 0. 1. 5	43 26 46 66 62 02 7 rear 35 42	1. -0. 0. -0. 1. 0. 30-1 2. 1.	77 14 68 .49 64 13 7 64 13 7 99 19 78 78 Yearty
Kuwaiti Dinar US Dollar Euro Sterling Pound Swiss Franc Australian Dollar Japanese Yen Country United States Europe United Kingdom	1.00 0.94 -0.40 0.23 -0.80 1.56 -0.02 2-Y 1. 1. -0.02 Previou	1.38 0.99 -0.40 0.25 -0.78 1.65 -0.02 Glover 31 .71	1. 1. -0. 0. 1. 0. 0. 0. 5-Y 1. -0. 0. Comm Last I	18 36 32 73 63 00 ond Yi wear 88 31 53 noditie	1. -0. 0. -0. 1. 0. elds 10- 2. 0. 1. 5	43 26 46 66 02 7'ear 35 42 11	1. -0. -0. 1. 1. 0. 30- 1. 1. 1. Daily	77 14 68 .49 64 13 7 64 13 7 99 19 78 78 Yearty
Kuwaiti Dinar US Dollar Euro Sterling Pound Swiss Franc Australian Dollar Japanese Yen Country United States Europe United Kingdom Index Kuwait Oll	1.00 0.94 -0.40 0.23 -0.80 1.56 -0.02 2-Y 1. 1. -0.02 Previou 46	1.38 0.99 -0.40 0.25 -0.78 1.65 -0.02 Glu 'ear 31 .71 13	1. 1. -0. 0. -0. 1. 0. 0. 5-Y 1. -0. 0. Comm Last I 46.	18 36 32 73 63 00 00 00 Vi ear 88 31 53 00 Vi ear Price	1. -0. -0. 1. 0. elds 10- 2. 0. 1. 5.	43 26 46 66 62 02 Year 35 42 11 nge	1. -0. -0. 1. 0. 1. 2. 1. 1. 1. 2. 1. 1.	77 14 68 .49 64 13 Year 99 19 78 Yearly Performance
Kuwaiti Dinar US Dollar Euro Sterling Pound Swiss Franc Australian Dollar Japanese Yen Country United States Europe United Kingdom Index Kuwait Oil Brent	1.00 0.94 -0.40 0.23 -0.80 1.56 -0.02 2-Y 1. 1. -0.02 Previou 46 46	1.38 0.99 -0.40 0.25 -0.78 1.65 -0.02 Glu rear 31 .71 13	1. 1. -0. 0. -0. 1. 0. 0. 0. 5-Y 1. -0. 0. Comm Last I 46. 46.	18 36 32 73 63 00 00 00 Yi ear 88 31 53 10 53 Price 32 32 33	1. -0. -0. 1. 0. 10- 2. 0. 1. 2. 0. 1. 5. Cha	43 26 46 66 62 02 7ear 35 42 11 mge ▲	1. -0. -0. 1. 0. 1. 0. 30-Y 2. 1. 1. 2. 1. 1. 0. 30-Y 2. 0.35	77 14 68 49 64 13 Year 99 19 78 Yearty Performance -15.27
Kuwaiti Dinar US Dollar Euro Sterling Pound Swiss Franc Australian Dollar Japanese Yen Country United States Europe United Kingdom	1.00 0.94 -0.40 0.23 -0.80 1.56 -0.02 2-Y 1. 1. -0.02 7-Y 0. 0. 9 Previou 46 46 46	1.38 0.99 -0.40 0.25 -0.78 1.65 -0.02 Glove rear 31 .71 13 us Close .16 .71	1. 1. -0. 0. -0. 1. 0. 0. 0. 0. 0. Comm Last I 46. 46. 46.	18 36 32 73 63 00 00 Vi ear 88 31 53 noditie Price .32 .69	1. -0. -0. 1. 0. 1. 0. 2. 0. 1. 2. 0. 1. 5. Cha 0.16 -0.02	43 26 46 66 62 02 7'ear 35 42 11 nge ▲ ▼	1. -0. -0. 1. 0. -0. 1. 0. -0. -0. -0. -0. -0. -0. 0. -0. 0. -0. 0. -0. -	77 14 68 49 64 13 Year 99 19 78 Yearty Performance -15.27 -17.02



'EN MARCHE' FOR A THIRD INTEREST RATE HIKE

hile the political soap opera contin-ues in Washington with the House of Representatives passing the healthcare reform bill aimed at repealing and replacing the Affordable Care Act; the Senate approved a \$1.1 trillion spending bill that will fund the federal government through September and prevent a shutdown.

On the monetary policy front, the May FOMC meeting offered little clues this week as the Committee kept rates unchanged and was constructive on economic developments despite the recent softening in GDP growth and the drop in inflation. The committee did not give any signal on the next rate hike or changes in the Fed balance sheet policy.

On growth, the statement acknowledged, however dismissed the latest soft data noting that consumer spending remain solid, and that the Q1 slowdown was likely to be temporary. Sentiments were more upbeat on business investment. Neither the growth slowdown nor the decline in core inflation in March changed the Committee's expectations that growth will continue at a moderate pace, the labor market will strengthen somewhat further, and inflation will stabilize around 2% over the medium term.

On the data, the FOMC acknowledged that "the labor market has continued to strengthen even as growth in economic activity slowed. Job gains remain solid, on average, in recent months, and the unemployment rate declined. Household spending rose only modestly, but the fundamentals underpinning the continued growth of consumption remained solid". Inflation measured on a 12-month basis recently has been running close to the Committee's 2 percent.

Market probability of a hike stood at 90 percent for June in comparison to 67 percent prior to the FOMC meeting.

On the global economic front, the Eurozone growth may accelerate more and the ECB monetary policy guidance could change as the recovery picks up, ECB chief economist Peter Praet said, reinforcing expectations for a more upbeat economic assessment from the bank. Economic growth is broadening and there is potential for a positive surprise in the second quarter noting that inflation was also set to rise gradually to near the ECB's target by 2019.

On the foreign exchange side, the dollar index reached a 7-month low at 98.543 on Friday after an upbeat UK and Eurozone figures helped building pressure on the dollar.

The Euro continued to shun the French election risk and opened the week at 1.0905

and continued to surge reaching a six-month high of 1.1000 on Friday following the FOMC meeting and supported by the GDP figures coming on expectations. With the second round of the French Presidential Election on Sunday, the centrist candidate Emmanuel Macron is leading the polls and expected to easily win the election. The currency closed the week at 1.1000.

The pound sterling continued to be supported ignoring the risks emanating from the Brexit negotiations. Cable held its ground above 1.2900 and is expected to trade with high volatility should the political fight with the EU persist. The sterling closed the week at 1.2984.

The Japanese yen reached a six-week high at 113.04 against the dollar but softened back to close at the 112.72 level on Friday.

On the commodities side, oil prices contin-

Rates - 7th May, 2017

Open

1.0988

1.2918

Currencies

EUR

GBP

JPY

CHF

NBK MONEY MARKETS REPORT

the indices that track new orders and employment.

Non-manufacturing index on the other hand rose to 57.5, the second-highest since October 2015 from 55.2 in March. The results are in line with projections for a rebound in economic growth this quarter coming off the weakest pace in three years.

The surge in non-factory orders also extended to customers beyond US borders export demand climbed to the highest level in nearly a decade. On the employment front, US non-farm payroll recovered in April after the disappointing March figures. April non-farm data came at 211K versus an expected 194K setting the stage for a potential interest rate hike in June. According to the report, job gains occurred in most sectors ranging from leisure and hospitality to finance and mining sectors. Furthermore, unemployment claims for the

Close

1.0995

1.2979

growth of economic activity was a strong increase in incoming new business. New orders rose for the twenty-ninth month running, with the rate of expansion staying close to March's high.

UK manufacturing

The UK construction PMI rose to 53.1 in April against expectation of 52 and up from 52.2 in March. According to the report, "April's survey reveals a positive start to the second quarter of 2017, with a robust upturn in civil engineering activity helping to boost the construction industry. There were also more encouraging signs from the house building sector, as growth recovered to its strongest so far this year. However, the performance of the commercial building sector remained subdued in the context of the past four years." Britain's factories enjoyed their fastest

3-Month

Forward

1.1048

1.3016

112.30

0.9815

investors at a time of weak income growth cannot be strengthening the resilience of our economy. Nor can a high concentration of interest-only loans." In such a case, "an otherwise manageable downturn could be turned into something more serious".

Another negative surprise came on the back of the disappointing trade surplus falling more than expected in March to AUD 3.1 billion, despite upward revisions across the prior four months, with February now the second highest on record at AUD 3.7 billion. The trade data implies a large net export drag in the first quarter pressuring down economists' GDP forecast.

Finally, the RBA latest Statement showed a small upgrade to GDP, with growth by June 2018 now forecast between 2.75 and 3.75 percent. The Bank said that it had greater confidence that inflation would pick up, but that's in the context of an inflation forecast that doesn't return to the Bank's target range until June 2019. The cash rate is likely to be stuck at 1.5 percent for longer than the market has priced.

China property sales

According to data from the Chinese real estate services, property sales volumes in China's top 50 cities declined by 19 percent on a yearly basis and 10 percent on a monthly basis. This reflects the adverse impact of the recent round of tightening measures that have been rolled out since mid-March. The government has been trying to curb property prices in China this year.

Bank of Japan Governor Kuroda said that "the mindset is still quite cautious about inflation expectations, but I'm quite sure that with continuous accommodative monetary policy, supported by fiscal policy, we'd be able to eventually raise wages and prices significantly".

The projected growth rate of 1.5 percent is "not great" but it is well above the mediumterm potential growth rate which means that the output gap will shrink and become positive while the labor market continues to tighten. In that event, wages and prices would eventually rise to achieve the 2 percent inflation target around the fiscal year 2018. He acknowledges that "headline inflation has been quite slow to adjust upward" in part because of weakness in oil prices.

Kuwait

Kuwaiti dinar at 0.30415 The USDKWD opened at 0.30415 yesterday morning.

EUROPEAN ECONOMIC **RECOVERY PICKING UP**

By Hayder Tawfik

uropean economic recovery is gathering pace although with small steps. But recently it has

OUTCRY AS MOSCOW PLANS TO RAZE THOUSANDS OF COMMUNIST-ERA FLATS

This Week's Expected

Range

Maximum

1.1200

1.3155

114.75

0.9960

Minimum

1.0890

1.2855

111.20

0.9690

MOSCOW: Valeriya Yevseyeva and her husband Alexei bought a flat last year in a five-

ALL ALL



112.44 112.06 112.81 112.71 0.9861 0.9856 0.9902 0.9868

High

1.1000

1.2983

Previous Week Levels

Low

1.0948

1.2898

ued their slide by the end of the week, falling 2.9 percent on fears of rising output. Crude oil closed around the \$46, back to levels last seen before the OPEC deal, as the shale revival appears to be making the OPEC cuts ineffective. After dipping below \$44 Friday, prices closed the week slightly higher than the low, meanwhile, shale drillers are pressing ahead with their longest expansion since 2011.

Mixed US Data

US manufacturing missed expectations in April as employers reported less hiring and a slower pace of incoming orders, according to the ISM report. Indeed the purchasing manager's index slipped to 54.8 from 57.2. Economists had forecasted a reading of 56.5, with the biggest decrease was recorded in previous week came at 238K against an expected 246K. Finally the unemployment rate came at 4.4 percent as a result of the performance of both public and private sector.

Eurozone economic growth

Euro area economic growth accelerated to a six year high at the start of the second quarter. This was signaled by the final Eurozone PMI Composite Output Index rising to 56.8 in April, up from 56.4 in March and the earlier flash estimate of 56.7. Activity has expanded for 46 months in a row. Output growth accelerated at manufacturers and service providers, with rates of increase hitting 72-month records in both cases. The slightly sharper expansion was again registered in manufacturing. Underpinning in March to 57.3 in April on the back of strong demand at home and abroad, according to a survey that will temper worries about a Brexit-driven economic slowdown this year. The manufacturing sector, which makes up about a tenth of the UK economy, enjoyed the strongest pick-up in new work since the start of 2014 and smashed expectations in April. Firms also took on new workers at a faster pace and ramped up production.

growth for three years last month from 54.2

RBA concerned about household debt

Reserve Bank of Australia Governor Lowe said that "the recent increase in household debt relative to our incomes has made the economy less resilient to future shocks. Double-digit growth in debt owed by

improved a lot. German unemployment keeps falling much faster than its European partners. Falling



unemployment and job creation is crucial to faster European economic recovery. Most of this economic recovery is due to policy-driven measures by the European central bank and the weakness of the Euro against the US dollar. How long these supporting factors remain is open to question. Most likely in the coming year, the European Union

governments and central banks needed to draw up an exit strategy from fiscal and monetary stimulus measures, to ensure they were withdrawn at the right time and in a way, that does not do economic damage.

The economic recovery has made some investors a little over enthusiastic for the future prospect. I think it is a bit early to be carried away but the signs are there to cheer up. In some parts of the European Union such as Germany, Italy and France, sentiment among business executives, consumers and investors has increased since the start of the year with some expecting a much stronger economic recovery throughout the coming couple of years. The European Central bank does not share this positive sentiment. As usual Mario Draghi, the European Central Bank' president is being cautious. He is warning that risks remain to the downside and some economists maintain that the positive confidence might be at risk for a small correction. Nothing major to worry about.

The European Union's overall economy grew by 0.5 percent in the first quarter of 2017. This is much better than previous quarters and it seems that the growth is wide spread and is underpinned by solid exports and consumers spending. The good news is that the positive confidence build up has not been shaken by political uncertainty in France or the UK added to that, the recovery suggests that investors' mood isn't being shaken by political doubt related to the French elections and Brexit.

European Union's industrial manufacturing and services companies have been experiencing the strongest activity in six years. At the same time business executives and consumers feel most positive on the economy in almost 10 years. For the time being the economic recovery seems real at least in the short term but over the coming few years, factors affecting this recovery could change. This is a great investment opportunity that could last for at least till the end of this year. It seems that global investors are happy to bet on European equities if they believe the economic recovery is for real.

Investors should know that there are always some small hiccups once economic recovery takes hold. But equity investors should try to take advantage of any small corrections that might be caused by political upsets. The good news for equity investors is that the European economic growth forecast is nearly double of it achieved last year. This for sure will underpin stock valuations and increases the prevailing positive sentiment. The only spoiler is the unforeseen action of the European Central Bank. There is this expectation that the European Central bank will start working out an exit from unprecedented asset purchases and negative interest rates next month. Officials at the bank must be very careful that they do not make wrong policies just as the economic recovery picking up. They should acknowledge the improvement the economy has made and stress the risks it faces. - @Rasameel

storey brick building near a Moscow park where they love to cycle. Now they face the possibility that authorities will demolish their 1950s-era building and rehouse them in a tower block, in an urban development plan not seen since Soviet times to demolish more than 4,500 apartment blocks and relocate hundreds of thousands of Muscovites. "This is a brick building, everyone knows they can stand for up to 150 years, so this is a shock," said 31-year-old Yevseyeva, who works for a medical device company.

Backed by President Vladimir Putin, Moscow Mayor Sergei Sobyanin wants to knock down low-rise housing, focusing on the five-storey buildings thrown up under Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev in the 1950s and 1960s as the USSR rushed to build housing for everyone.

Supporters argue the vast 3.5-trillion ruble (\$62.1-billion, 57-billion euro) project is vital, replacing the smaller, aged buildings with high-rise housing in Russia's fast-developing capital of 12 million which faces a housing crunch and rising rents.

But the program-due to start in September-has prompted protests from residents fearful of losing their homes and who say it rides roughshod over their property rights. And the level of outcry has even forced Putin to react in a bid to reassure residents. "The aim is to improve housing conditions for people who live in buildings that are falling down," the Kremlin strongman told ministers.

"It goes without saying that this should be done in such a way and with such means and methods so as to not breach the rights of citizens."

'Deportation of Muscovites'

Authorities initially wanted to demolish 8,000 buildings, home to 1.6 million people, but reduced the scale this month after conducting opinion polls. The first five-storey buildings-nicknamed khrushchevki after the Soviet leader-rehoused people living in communal flats-where entire families were squeezed into one room-and were celebrated as a symbol of social progress in films and Dmitry Shostakovich's 1958 operetta, "Moscow, Cheryomushki".

Now, some seven decades later, those backing the project to pull them down are billing it as an equally important transformation "It's a historic step. There probably hasn't been such large-scale change to Moscow since the 1950s," said ruling United Russia party MP Pyotr Tolstoy.

Often situated in leafy communal settings, the apartment blocks were built without lifts and kitchens are small. The worst are made of pre-cast concrete panels but many are brick.

"They're outdated. It's impossible to repair, renovate or reconstruct them people really do live in awful conditions," said the lawmaker. Tolstoy co-authored the bill on the demolitions that got the preliminary backing

MOSCOW: A picture taken on April 21, 2017 shows an excavator demolishing a five-storey apartment block in Moscow. —AFP Photos

of parliament, but many details are vague and remain left to be worked out.

Under the program people are promised a flat of "equivalent" size-not the same valuein the same, albeit likely spread-out, district. It would be impossible to legally contest eviction-only the new flat's size-and residents have just 60 days to move out.

'Nightmare'

Some people are happy to swap their pokey flats for new ones. "The building's worn-out: there's not much pleasant about it," said one resident, who gave only her first name Yekaterina, adding her kitchen measures just five square metres (54 square feet). But many are deeply upset and have not been afraid to express their anger.

Yevseyeva, who lives in a spacious 1957 building with high ceilings and thick walls, was horrified to realise her home could be at risk if demolition plans for her building go ahead. "We were sure it didn't face any threat, but according to this bill, it's possible to take away any property," she said, calling the plan "a nightmare".

She has joined a Facebook protest group with 16,000 members and held a placard against "deportation of Muscovites" at a rallythe first she ever attended. In theory, a majority of residents in each building will need to approve demolition and only unsafe buildings will be touched, but with property



A general view taken on April 21, 2017 shows a partially demolished fivestorey apartment block in Moscow.

developers standing to profit from taking over prime real estate, many people say they are worried they will be forced out.

"We risk handing Moscow over to business and city contractors," warned lawmaker Mikhail Degtyarev, of the nationalist Liberal Democrat Party, in parliament. At a packed public meeting in Izmailovo, a district by a

large park, officials didn't help their cause by failing to specify where the new flats would be, leading to tempers fraying.

Sergei Mitrokhin, a leading member of the liberal opposition Yabloko party, warned inhabitants: "They're asking if you want to be moved or not-but they're not telling you where they're moving you to." — AFP

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QNB GROUP INAUGURATES ITS RIYADH BRANCH QNB GROUP CEO: ENTRY INTO SAUDI MARKET IS DUE TO QNB'S COMPETITIVE EDGE

Middle East and Africa, has inaugurated its branch in Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA). Senior bank officials and distinguished representatives from the banking and business sectors attended an inauguration ceremony held under the patronage and presence of Dr Ahmed bin Abdul Karim Al-Khulaifi, Governor of the Saudi Arabian Monetary Authority (SAMA), Sheikh Abdullah Bin Saud Al-Thani, Governor of Qatar Central Bank, Ali Ahmed Al-Kuwari, QNB Group CEO, and a number of Qatari diplomats.

Through its branch, located in the Saudi Capital of Riyadh, and its business hub extending along King Fahd road, QNB Group will provide a comprehensive suite of banking products and services to individuals, businesses, and government departments. This complements its extensive expertise? in wealth and investment portfolio management, project finance, smart banking solutions, and assorted innovative banking products and services that meet the requirements of the KSA market.

On this occasion, Ali Ahmed Al-Kuwari, QNB Group CEO, hailed the inauguration of this new branch, pointing out the Group's access into the KSA market is part of the Group's strategic plan to be present in all markets that have

KUWAIT: QNB Group, the largest financial institution in the a strong and resilient economy. The KSA is one of these economies, especially considering its ranking among the world's 20 strongest economies."

Al-Kuwari added: "Through our presence in Riyadh, we strive to become a major partner in promoting KSA's economic development by providing banking solutions to individuals, businesses, and government departments in both KSA and Qatar. This is in line with the Group's successful expansion of its global reach in Asia, Europe, and the Middle East and North Africa region. QNB Group's successful expansion is the result of well-researched risk management policy, as well as the forward-looking strategies that aim at diversifying our activities in Qatar and abroad."

Al-Kuwari also praised the Saudi government for its support of the banking industry, as evidenced by the implementation of streamlined procedures for the establishment of foreign banks, and for facilitating the authorization process to open a branch for the Bank in the Kingdom. He added: "We convey our warmest regards to the government of the Custodian of the two Holy Mosques as represented by the Saudi Arabian Monetary Authority (SAMA) and its staff.

QNB Group successfully maintained the highest brand



value in the Middle East and North Africa, thus strengthening its position in the region. Furthermore, the Group maintained a high credit rating, considered one of the best

QNB Group is present, through its subsidiaries and associate companies, in more than 31 countries across three continents, providing a comprehensive range of





QUALITYNET OFFICIALS MEET HUNGARIAN HIGH COMMISSION STRATEGIC COOPERATION AND CYBER SECURITY IN KUWAIT, GCC





KUWAIT: Qualitynet, Kuwait's #1 ICT, Data Communications & Internet Services Provider announced its officials had met the diplomats of the Hungarian High Commission, to discuss strategic cooperation and enhance relationships between Kuwait and Hungary. The meeting is in light of the recent partnership between Qualitynet and Quadron Cyber Security Ltd, a Hungarian Consulting House specialized in Cyber Security and Data Protection. The agreement brings together two well established IT, Data & Cyber Security and Services companies that can offer top notch testing, analysis and protection from the growing threats the cyber world is facing in the GCC region.

Peter Szijjarto, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Economic Affairs, stated "There is an exceptional opportunity for Hungarian companies to participate in the implementation of Kuwait's economic development plan. A credit facility of EUR 510 million credit has been opened to support the entry of Hungarian companies into the market. We are confident that the two countries can find common ground to further enhance economic progress".

He added that there are four areas of development that Hungarian companies can cooperate with Kuwait in enhancing. "The first is the IT Security segment, where I'm happy to say cooperation has advanced. Qualitynet and Quadron have initiated their strategic partnership and have already implemented a number of large scale projects in Kuwait". He also talked about the other three areas, being Water Management, Health Care and the Oil & Gas segment.

Mohammad Al-Nusif, CEO - Qualitynet stated the Cyber Security in the GCC region is a growing concern, with many Government bodies including the Kuwait Government stepping up its focus on Information & Systems Security. "We are very pleased with the outcome of meeting with the Hungarian High Commission. We as Qualitynet have placed substantial investments in Data Centre & Network Security over the past decade, and are happy that both the Government's and our strategy in physical and IT security is lining up" said Mohammad. "Together with Quadron, we aim to help people and organizations, by providing flexible and scalable cyber and data security solutions on individual, local level or across borders if needed," added Mohammed.

MALABAR GOLD & DIAMONDS LAUNCHES ITS NEW SHOWROOM AT AL-RIGGA. DUBAI

DUBAI: Malabar Gold & Diamonds' one among the BIG 5 jewellery retailers globally has extended its presence in UAE by opening a new showroom in Al-Rigga, Deira, Dubai on 04th May, 2017. Shamlal Ahamed - Managing Director, International Operations, Malabar Gold & Diamonds along with KP Abdul Salam - Group Executive Director, Malabar Group jointly inaugurated the latest showroom of Malabar Gold & Diamonds in Al-Rigga, Deira, Dubai, UAE in the presence of Mr. Ameer CMC- Director (Finance & Admin), Malabar Gold & Diamonds, Kareem Venkidangu -Director, Malabar Gold & Diamonds, management team members & guests The new showroom is located in Salmiya Building, Shop No 02A, Ground Floor, Al-Rigga, Deira, Dubai.

The company has also unfurled the latest collection of exclusive 18K gold jewellery specially designed for the jewellery lovers in UAE. Renowned artists James Reid & Nadine Lustre, popularly known as 'JADINE' unveiled a collection on 18K gold jewellery during the event in the presence of Shamlal Ahamed -Managing Director, International Operations, Malabar Gold & Diamonds, Ameer CMC - Director (Finance & Admin), Malabar Gold & Diamonds, Sakkeer P - Regional Head, Malabar

Gold & Diamonds. The grand event was witnessed by a large crowd of jewellery lovers.

The new collection in 18K gold jewellery to cater to the growing needs of their diverse customers and includes ornaments in ranging from necklaces, studs, pendants, rings, bracelets and bangles that reflect remarkable expertise of craftsmen and unparalleled creativity. Each piece is a beautiful representation that is dedicated to every woman who is on a quest in search for the most exquisite, finely crafted jewellery pieces to meet the tastes of today's woman.

Malabar group offers exquisite and beautiful jewelry as a part of various brands presented at Malabar Gold & Diamonds' namely Ethnix - Handcrafted Designer Jewellery, Era - Uncut Diamond Jewellery, Mine - Diamonds Unlimited, Divine- Indian Heritage Jewellery, Precia - Gem Jewellery and Starlet - Kids Jewellery.

Malabar Gold & Diamonds has always been at the forefront in gold jewelry manufacturing, wholesaling and retailing and plans on being the 'mostpreferred' jewellery retailer in the market. The group strives to continue embarking on its journey by further expanding in the near future.





CALIFORNIA: In this file photo, Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Sen. Charles Grassley, R-Iowa talks with the committee's ranking member Sen. Dianne Feinstein, D-California. — AP

WASHINGTON: Sen Dianne Feinstein, the top Democrat on the Senate committee that oversees the FBI, said publicly this week that the government paid \$900,000 to break into the locked iPhone of a gunman in the San Bernardino, California, shootings, even though the FBI considers the figure to be classified information.

The FBI also has protected the identity of the vendor it paid to do the work. Both pieces of information are the subject of a federal lawsuit by The Associated Press and other news organizations that have sued to force the FBI to reveal them. California's Feinstein cited the amount while questioning FBI Director James Comey at a Senate Judiciary Committee oversight hearing Wednesday.

"I was so struck when San Bernardino happened and you made overtures to allow that device to be opened, and then the FBI had to spend \$900,000 to hack it open," Feinstein said. "And as I subsequently learned of some of the reason for it, there were good reasons to get into that device." Comey hinted at a ballpark range last year, saying the government paid more than he would earn in his remaining seven years on the job, an amount that would have been at least \$1.3 million.

The federal government paid the sum as it cut short an extraordinary court fight with Apple Inc., which was resisting a judge's order to help the Justice Department hack into the phone of Syed Rizwan Farook, who along with his wife killed 14 people in a San Bernardino attack in December 2015. An unidentified third party came forward last March with a solution to open the phone.

The AP and other news organizations last year filed a public records lawsuit to learn how much the FBI paid. The Justice Department has said in court filings that the information was properly classified. It argued that the information it withheld, if released, could be seized upon by "hostile entities" that could develop their own countermeasures and interfere with the FBI's intelligence gathering. Feinstein's spokesman, Tom Mentzer, would neither discuss the senator's remarks nor say whether she was offering an estimate or disclosing information obtained in an FBI briefing. The FBI had no immediate comment Friday. —AP

DELL EMC UNVEILS NEW HYBRID CLOUD PLATFORM

DUBAI: Dell EMC today announces Dell EMC Cloud for Microsoft Azure Stack, a new, turnkey, hybrid cloud platform that offers a simple and fast path for implementing and sustaining a hybrid cloud based on Microsoft Azure Stack. The new platform helps organizations standardizing on the Microsoft Azure ecosystem to accelerate their digital transformation with automated IT service delivery for traditional and cloud-native applications.

As a result, organizations can better engage with their customers, reduce time to market for new services, and free-up resources to focus on adding business value. "Cloud is an operating model, not a place, and adopting a hybrid model has become the clear choice," said Peter Cutts, senior vice president, Hybrid Cloud Platforms, Dell EMC. "Making hybrid cloud platform simple and turnkey enables businesses to rapidly develop and deploy new applications, optimize resources, control costs and deliver the best possible customer experiences."

The new Dell EMC Cloud for Microsoft Azure Stack combines Dell EMC's leadership in worldwide cloud infrastructure with its long history of partnering with Microsoft, which includes shipping the industry's first Microsoft-based hybrid cloud in October 2015. According to IDC, Dell EMC was No. 1 in the worldwide cloud infrastructure market for 2016 with \$5.7 billion in revenue and 17.6 percent market share. The new offering complements turnkey platforms Dell EMC Enterprise Hybrid Cloud, introduced more than three years ago, and Dell EMC Native Hybrid hybrid models with consistent services, APIs and consumption models for on- and off-premises.

Dell EMC Services

Dell EMC services are available for every step of the journey-from strategic planning through implementation, operations and ongoing support. Dell EMC experts provide hands-on guidance to optimize and expand the customer's hybrid cloud platform to meet business objectives. These activities include developing and customizing service catalogues, enabling identity and access management systems, and extending monitoring and metering systems to Azure Stack.

Dell EMC provides support throughout the lifecycle of the platform with each component backed by automated proactive, predictive tools and a dedicated Technical Account Manager with ProSupport Plus. With Hybrid Cloud Platforms backed by Dell EMC Services, organizations can focus on delivering differentiated application services rather than building and managing their infrastructure.

Key Drivers for Hybrid Cloud adoption

To understand how companies are transforming business and to analyze the benefits, costs and drivers associated with the use of cloud deployment models, Dell EMC commissioned analyst firm IDC to conduct a global survey of 1,000 mid- to large-sized organizations that are using and/or evaluating private and public cloud.

This IDC Cloud view Survey finds that 79.7 percent of large organizations (with

NEW YORK: Burger King pulled a pretty juicy marketing stunt last month that drew plenty of attention - not just to the Whopper, but also to the intrinsic vulnerabilities of a new type of voice-activated gadget. The fast food chain's 15-second television ad targeted Google Home, a speaker that can answer questions and control other smart appliances. When an actor in the ad said "OK, Google" and asked a question about the Whopper, Google Home obediently began reading the burger's ingredients in homes around the country - effectively extending the commercial for however long it took someone to shout "OK, Google, stop!"

Google and Wikipedia quickly made fixes to shut it down. Though annoying, the stunt may have done some good by highlighting how easy it is to hijack such devices. (Just imagine a burglar spying a voice assistant and asking it to unlock all the doors.) It could also speed the development of home voice assistants with better security. "It's a wakeup call," said Earl Perkins, a digital security analyst at the research firm Gartner. "It's a harbinger of things to come."

Trigger warning

Voice assistants such as Google Home, Apple's Siri and Amazon's Echo devices have always been susceptible to accidental hijack. A Google ad during the Super Bowl that used the phrase "OK, Google" reportedly set off people's devices. And in a January story that briefly turned a family into media celebrities, a woman's 6-year old daughter ordered a dollhouse and sugar cookies simply by asking Amazon's voice assistant Alexa for them.

Since the devices are so new - the Amazon Echo debuted in 2015, Google Home last year they're still having growing pains. And they're



SAN FRANCISCO: In this file photo, David Limp, Amazon Senior Vice President of Devices, pushes down on an Echo Dot in San Francisco. — AP

cials and those of its partners can't inadvertently trigger the speaker. Developers that provide Echo with "skills" that let it, for instance, order pizza, are also prohibited from creating Alexa commands that would trigger ads. Google says it also has techniques to block TV ads from activating Google Home. Neither company provided details on those techniques. Voice assistants are still in their "very early days," Google says; the company

HOW BURGER KING REVEALED THE

HACKABILITY OF VOICE ASSISTANTS

accessing a bank account. Amazon already has options for setting up security codes to shop, make financial transactions or unlock and start cars. Of course, someone could always overhear you reciting a security phrase. A better solution, and one that companies are hard at work on, would be to identify a person's voice, much the way Google and Facebook identify faces today.

Beyond improving security, that technology

Cloud that integrate hardware, software and automation to simplify IT service delivery and reduce time to market for customers around the globe.

Consistent Experience

Interoperability between public and private cloud resources has quickly become a top requirement for many organizations' IT infrastructures. The turnkey Dell EMC Cloud for Microsoft Azure Stack delivers a consistent experience across Azure public cloud and private with Azure Stack. It is engineered with industry leading Dell EMC PowerEdge servers and Dell EMC Networking. As a Hybrid Cloud Platform, it is built, sustained and supported as a singular platform with a turnkey stack.

Dell EMC Cloud for Microsoft Azure Stack offers a true hybrid cloud that speeds application development and deployment by providing a consistent programming surface between Azure and Azure Stack. As a result, organizations can cost-effectively access, create and share traditional and cloud-native application services securely in Azure and Azure Stack to ensure business results, without sacrificing security, protection, service quality and availability.

Integrations with Dell EMC best-in-class backup and encryption technologies provide a consistent means of protecting and securing data across customers' Azurebased public and on premises cloud environments. Furthermore, the adoption of Pivotal Cloud Foundry on Azure will extend to Dell EMC Cloud for Microsoft Azure Stack, continuing to deliver the promise of 1,000 or more employees) report they already have a hybrid cloud strategy. In addition, 51.4 percent already use both public and private cloud infrastructure resources with an additional 29.2 percent expecting to in the next year. The survey results, published in the IDC White Paper, The Power of Hybrid Cloud, also reveal that total cost of ownership is one of the top drivers of cloud adoption.

Other criteria for future IT infrastructure decisions on workloads supported by cloud environments includes physical and data security (34 percent) and operation flexibility (33 percent) in addition to flexibility of economic models. This study underscores the value of turnkey hybrid cloud, which balances the pros and cons of different cloud deployment models. Dell EMC Cloud for Microsoft Azure Stack is expected to be available direct and from partners worldwide in the second half of calendar year 2017.

Mike Neil, corporate vice president, Enterprise Cloud, Microsoft Corp said, "Microsoft and Dell EMC are continuing our long time alliance by investing in Microsoft Azure Stack on Dell EMC infrastructure to meet rising customer expectations for solutions that deliver a top-quality public and on-premises cloud experience, to rapidly transform, and innovate through applications built for the cloud. With Dell EMC Cloud for Microsoft Azure Stack, our shared customers have the support and solutions to enable them to be more efficient and innovative with a best-in-class, hybrid cloud platform."



GENEVA: Spectators attend a show under a camera drone during the first ever edition of 'Royaume du Web' (Kingdom of the web) festival in Geneva. — AFP

growing in popularity; Consumer Intelligence Research Partners estimates that Amazon sold 3 million Echo devices in the US in the fourth quarter of 2016, bringing the total to more than 8 million. Amazon doesn't release sales figures. Many experts believe that deliberate attempts to trigger voice assistants will be short-lived.

Among other things, brands have to face the consequences of potentially annoying millions of people. "Burger King was doing what the Burger King brand is known to do, stir controversy and make sure it gets lots of coverage," Forrester principal analyst James McQuivey said. "Very few brands want to do that." Of course, spammers and other bottom-feeding marketers can still try to implement the technique. But voice assistants already have a few ways to block them.

Threats and countermeasures

Amazon already makes sure its TV commer-

plans to "monitor and learn as we go."

Hackers might also be a threat. But because voice assistants are so new and limited in scope, more established connected devices such as webcams, routers and printers pose more of a threat for now. "It's not that we won't see some creative or unique instance (of hacking), but I don't think this is going to be the next great wave of cybercrime," said Steve Grobman, chief technology officer at the security company McAfee.

More security to come

But before long, the devices are going to need better security. "When you move into a world of voice, some of the rules that we're accustomed to, related to security for computers, change," Gartner's Perkins said. Exactly how that works could depend on exactly what task a voice assistant is performing. Asking about the weather requires less security than say, shopping or could help the device personalize recommendations or even ads for the individual, not the whole family. Apple already lets users voice-train its Siri digital assistant so it's more likely to activate only when it hears a specific voice. Amazon has a voice training option for Alexa. Google Home can recognize up to six different voices, though it won't prevent unauthorized users from activating the assistant.

Experts suggest that companies will eventually add cameras to voice assistants. Amazon's new Echo Look has a camera, but it's for offering fashion advice. Combining a facial scan with voice recognition would definitely beef up security, although they'll also create new privacy concerns. "Without any security or minimal security, (voice assistants are) going to be a fat target," Perkins said. "There will be all kinds of innovation associated with compromising these systems."—AP

QUEST BUILDS MOMENTUM AS CUSTOMERS MOVE TO HYBRID DATABASE ENVIRONMENTS

DUBAI: Quest Software, a global systems management and security software provider, today announced strong momentum for its growing data management business. An industry leading provider of solutions that help organizations better manage both traditional and emerging database platforms, including Toad for Oracle, SharePlex, Foglight Database and Spotlight Enterprise, Quest saw its database management business grow total bookings 10% YOY in Q4 FY17, the first quarter following its divestiture from Dell. Much of that growth is attributable to the business'sincreased support for open-source database platforms such as Postgres and MySQL.

To further that support and continue its business momentum, Quest has announced a broad new partnership with EnterpriseDB to extend its industry-leading database management capabilities to the EDB Postgres Platform's growing user base. Additionally, Quest's popular ToadWorld community has surpassed the 550,000 member mark.The company continues to push the innovation envelope by delivering products to market that help developers and administrators better manage, monitor and protect databases in emerging hybrid cloud environments.

"Businesses are increasingly looking to cut costs while effectively managing the multidatabase environments that power applications and support business expansion," said Greg Davoll, Executive Director, Product Management and Marketing for Quest database management solutions. "Quest has a long, successful track record in helping database professionals better manage, monitor, and replicate a broad range of database platforms, both on-premises and in the cloud. Our commitment to our Toad World community, combined with our focus on delivering new products for opensource database platforms such as Postgres and MySQL, ensures our customers have the tools necessary to be successful today and beyond."

Emerging Database Platforms

To extend database management capabilities for broader platform reach, Quest is partnering with EnterpriseDB to support users of the increasingly popular EDB Postgres platform. The partnership underscores a growing industry trend of organizations using multiple database platforms. According to a recent Quest survey, while SQL Server and Oracle continue to lead the overall database landscape, a growing number of database professionals anticipate having to learn and work with a broader set of database platforms within the next year.

Postgres in particular is building strong momentum. According to the survey, 22 percent of database professionals are either already using EDB Postgres now or anticipate using it by the end of the year. Quest's partnership with EnterpriseDB ensures developers and administrators can easily manage, monitor and protect data in theopen source-based EDB Postgres platform.

"Our customers are deploying a broader set of database platforms across the organization, including EDB Postgres, and it's critical they have the right complementary technologies giving them complete visibility and effective management for all their data management solutions," said Lenley Hensarling, Senior Vice President, Product Management and Strategy, EnterpriseDB. "Quest is a perfect technology partner for us, as their database management tools ensure our customers can seamlessly manage and monitor databases in their portfolio including the EDB Postgres Platform, and scale to support future business needs."

Commitment to Toad World Community

Already one of the de facto community sites for developers to engage and learn about best practices and tools for managing database platforms both on-premises and in the cloud, Toad World has surpassed the 550,000-member mark and now drives over 20,000 free tools downloads per month. New to Toad World is a PostgreSQL community section, sponsored by EnterpriseDB, where developers and administrators can join the discussion and learn the newest tips and tools for managing Postgres. Members also gain direct access to Postgresgenerated content.

Dedicated to Product Innovation

Reinforcing its commitment to helping database administrators manage mission-critical applications in today's emerging hybrid environment, Quest today announced the newest release of SharePlex that allows administrators to replicate data from Oracle databases on-premises to AWS (EC2 and RDS) and Azure cloud platforms. Previously announced, SharePlex is also certified by EnterpriseDB for its replication from Oracle to the EDB Postgres platform, enabling customers to replicate and migrate important data to their new Postgres platform applications.

Also available today is the new release of Foglight Database that delivers on-premise monitoring and advanced diagnostics for database performance monitoring of MySQL and Postgres platforms. With this new release, database administrators can quickly discover and react to a myriad of database issues which could impact business critical applications.

NEW CURE FOR GULF'S THALASSEMIA SUFFERERS

DUBAI: Most of the Gulf's thalassemia sufferers can now be cured of the debilitating blood disease through a safe and effective bone marrow transplant procedure performed in the United States, said one of the world's leading pediatric hematologists, ahead of International Thalassemia Day on 8 May (today). Thalassemia is a genetic blood disease, common across the wider Middle East and South Asia, in which victims are not able to make enough hemoglobin - a necessary component in healthy red blood cells, carrying oxygen to all parts of the body - and, thus, suffer from severe anemia and eventual organ failure, and, ultimately, premature death.

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The condition is typically treated with life-long, cost-prohibitive "supportive care", with most thalassemia sufferers dying before the age of 40. However, the latest advances in bone marrow transplantation significantly reduce both treatment time and cost, giving Gulf thalassemia patients and their families new hope. "With thalassemia, we want to treat the underlying disease, not just the symptoms, and this approach requires bone marrow transplantation," said Dr Rabi Hanna, pediatric oncologist at US-based Cleveland Clinic. "Now, finding a matching bone marrow donor is much easier, as we only require a haplo-donor 'half-match', meaning every patient can find a donor (father, mother or half-sibling), as opposed to only 25%, which has been the case for the last 25 years," added Dr Hanna.

Bone marrow transplantation is the process by which a compatible donor, typically a matching sibling, has his or her stem cells transplanted into the thalassemia patient's bloodstream via a tube called a central venous catheter. The stem cells travel through the blood into the bone marrow, thus enabling the growth of healthy, oxygen-carrying red blood cells. The leading US hospital also believes it can work far more effectively with Gulfbased physicians to reduce the standard one-year treatment timeline for transplantation patients, as well as the associated costs and familial inconveniences associated with patient relocation. Some patients may only need to spend as few as three months in the United States.

The Dubai Thalassemia Center at the Dubai Health Authority will be one of several healthcare providers in the region to consider the new curative treatment option for its patients. One such patient is 14-year-old Hussain Ahmed Almas, a UAE national who was seen and treated by Dr. Hanna at Cleveland Clinic last year and has benefited from a successful novel reduced intensity "Haplo" bone marrow transplant in November of 2016. "My life is now completely normal, and I expect to live into old age. I even have high energy levels, enabling me to experience activity for the first time in my life," said Almas. "I no longer require regular blood transfusions, and I can attend school without missing classes and other activities."

Thalassemia, an inherited blood disorder, is a highly prevalent disease in the UAE but can easily be prevented with a simple and inexpensive blood test. Thalassemia carriers are healthy people and can have healthy children, but they should not marry other carriers or they risk producing children born with disease. The Thalassemia International Federation (TIF) has designated 8 May each year as International Thalassemia Day, and UAE sufferers of the disease have come together to remember those victims lost to the disease but also celebrate those who fight the disease each day of their lives. The 8 May date serves as an annual reminder of the medical advancements made in the fight to cure the deadly disease.



WASHINGTON: A protester wears a mask of US President Donald Trump in front of the White House during the People's Climate March in Washington. — AFP

US TO ATTEND UN CLIMATE TALKS AS TRUMP WEIGHS PARIS PULLOUT WASHINGTON SENDING CONFLICTING SIGNALS

WASHINGTON: The United States said it will continue attending United Nations climate change meetings, even as President Donald Trump considers pulling the US out of a global emissions-cutting deal. While US representatives are in Bonn, Germany, next week for the UN talks, Trump's advisers will meet tomorrow to discuss what to do

decided to stay in the Paris pact, a State Department official added. To the contrary, the US will be sending a "much smaller" delegation than it has in years past, the official said. The officials weren't authorized to discuss internal deliberations publicly and requested anonymity.

Under the Paris deal, brokered by former

made in Bonn next week "that would prejudice our future policy," undermine competitiveness for American businesses or restrict US economic growth. The US delegation will be led by Trigg Talley, the US deputy special envoy for climate change. The Trump administration has left the special envoy role vacant after the official who held the position in the Obama administration departed. Under the Paris deal, the US committed to cut its emissions 26 percent to 28 percent by 2025, compared to 2005 levels. Since Trump took office, the US has started deconstructing the set of regulations and climate policies that Obama put in place to help achieve the US target. But former Obama administration officials argue that because the targets are non-binding and can be updated, the Trump administration could remain in the Paris deal even if it acknowledges it will not achieve the 2025 target that Obama set. Though the agreement envisioned updated targets being more ambitious - not less - there's nothing prohibiting a country from downgrading its targets, the Obama officials have said. Even if Trump announces his intention to withdraw, the lengthy divorce process and other stipulations in the deal mean that the US would remain in the pact at least until November 2020 - around the same date as the next US presidential election. — AP

STRAWBERRY SCIENTIST IS SUED OVER 'FRUITS OF HIS RESEARCH'

FRESNO: Plant scientist Douglas Shaw spent his career toiling in the fields in California to grow the perfect strawberry, one that was plump and bright red yet remained sweet even after the long trip to grocery stores across the country. When the professor retired from the University of California at Davis and set up his own strawberry-breeding business, though, he found himself in a legal jam.

In a case set for trial in federal court later this month, the university is suing Shaw and his scientific partner, saying they stole the school's intellectual property by taking some of the fruits of their research with them. The two scientists claim in a \$45 million lawsuit of their own that the university has unfairly kept some of their work locked in a freezer and is depriving the world of a better strawberry. Some farmers in the No 1 strawberry-growing state are worried the battle is going to stymie research and cause them to lose their competitive edge.

California last year produced 1.6 million tons of strawberries valued at roughly \$2 billion, according to the US Department of Agriculture. "It doesn't do anybody any good for the university to keep these strawberry plants in a box," said Rick McKnight, an attorney for the two former professors. "This is hurting the California strawberry industry in a major way." Shaw, 63, is a giant in the strawberry world, heading the university's lucrative breeding program for more than two decades alongside fellow plant biologist Kirk Larson. Most of California's strawberry farmers grow plants developed by Shaw and Larson.

The two men developed 24 new varieties, allowing growers to double the amount of strawberries produced while retaining the fruit's succulence. They created strawberries that were more pest- and disease-resistant, more durable during long-distance travel, or capable of growing during the shorter days of spring and fall. The partners say their work netted the university \$100 million in royalties. How much they themselves made at UC Davis is unclear, but they say they contributed more than \$9 million of their own royalties toward the university's breeding program.

They retired from the university in 2014 because, they say, the school was winding down the program. Working in partnership with growers and nurseries, they launched a business called California Berry Cultivars, based in Watsonville, to develop new strawberry varieties. The university accuses the researchers of patent infringement and violating an oath they signed not to enrich themselves by taking or acquiring plants, seeds and other biological material and continuing their research using descendants of plants they developed at UC Davis. The scientists say they own the intellectual property at issue, and they accuse the university of locking up some of their plants and destroying hundreds of others, wiping out years of research. —AP



about the global pact known as the Paris agreement, officials said. The conflicting signals suggested the administration was trying to keep its options open while Trump decides whether to withdraw, a move the international community would strongly oppose.

Though Trump's inclination has been to leave the agreement, he's allowed his daughter, White House adviser Ivanka Trump, to set up an extensive review process, a senior administration official said. The goal is to ensure Trump receives information from both government experts and the private sector before a making a decision. To that end, Ivanka Trump will hold a separate meeting Tuesday with Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Scott Pruitt, the official said.

Pruitt is a chief proponent of leaving the deal and has questioned the science that says humans are contributing to global warming. And the decision to participate in next week's UN climate talks shouldn't be construed as a sign that Trump has

President Barack Obama and world leaders in 2015, nations agreed to non-binding pledges to cap or reduce emissions of heat-trapping greenhouse gases. The pact helped solidify a global consensus about addressing climate change that environmental groups worry may be undermined if the world's largest economy withdraws. "If the US pulls out, it will be a pariah," said Andrew Light, a climate adviser at the World Resources Institute.

"It will be on the sidelines, and that's going to hurt American businesses." Trump, as a candidate, threatened to "cancel" the deal, but since taking office has said he's studying it and plans a final decision soon. US officials say the timeline is being driven by the Group of 7 summit, which Trump will attend late this month in Italy. Trump needs to announce a decision before that summit so that leaders can determine whether and how to address climate change issues during the G-7.

The State Department official said that the US was focused on ensuring that no decisions are

KATHMANDU: Family and friends gather to receive the dead body of Min Bahadur Sherchan at Teaching hospital in Kathmandu, Nepal yesterday. Min Bahadur Sherchan died at the Everest base camp on Saturday evening while attempting to regain his title as the oldest person to climb Mount Everest. —AP



TENGBOCHE, Nepal: Trekkers walk in front of the Mount Everest range at Tengboche some 300kms north-east of Kathmandu. — AFP

SHHH. HEAR THE RUSTLE OF GRASS? NOT SO MUCH NOW IN US PARKS



WASHINGTON: A National Park Service staff sets up an acoustic recording station in the temperate old-growth Hoh rainforest of Olympic National Park, Wash. The call of the wild is getting harder to hear. Peaceful natural sounds, bird songs, rushing rivers and rustling grass, are being drowned out by human-made noise in nearly twothirds of America's protected parks, forests and wilderness areas, a new study finds. — AP **WASHINGTON:** The call of the wild is getting harder to hear. Peaceful, natural sounds- bird songs, rushing rivers and rustling grass - are sometimes being drowned out by noise from people in many of America's protected parks and wilderness areas, a new study finds. Scientists measured sound levels at 492 places - from city parks to remote federal wilderness. They calculated that in nearly two-thirds of the Lower 48's parks, the noise can at times be twice the natural background level because of airplanes, cars, logging, mining and oil and gas drilling.

That increase can harm wildlife, making it harder for them to find food or mates, and make it harder for people to hear those natural sounds, the researchers said. Colorado State University biologist George Wittemyer said people hear only half the sounds that they would in natural silence. "They're being drowned out," said Wittemyer, a co-author of the research. In about 1 in five public lands, there's a tenfold increase in noise pollution, according to the study in Thursday's journal Science.

"It's something that's sort of happening slowly," Wittemyer said. Except for city parks, though, the researchers are not talking about sound levels that people would consider unusually loud. Even the tenfold increases they write about are often the equivalent of changing from the quiet of a rural area to a still pretty silent library. But that difference masks a lot of sounds that are crucial, especially to birds seeking mates and animals trying to hunt or avoid being hunted, Wittemyer said. And it does make a difference for peace of mind for people, he said. "Being able to hear the birds, the waterfalls, the animals running through the grasslands ... the wind going through the grass," Wittemyer said. "Those are really valuable and important sounds for humans to hear and help in their rejuvenation and their self-reflection." For study lead author Rachel Buxton, a Colorado State conservation biology researcher, it can be personal. She points to a Thanksgiving weekend hike last year with her husband in the La Garita Wilderness in southern Colorado.

"We went to escape the crowds. We went to be totally isolated and have a real wilderness experience," Buxton recalled. "As we're hiking, aircraft goes overhead. You're walking along and you can hear the jet coming for ages." The research team, which includes a special unit of the National Park Service, not only measured sounds across the US, but they also used elaborate computer programs and artificial learning systems to determine what sounds were natural and which were made by people.

"The study makes perfect sense to me," George Mason University biology professor David Luther, who wasn't part of the research. He said in an email that he's noticed more noise at many sites throughout the US. "Olympic National Park is currently suffering high amounts of noise pollution from military flight trainings low over the park and visitors have been complaining loudly about the diminished wilderness experience," he wrote. But there are still some places where you can get away from it all, Buxton said, highlighting Great Sand Dunes National Park in Colorado. — AP

85-YEAR-OLD EVEREST RECORD SEEKER DIES

KATHMANDU: An 85-year-old ex-Gurkha who was attempting to reclaim his title as the world's oldest person to summit Mount Everest died of altitude sickness, the expedition organizer said yesterday. Min Bahadur Sherchan died at Everest base camp on Saturday and his body was airlifted to Kathmandu. "Doctors said that he died of natural causes. There was water build-up in his lungs because of altitude sickness," Shiv Raj Thapa of Summit Nepal Trekking said after an autopsy. Sherchan was resting at the base camp and waiting for the weather window to summit in a single attempt, skipping the usual multiple acclimatization rotations because of his age. He was on a bid to reclaim a title that he lost to Japanese mountaineer Yuichiro Miura in 2013.

The former soldier became the oldest person to summit Everest in 2008 when he was 76, but he lost the record five years later when Miura reached the 8,848-metre peak at the age of 80. Speaking to AFP earlier this year, the slightly hard of hearing grandfather said he just wanted to prove to himself that he could still make it to the top of the world. "My aim is not to break anybody's record, this is not a personal competition between individuals. I wish to break my own record," Sherchan had said in February. Sherchan's death is the second fatality of the spring climbing season on Everest, which runs from late April to the end of May. Experienced Swiss climber Ueli Steck died last month when he fell from a steep ridge during an acclimatization exercise.

Nearly 750 people will this year attempt to summit the world's highest mountain during the narrow window of good weather that usually falls in mid-May. Hundreds of climbers have been on Everest for weeks to acclimatize before making a bid for the top. This year is particularly crowded as it is the last chance for climbers who were forced off the mountain by the devastating 2015 earthquake to use their extended permits. This has raised concerns about dangerous traffic jams on the mountain. Mountaineering is a major revenue earner for impoverished Nepal, home to eight of the world's 14 peaks over 8,000 meters. — AFP

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HEALTH & SCIENCE

FLORIDA'S BUILDING BOOM THREATENS WILDLIFE-RICH LAGOON

FLORIDA: The most biologically diverse waterway in America is seriously ill. The Indian River Lagoon is repeatedly being choked with oxygen-robbing algae, its surface increasingly dotted with thousands of dead fish, manatees, birds and other creatures. The culprits: farm runoff and a huge influx of people that has sent lawn fertilizer and other pollutants into the lagoon, which runs 156 miles along Florida's Atlantic Coast, almost to Palm Beach, and includes the Cape Canaveral area.

"It's the death by a thousand cuts," said Bob Knight, an environmental scientist with the Howard T Odum Florida Springs Institute who has studied Florida's waters for 40 years. The lagoon's woes threaten the region's \$2.5 billion recreation, fishing and tourism economy, alarming kayak tour operators, charter boat captains, restaurateurs and organizers of bird-watching festivals. Environmentalists are distressed to see the lagoon's rich variety of life threatened in a crisis similar to what has happened in recent decades in such places as the Chesapeake Bay, Lake Erie and the Gulf of Mexico.

Heal the lagoon

Although the federal and state governments have spent hundreds of millions of dollars to heal the lagoon in recent years, an Associated Press examination found that pollution spiked, algae blooms spread and fish kills worsened over the past decade and a half as central Florida's population swelled faster than that of anywhere else in the state. Water quality data analyzed by the AP showed that the average level of phosphorous - a byproduct of fertilizers and human waste that algae thrive on rose nearly 75 percent between 2000 and 2016. Average chlorophyll readings, used to measure the presence of algae, almost tripled.

Home to more than 2,900 species of plants, birds and fish, the waterway has been polluted since the mid-20th century by fertilizer runoff from farms around Lake Okeechobee, which drains into the lagoon during heavy rains. Nevertheless, parts



FLORIDA: Boats docked at Central Marine in Stuart, Fla are surrounded by blue green algae. The 153mile-long Indian River Lagoon has been plagued by harmful algae blooms. — AP photos



FLORIDA: An aerial photo shows blue-green algae enveloping an area along the St Lucie River in Stuart, Fla. The Indian River Lagoon is the most diverse lagoon ecosystem in the Northern hemisphere.

remained largely healthy until the recent building boom. Since 2000, more than 1.5 million people moved into the six counties along the lagoon and three Orlando-area counties that drain into Lake Okeechobee or directly into the lagoon. More than 500,000 new homes were built in those counties over the same time period.

'Super bloom'

Paved-over expanses such as roads, driveways and parking lots have allowed runoff to make its way into the lagoon more easily. It has also been fouled by wastewater treatment plants that discharge into the lagoon, sewage spills from the plants during heavy rains, and leaky septic tanks. In 2011, an algae "super bloom" killed more than 1 million fish and other animals there, according to state data. Intense algal blooms have returned each year since then. Last year, toxic algae killed more than 100,000 creatures, including manatees, or sea cows.

Now the increased algae are inflicting new types of damage, researchers say. Last year, baby oysters died en masse for the first time because of the brown tide. That is doubly alarming, because oysters filter the water. Last year "was the icing on the cake because the fish kill didn't happen in remote parts of the river where people don't see it," said Laurilee Thompson, whose family owns the 465-seat Dixie Crossroads, a seafood restaurant on the Space Coast, as the Cape Canaveral area is known. "So now you have a very upset, influential populace that's going, 'Do something. Do something." The reported number of marine creatures that have died spiked to 1.2 million in 2011, compared with 7,000 in 2000, and experts blame the algae. "In 2011, the world seemed to shift and we suddenly got chlorophyll levels we'd never seen before," said Charles Jacoby, a water scientist with the St. Johns River Water Management District, a state water agency. "The system has been overloaded." - AP

NUCLEAR WASTE DEBATE - TURN IT INTO GLASS OR ENCASE IN CEMENT?

SPOKANE: Congress should consider authorizing the US Department of Energy to study encasing much of the nuclear waste at the nation's largest waste repository in a cement-like mixture instead of turning it into glass logs, according to a new report from the US Government Accountability Office. Doing so before burying the waste would be less expensive than a process called vitrification to turn the waste into the glass logs, said the report.

The process called grouting might also allow waste at the Hanford Nuclear Reservation in a remote part of southcentral Washington state to be treated more quickly, the report said. The waste is left over from plutonium production for nuclear weapons, including the bomb dropped on Nagasaki, Japan that led to the end of World War II. The Energy Department replied that it agreed with the work. "We can't afford to get distracted from the job at hand," Cantwell said. Hanford has about 56 million gallons (211 million liters) of waste stored in underground tanks until it can be treated for permanent disposal. Some tanks date back to World War II and are leaking. Another 42 million gallons (159 million liters) of similar waste from nuclear weapons production is stored at the government's Savannah River Site in western South Carolina near Georgia.

The process to encase waste there in the cement-like mixture called grout has been used for small amounts of the waste. Ground was broken at Hanford in 2002 for a \$17 billion vitrification plant - one of the federal government's most expensive construction projects - to separate much of the waste into high-level and low-level radioactive material. But the plant's construction has been halted by design and safety concerns. After the highly radioactive waste is immobilized in the glass logs, it would be shipped to a national repository proposed for Yucca Mountain in Nevada which has not been built. The proposal to study cement-like encasement would only apply to waste with lower levels of radioactivity representing about 90 percent of the Hanford waste. The Energy Department decided two decades ago to turn Hanford's tank waste into glass logs but the new report said innovations in grouting technology now make that process more attractive. No tank waste has yet been treated at Hanford despite Energy Department spending of more than \$19 billion, the report said. — AP

ETHIOPIA DEADLY LANDSLIDE SPARKS LAND RIGHTS BATTLE

ADDIS ABABA: Aworar Meka had been living and working at the Reppi rubbish dump in Addis Ababa for only one month when tragedy struck. A giant landslide at the 50-year-old dump, the Ethiopian capital's only landfill site, hit his neighborhood on March 11, destroying dozens of homes and killing at least 115 people. Meka was one of the lucky ones; the 28-year-old, his wife, and young son survived. Their home, a makeshift tent made of tarpaulin and corrugated iron, narrowly avoided being crushed.

"It was only chance that we escaped," Meka told the Thomson Reuters Foundation. But more than six weeks on, he and the other 30-odd households relocated to one of the governmentbuilt housing project down the road from Reppi feel angry and abandoned. "We expected help to come. But it was a false hope," Meka said. Survivors resettled in another project, several kilometers away in a place called Asko, said they had been told not to talk to the media.



AFAR IRDOOD, Ethiopia: Men mine salt from the Danakil Depression in Afar, Ethiopia. Every

state officials still believe the best way to safely deal with the waste and protect the environment is by turning it into glass.

"We remain firm in our conviction that vitrification, or glass, is the superior process," said Alex Smith, manager for the state's Department of Ecology's Nuclear Waste Program. There have been numerous delays in treating the waste stored in tanks at Hanford. Smith said state officials fear a study on a different way to deal with the waste could "redirect critical funding away from the ongoing work to get treatment processes up and running by 2023."

US Sen Maria Cantwell, a Washington Democrat, also voiced concerns that launching a new study could delay the

Meagre living

Meka was one of hundreds of people who lived near the dump, many of whom made a living scavenging recyclable waste that can be sold on, like plastic bottles. Some of his neighbors were longtime residents with comfortable houses on plots of land they owned. Many had moved there after their shanty town homes in other parts of the city had been demolished to make way for new development, since the land around Reppi was cheap. By the time Meka and his family arrived in the area it was no longer so affordable, with upmarket developments encircling the dump and high-rise construction visible in the near distance. The promise of a park in the area once the land morning, hundreds of men converge on a dry lakebed in a remote corner of Ethiopia, where they cleave the ground open with hand axes to extract salt, just as their fathers and grandfathers once did. — AFP

was finally rehabilitated drove prices skywards.

He and others like him became what the city's authorities called "squatters" - informal settlers without title to the land they build on whose numbers have multiplied in the last decade as Addis Ababa's population has exploded. After the landslide Meka and 78 other households were defined by the authorities as "category four victims" - the largest and most vulnerable of four categories ranging from formal residents with land title, to renters and finally squatters. The city's authorities said victims like Meka would be offered rental housing in government-built homes for which they would pay as little as 30-80

Ethiopian birr (\$1.32-\$3.51) a month.

If they could prove their status as former Reppi residents, local authorities would also give them 15,410 birr a month for the next three months to pay for food and transport and to help them get back on their feet. Most, like Meka, have lost their only source of income since leaving the dump. But unlike former formal settlers, they will not receive a plot of land with new title deeds, nor the one million birr compensation per household promised for constructing new homes. "We don't want them to develop dependency syndrome," said Dagmawit Moyes, spokesman for Addis Ababa city administration. — Reuters



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MILLENNIUM HOTEL AND CONVENTION CENTER KUWAIT HOSTS MEDIA AT NARA LOUNGE

illennium Hotel and Convention Centre Kuwait hosted media representatives at Nara Lounge; a highend cafe that opened recently, in appreciation from management for their support and coverage for events held throughout the year.

The guests enjoyed shisha and other services at Nara Lounge. They were welcomed by the hotel's management team members, led by, Dani Saleh - Area General Manager of the Millennium and Copthorne Hotels Kuwaitwho invited them to enjoy the unique ambiance that Nara Lounge provides.

Saleh expressed deep gratitude to media representatives in attendance for their support to Millennium Hotel and Convention Center Kuwait, saying: "we made sure to host this gathering in order to show our appreciation for your continued support, and because we truly believe that you are our partners in success."

Nara Lounge welcomes visitors at the pool's terrace on the fourth floor of the hotel from 1:00 pm to 1:00 am. It offers exclusive selections of hot and cold drinks, unique

appetizers and snacks, in addition to its famous Medusa Shisha in various flavors.

Millennium Hotel and Convention Centre Kuwait is one of the grandest emerging 5-star quality business hotels in the country strategically located on the 4th ring road in the heart of Al-Salmiya area, close to the main shopping malls, dining and entertainment spots around the block. It is also home to business conferences and trade exhibitions with varying capacities.

The hotel is designed for business and leisure travelers, offering 295 rooms and suites equipped with state-of-the-art technology, complimentary high speed Wi-Fi and luxury amenities. Millennium Hotel facilities also include a health club - with modern Techno-gym brand machines, an outdoor swimming pool, and sauna/steam rooms. The hotel's integrated business center offers secretarial services and comprehensive office facilities. With three different cuisines and a pool bar, guests are spoiled for choice when it comes to dining in the hotel's world-class restaurants.









Greetings athi Al-Hakeem congratulates his

granddaughter Jasmine for graduating from Fajr Al-Sabah School's kindergarten.

SRI LANKAN MUSLIM COMMUNITY ORGANIZE VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT

n the occasion of Al-Isra wal-Miraaj holiday and 25th anniversary of the Sri Lankan Muslim Community in Kuwait (Iqra Islamic Committee - IIC), IIC has organized a volleyball tournament on Thursday, April 27, 2017 in Abu Halifa with participation of 16 teams representing different categories of the Sri Lankan Muslim Communities living in Kuwait, including the teams of new Muslims from IPC Jahra

and Kuwait City Branches, teams from Qurtuba Religious Institute and Kuwait University students as well as KU and PAAET graduates team. New Muslims team representing IPC-Jahra has clinched the title after a crushing win over Black Cats in the final. The champions, the runner-up and the best player of the tournament were felicitated with trophies and medals before the participating teams and the audience.

TIES HOSTS TAFSEER CLASS

ou are cordially invited to our Tafseer class (Divine Wisdom from the Last Testament) today at 7:00 pm. In this class, we will focus on Surat Al-Haaqqah (The Inevitable Reality) from verse 26 till 30. We will highlight the non-believers' views on death and the reasons why, on Judgment Day, they will wish that death was their decisive end. We will also discuss the attitude of body parts, and what they will do to shame sinners on Judgment Day. Finally, we will discuss some of the questions people will be asked at the Judgment Assembly, and some aspects of punishment that will overwhelm the guilty.

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PARALLEL STUDIO HOLDS 'SOLITARY' EXHIBITION IN SUPPORT OF AUTISM Sponsored by Al-Ghanim International and ALARGAN

arallel Studio, a Kuwait-based boutique design and architecture practice, inaugurated its first art exhibition and interactive installation, 'Solitary', at the ARGAN Business Park, as part of a community-wide effort to promote autism awareness, inclusion and self-determination for all, and assure that each person with autism spectrum disorder 'ASD' is provided the opportunity to achieve the highest possible quality of life. The exhibition aimed to recreate the sensory experience of the exterior world as seen by autistic children and apply it to the general public, in an aim to raise awareness about mental disabilities and to better understand them. The exhibition and art installation was sponsored by Al-Ghanim International and ALARGAN, and held at ARGAN Business Park

Parallel Studio Co-Founder, Mai Al-Busairi, said: "Through the exhibition, we want to combine art and design with the notion of raising awareness on important causes in our society where mental disabilities lead to the marginalization of individuals. We tend to label those who are different, whether the difference is the appearance or in the behavior. This is where we Manager of Kuwait Operations at ALARGAN come in at Parallel Studio, showcasing a unique exhibition that invites visitors into an experience designed to see the world through the eyes of autistics, and ultimately, better understand their point of view."

Busairi added: "The exhibition as a whole forms an interactive experience of how autistic children feel. This is achieved by adapting the environment to mimic their day to day journey. Lighting, reflective materials and sound are the main elements to deliver the feelings, thoughts and life, to ultimately better understand what autism means."

The exhibition focused on two senses to engage the viewer and achieve the objective of understanding. It embodied how visual perceptions and headings differ for an autistic person. Seeing repeated elements in a sharper way, an autistic person also hears multiple auditory inputs in one flow: the person speaking, water dripping and the gravel movement on the street. These feelings are represented in a maze that gives the visitor the sense of solitude.

Commenting on the installation, General

International Real Estate Company - the owning company and operator of the ARGAN Business Park - Ali Khajja, said: "We have the pleasure to host such a noble initiative, which contributes to raising awareness on a social cause that increases understanding and encourages interaction. At ALARGAN, we believe in the importance of social wellbeing as an ultimate goal of business. An example is the ARGAN Business Park, which is the highest-ranked green building in Kuwait, providing an ideal work and social environment for its tenants while being environmentally-friendly for the larger community. We also thrive to achieving our goals by collaborating with partners that share the same motto, such as Parallel Studio."

Busairi concluded: "At Parallel Studio, we want to give back to the Kuwaiti community by tackling issues that matter the most to our society through architecture, art and design. We thank Al-Ghanim International and ALARGAN for their support and enabling us to achieve such an exhibition."



Parallel Studio at Solitary Exhibition.



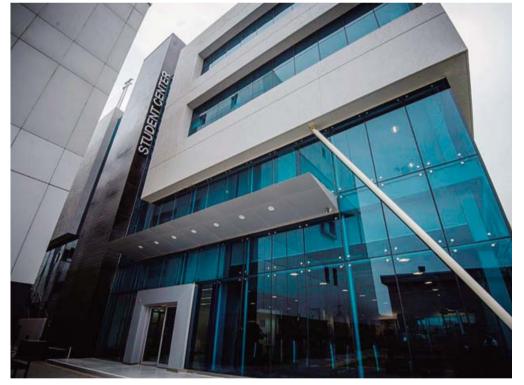
AUK Board of Trustees (from left to right): Dale F Eickelman, PhD; Meshal Ali; Dr Jawad Behbehani; Photos from the Student Center's inauguration and tour. Wael Abdulghafour; Shaikha Dana Al-Nasser Al-Sabah Al-Ahmed Al-Sabah; Faisal Al-Ayyar; Dr Thomas Bartlett; Samer Khanachet.



AUK INAUGURATES NEW STUDENT CENTER



ounder and Chair of the American University of Kuwait (AUK), Sheikha Dana Al-Nasser Al-Sabah, officially inaugurated the University's new Student Center yesterday in a ribbon cutting ceremony that was attended by members of the Board of Trustees. The Student Center was part of AUK's campus facility upgrade plan, which was approved in 2015. The ribbon cutting was followed by a tour of the facilities. The new center is located on the eastern corner of the campus and offers a variety of services for students. The four-story Student Center features recreational, athletic, administrative, and academic facilities that are aimed to cater to an array of student services and activities. The first two floors of the building house an indoor multipurpose sport court, gymnasiums, a running track, and a student lounge, offices for clubs and organizations and the Division of Student Affairs, while the upper floors are dedicated to administrative offices and student service centers, such as the Counseling Center, Alumni Affairs, the Writing Center, and the Tutoring Center. "The new building is beautifully designed, with a lot of natural light coming through. It is an attractive place for students to work and interact. The moment you walk in, you realize it has been designed to reflect the character of AUK and its student-centered culture. We have



hundreds of students walking through our gates every day. We want them to arrive on campus early and stay late and enjoy learning in between," said AUK President, Tim Sullivan.

The completion of the Student Center comes as the first phase of the of the campus development plan. the second phase began in March with the construction of the new generic building, which will house state-of-the-art labs for science, engineering, art and graphic design offering cutting edge technologies and an overall enhanced learning experience.

AOU TRAINING CENTER ORGANIZES RUSSIAN LANGUAGE COURSE

LEARNING NEW LANGUAGE NEEDS DESIRE, PRACTICE: DR ANSARI

he Arab Open University Training Center held a Russian language course for beginners lectured by Dr Mohammed Issa Al-Ansari. A number of those wishing to learn the Russian language from



Dr Mohammed Issa Al-Ansari

inside and outside the university and from different age and educational levels participated in the course. During the course, the trainer addressed a set of lessons for learning Russian letters, sounds, numbers and grammatical structures.

On the sidelines of this first level course, Dr Ansari said that the course

aimed to enable the participants to obtain a certain level of knowledge of Russian language skills, such as writing, reading and speaking. "Learning a new language opens up a new horizon for learners on new cultures," he added, pointing out that "learning any language is not easy, but it requires desire, will, concentration and determination, and to continue practicing what was learned in the course." Furthermore, he indicated that the AOU Training Center is looking forward to continuing to offer different levels of Russian language courses in the future, stressing the keenness of the Center to provide the best learning opportunities for the participants in the courses organized by the Center, and to expand their knowledge and culture.

In addition, the participants expressed their admiration for what the lecturer presented and for his teaching methods used during the course. Meanwhile, Judd Mohammed, a student from the AOU in Kuwait, said that she joined the course to learn the principles of the Russian lan-

guage to continue her studies at the Faculty of Medicine in Ukraine. Engineer Adnan Khalid said that he had a personal desire to learn the Russian language and the university's center met his desire. Sayer Al-Rashed, one of the staff of the Amiri Diwan, stressed the importance of the course in terms of his job duties and his need to learn the Russian language for communicating with others, especially the guests of the State of Kuwait from the Russian-speaking countries. Engineer Ali Al-Shatti expressed his happiness with the course which will enable him to learn the basic principles of the Russian language, especially as he prepares to complete his higher education in one of the Russian-speaking cities in Ukraine. Dr Nabil Riad, a surgery, said that learning Russian is a personal desire enabling him to communicate with the people of the Russian-speaking countries, and with the people in the scientific conferences and symposia in which he participates, pointing out that the Russian civilization and culture deserve attention

GUST CAMPAIGN WINS INTERNATIONALLY RENOWNED EMERGING MEDIA AWARD CONFERRED BY SUMMIT INTERNATIONAL AWARDS

ulf University for Science and Technology (GUST)

announced yesterday that its 2016 "How we see it" marketing campaign won the Emerging Media Award for Best Consumer Integrated Campaign in the "Visionary" Category at the 2016 Summit International Awards (SIA).

The Campaign, which launched in April 2016 and continued until September of that year, had a goal to attract students to join GUST. It featured visuals consisting of a blend of food items with elements related to the different majors offered at the university. As a result, the university saw a distinct upturn in registration numbers, and the campaign vastly surpassed all online Middle Eastern benchmarks set to measure campaign success.

Every year, the Summit International Awards (SIA) oversees three high-profile advertising and marketing award competitions with the aim of raising awareness of entities who have the creative and marketing artfulness to deviate from creative norms. The Summit Emerging Media Award, administered by SIA in the US, which is the award GUST is recognized for, was developed due to the need to acknowledge celebrate creative



Aseel Turkait

excellence and innovation across all media platforms. This year, out of 16 companies recognized for this award across various categories, no campaign other than that of GUST was from the Middle East, and only a handful were from outside the United States

Public Relations Director, Aseel Turkait, said, "We are all extremely proud of this achievement, and are grateful to everyone who supported our Department as we moved away from routine campaigns, and took bold steps to make waves in a field which is fiercely competitive and dominated by other institutions. We see this award not only as acknowledgement of our hard work, but as encouragement to continue to be creative and think outside the box."

The SIA, which is based in Portland, Oregon in the United States, is the oldest and most prestigious organization that administers an advertising award exclusively for firms with limited billings. Throughout its 23-year history, its Creative Award has established itself as a leading arbiter of creative and communication excellence, which uses strict evaluation criteria and a blind judging processes, and its competitions reward only those whose work exemplifies the best in its class.

Kuwait 🗠 Times 🌆

MONDAY, MAY 8, 2017



00:45 Queens Of The Savannah 03:25 Untamed China With Nigel Marven 05:02 Queens Of The Savannah 05:49 Big Fish Man Swamp Brothers 06:36 07:25 Dogs/Cats/Pets 101 08:15 Wildest Africa 09:10 Untamed China With Nigel Marven 10:05 Tanked 11:00 Dogs/Cats/Pets 101 11:55 Bondi Vet 12:50 Wildest Africa 13:45 Big Fish Man 14:40 Untamed China With Nigel Marven 15:35 Tanked 16:30 Big Fish Man 17:25 Animal Cops Houston 18:20 Animal ER 19:15 Tanked 20:10 Dogs/Cats/Pets 101 21:05 Animal Cops Houston 22:00 Animal ER 22:55 Untamed China With Nigel Marven 23:50 Big Fish Man



00:00 The Haunting Of.. 01:00 Paranormal State 01:30 Paranormal State 02:00 Crimes That Shook Australia 03:00 Crime Stories 04:00 The Haunting Of .. 05:00 Paranormal State 05:30 Paranormal State 06:00 The First 48 07:00 My Crazy Ex 08:00 Evil Up Close 09:00 Nightmare In Suburbia 10:00 Homicide Hunter 11:00 The First 48 12:00 The First 48 13:00 My Crazy Ex 14:00 Evil Up Close 15:00 Homicide Hunter 16:00 Fred Dinenage: Murder Casebook 17:00 The First 48 18:00 The First 48 19:00 Evil Up Close 20:00 Nightmare In Suburbia 21:00 Homicide Hunter 22:00 Homicide Hunter



00:05 Destroyed In Seconds 00:30 Science Of The Movies Strangest Weather On Earth 02:10 03:00 Strangest Weather On Earth 03:50 Don't Drive Here 06:20 How It's Made 06:40 How It's Made 07:00 Doki 07:25 Kids vs Film 07:50 Bad Dog 08:40 How It's Made Science Of The Movies 09:30 10:20 Mythbusters 11:10 Bad Dog 12:00 Don't Drive Here 12:50 How It's Made 13:15 How It's Made Strangest Weather On Earth 14:30 Doki 14:55 Kids vs Film 15:20 Bad Dog

21:00 Gold Rush: Parker's Trail 21:50 Rebel Gold 22:40 Outback Truckers 23:30 Sacred Steel Bikes

00:00 Botched

01:50 E! News

03:50

06:55

. Kardashians

15:00 E! News

16:00 WAGs

17:00 WAGs

18:00 WAGs

Tyler Henry

Kardashians

22:00 Botched

E! News

01:10 Pawn Stars

02:50 Storage Wars

04:05 Pawn Stars

04:30 Pawn Stars

05:00 Mountain Men

06:50 Duck Dynasty

07:15 Duck Dynasty

07:40 Counting Cars

08:30 Pawn Stars

08:55 Pawn Stars

09:20 Storage Wars

09:45 Storage Wars

11:50 Duck Dynasty

12:40 Swamp People

14:20 Mountain Men

16:00 Storage Wars

16:25 Storage Wars

16:50 Pawn Stars

17:15 Pawn Stars

18:30 Pawn Stars

20:10 American Pickers

22:40 Mummies Alive

01:00

03:00

04:00

Basics

07:00

17:40 Storage Wars Miami

18:55 Pawn Stars South Africa 19:20 Mountain Men

21:00 DB Cooper: Case Closed?

food

00:00 The Great Food Truck Race

The Great Food Truck Race

Tia Mowry At Home

05:00 Guy's Grocery Games 06:00 Barefoot Contessa: Back To

02:00 Dinner At Tiffani's

The Kitchen

Chopped

15:10 Ultimate Wheels

13:30 Ax Men

10:10 American Pickers

11:00 Billion Dollar Wreck

06:00 Ultimate Wheels

03:15 American Pickers

02:00 Storage Wars Miami

19:00

23:00

01:35

Botched

E! News



CHD 00:00 Binny And The Ghost 00:25 Hank Zipzer 00:45 The Hive 00:50 Sabrina Secrets Of A Teenage Witch 01:40 Hank Zipzer 02:50 Celebrity Style Story 02:05 Binny And The Ghost 02:55 Hank Zipzer 05:30 Celebrity Style Story 03:15 The Hive 06:00 Hollywood & Football 03:20 Sabrina Secrets Of A Teenage Witch 04:10 Hank Zipzer 07:25 Hollywood & Football 10:10 E! News 04:35 Binny And The Ghost 10:40 Celebrity Style Story 05:25 Hank Zipzer 11:10 Fashion Police 05:45 The Hive 12:10 Keeping Up With The The 7D 05:50 06:00 Jessie 06:25 Jessie 15:30 Celebrity Style Story 06:50 Tsum Tsum Shorts 06:55 The Zhuzhus 07:20 Elena Of Avalor 07:45 Bunk'd Fashion Police 08:10 Stuck In The Middle 20:00 Hollywood Medium With 08:35 Bizaardvark Tyler Henry 21:00 Hollywood Medium With 09:00 Austin & Ally 09:25 Austin & Ally 09:50 Good Luck Charlie 10:40 Dog With A Blog 11:30 Gravity Falls 23:15 Keeping Up With The 11:55 Disney Mickey Mouse 12:00 Welcome To The Ronks 12:15 The Zhuzhus 12:40 Hank Zipzer 13:05 Star Darlings HD 13:10 Good Luck Charlie HISTORY 13:35 Austin & Ally 14:00 Jessie 00:20 Hoard Hunters





21:05 Bizaardvark That's So Raven 21:30

- 21:55 Star Darlings 22:00 Shake It Up 22:25 Sabrina Secrets Of A Teenage Witch
- 23:10 Hank Zipzer 23:35 Binny And The Ghost

23:35 The Hive

23:45 Loopdidoo

06:00 Gravity Falls

07:40 Supa Strikas

08:05 Two More Eggs

08:10 K.C. Undercove

08:35 Counterfeit Cat

09:50 Future-Worm!

10:20 Pair Of Kings

10:45 Pair Of Kings

11:10 Danger Mouse

11:35 Supa Strikas

12:00 Supa Strikas

09:00 Lab Rats: Bionic Island

09:25 Lab Rats: Bionic Island

di date

07:15 Milo Murphy's Law

07:25 Danger Mouse S1

06:25 Star vs The Forces Of Evil

06:50 Penn Zero: Part Time Hero





TV PROGRAMS





20:50 Lawless Island

21:40 Primal Survivor

22:30 Inside Singapore Airlines

S

O/N MOVIES HD ACTION

00:00 28 Weeks Later 01:45 Sharknado 2: The Second One 03:30 Black Rose 05:15 Run All Night 07:30 Licence To Kill 09:45 Gone In Sixty Seconds 11:45 Larcenv 13:30 Licence To Kill 15:45 Golden Eye 18:00 Tekken: Kazuya's Revenge 19:45 Die Hard 22:00 Son Of A Gun O/N MOVIES HD

COMEDY

01:15 A Short History Of Decay

15:15 A Merry Christmas Miracle

16:45 Father Of The Bride

20:15 Barbershop 2: Back In

18:45 Big Ass Spider!

Business 22:00 Middle Men

03:00 Unfinished Business

04:45 Camp Nowhere

10:00 Camp Nowhere

06:30 Other Plans

11:45 Other Plans

08:00 Oscar

13:15 Oscar

OM FIRST HD

00:00 Homeland 01:00 Scandal 02:00 Feud 03:00 Secrets And Lies 04:00 Timeless 05:00 The Art Of More 06:00 Good Morning America -Weekend 07:00 The Chew 08:00 The View 09:00 The Art Of More 10:00 Timeless 11:00 Bones 12:00 The Chew 13:00 The View 14:00 Live Good Morning America 16:00 The Art Of More 17:00 Timeless 18:00 Good Girls Revolt 19:00 Rosewood 20:00 Criminal Minds 21:00 American Crime 22:00 Code Black 23:00 Secrets And Lies

OM FIRST HD

COMEDY

00:00 People Of Earth 00:30 The Mindy Project 01:00 The Mindy Project 01:30 Saturday Night Live 03:00 Gary Unmarried 03:30 Gary Unmarried 04:00 Breaking In 04:30 The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon 05:30 Superstore 06:00 Til Death 06:30 Late Night With Seth Meyers 07:30 The Last Man On Earth 08:00 Breaking In 08:30 Gary Unmarried 09:00 The Ellen DeGeneres Show 10:00 Late Night With Seth Meyers 11:00 The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon 12:00 Til Death 12:30 Breaking In 13:00 The Ellen DeGeneres Show 14:00 Gary Unmarried 14:30 The Last Man On Earth 15:00 Superstore 15:30 The Mindy Project 16:00 The Mindy Project 16:30 Til Death 17:00 The Ellen DeGeneres Show 18:00 Gary Unmarried 18:30 Gary Unmarried 19:00 Dr. Ken 19:30 The Mindy Project 20:00 The Goldbergs 20:30 The Goldbergs 21:00 Two And A Half Men 21:30 Two And A Half Men 22:00 Baskets 22:30 Difficult People 23:00 Ballers 23:35 The Goldbergs

O/N MOVIES FESTIVA 00:00 Sunday, Bloody Sunday 02:00 The Silent Storm 03:45 Foreverland 05:15 Match 06:45 Oliver's Deal 08:30 The Joy Luck Club 10:45 Chariots Of Fire 12:45 The Blind Side 15:00 Pele: Birth Of A Legend 16:45 Of Mice And Men 18:45 Still Alice 20:30 Oleanna 22:00 Electricity 23:45 Closer

O/N MOVIES HD

00:00 The Gambler

02:00 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles 03:45 The Lovely Bones 06:15 Beaches 08:30 The Ladykillers 10:15 The Taking Of Pelham 123 12:15 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles 14:00 Barely Lethal 15:45 How Do You Know 17:45 Jurassic World 20:00 Real Steel 22:15 Ex Machina **OM** MOVIES HD KIDS 01:00 Cher Ami 02:45 Ghatothkach - Master O Magic 04:30 The Adventures Of Don Quixote 06:00 Egon And Donci 07:30 Mune 09:00 Hey Arnold! The Movie 11:00 Cher Ami 12:30 Pooh's Heffalump Movie 13:45 Marco Macaco 15:15 Hey Arnold! The Movie 17:15 Daddy I'm A Zombie 18:45 Memory Loss 20:15 Marco Macaco



08:40 Momsters: When Moms Go Bad 09:30 Swamp Murders 10:20 I'd Kill For You 11:10 Murder Comes To Town 12:00 Who On Earth Did I Marry? 12:50 I Almost Got Away With It 13:40 Momsters: When Moms Go Bad 14:30 Swamp Murders 15:20 I'd Kill For You 16:10 Nightmare Next Door 17:00 Who On Earth Did I Marry? 17:25 Who On Earth Did I Marry? 17:50 I Almost Got Away With It 18:40 Momsters: When Moms Go Bad 19:30 Swamp Murders 20:20 I'd Kill For You 21:10 Vanity Fair Confidential 22:00 Deadline: Crime With Tamron Hall 22:50 The Accused, Jeffrey Macdonald: People Magazine ..

HELADYKILLERS

2004

07:00 Who On Earth Did I Marry?

07:50 I Almost Got Away With It

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THE LADYKILLERS ON OSN MOVIES HD NAT GEO

> 00:20 Animal Fight Club 4.5 01:10 America's National Parks 02:00 Intimate Enemies 02:50 Hunter Hunted Maneater Manhunt 03:45 04:40 Operation Sumatran Rhino 05:35 Intimate Enemies 06:30 Hunter Hunted 07:25 Maneater Manhunt 08:20 Operation Sumatran Rhino 09:15 World's Weirdest Animal Faces 10:10 Animal Superpowers 11:05 Predator Patrol 12:00 Orca Killing School 12:55 Searching For The Snow Leopard 13:50 Hunter Hunted 14:45 Maneater Manhunt 15:40 Last Of The Longnecks

16:35 World's Weirdest Animal Faces 17:30 Animal Superpowers 18:25 Predator Patrol 19:20 Maneater Manhunt

W D) HD



RUN ALL NIGHT ON OSN MOVIES ACTION HD

04:45 Zou

06:00 Zou

05:30

05:45

06:15

07:25

Pirates

09:35

10:35

05:00 Art Attack

Loopdidoo

Calimero

07:50 The Lion Guard

09:05 Goldie & Bear

10:05 Sofia The First

Sofia The First

The Lion Guard

Doc McStuffins

06:30 Loopdidoo

08:15 PJ Masks

Henry Hugglemonster

16:10 Science Of The Movies 17:00 Quarx 17:25 Quarx 17:50 Dirty Jobs 18:40 Now That's Funny 19:30 How It's Made 19:55 How It's Made 20:20 Mythbusters 21:10 Kids Do The Craziest Things 22:00 Dirty Jobs 22:50 Now That's Funny 23:40 Don't Drive Here



00:20 Street Outlaws 01:10 Supertruckers 02:00 JFK: The Lost Tapes 02:50 What On Earth? 03:40 Sacred Steel Bikes 04:30 Storage Hunters UK 05:00 How Do They Do It? How Do They Do It? 05:30 06:00 Gold Divers 06:50 Street Outlaws Sacred Steel Bikes 07:40 08:30 Ed Stafford: Into The Unknown 09:20 Storage Hunters UK 09:45 How Do They Do It? 10:35 Fast N' Loud Diesel Brothers 11:25 12:15 Harley And The Davidsons 13:05 How Do They Do It? Storage Hunters UK 13:30 14:20 Gold Rush 15:10 Treasure Quest: Snake Island 16:00 Gold Divers Sacred Steel Bikes 16:50 Street Outlaws 17:40 18:30 How Do They Do It? 18:55 How Do They Do It? 19:20 Treasure Quest: Snake Island 20:10 Storage Hunters UK 20:35 Storage Hunters UK

08:00 The Pioneer Woman 09:00 Siba's Table: Fast Feasts Cooking For Real 10:00 The Kitchen 11:00 12:00 The Pioneer Woman Siba's Table 13:00 14:00 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives 15:00 Chopped 16:00 The Kitchen 17:00 Anna Olson: Bake 18:00 Chopped 19:00 Iron Chef America Restaurant: Impossible 20:00 21:00 Mystery Diners 22:00 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives 22:30 23:00 Guy's Grocery Games

DISCOVERY SC science

00:30

03:00

07:26

09:50

11:26

13:26

15:26

17:50

12:05 Gummi Bears Superhuman Showdown 12:35 Miles From Tomorrow 01:20 Superhuman Showdown 02:10 You Have Been Warned 13:05 Mickey Mouse Clubhouse13:35 PJ Masks Mythbusters 14:00 03:48 Mythbusters 04:36 Mythbusters 14:30 The Lion Guard 15:00 Sofia The First 15:30 Jake And The Never Land 05:24 Mythbusters 06:12 Mythbusters Pirates 15:55 Sofia The First 07:00 How Do They Do It? 16:20 My Friends Tigger & Pooh Nextworld 16:50 The Adventures Of The 08:14 Mythbusters 09:02 Superhuman Showdown **Disney Fairies** Sofia The First How Do They Do It? 17:15 10:14 Food Factory 10:38 You Have Been Warned 17:40 Doc McStuffins 18:05 PJ Masks Nextworld 18:35 Mickey Mouse Clubhouse 19:05 Miles From Tomorrow 12:14 Mythbusters 19:35 Miles From Tomorrow 13:02 How Do They Do It? Goldie & Bear Food Factory 20:05 20:35 My Friends Tigger & Pooh 13:50 Superhuman Showdown 21:00 Gummi Bears 14:38 Nextworld The Adventures Of The You Have Been Warned 21:25 Disney Fairies 21:50 Minnie's Bow-Toons 16:14 Mythbusters 17:02 Superhuman Showdown 22:00 Goldie & Bear Nextworld 18:40 Mythbusters 22:30 Goldie & Bear 22:55 19:30 How The Universe Works PJ Masks 23:20 Henry Hugglemonster 20:20 How Do They Do It?

12:30 Gravity Falls 12:55 Annedroids 13:20 Atomic Puppet13:45 Star vs The Forces Of Evil 14:10 Disney Mickey Mouse 14:15 Mighty Med 14:40 Disney Cookabout 15:05 Lab Rats 06:45 Henry Hugglemonster 07:00 My Friends Tigger & Pooh 15:30 Gamer's Guide To Pretty. 15:55 Right Now Kapow 16:19 Disney Mickey Mouse 16:25 K.C. Undercover 16:50 Walk The Prank 08:35 Jake And The Never Land 17:15 Mech-X4 17:40 Milo Murphy's Law 18:05 Disney Mickey Mouse 18:10 Gravity Falls 18:35 Mighty Med 19:00 Atomic Puppet 11:05 My Friends Tigger & Pooh 11:35 Sheriff Callie's Wild West 19:25 Gamer's Guide To Pretty.. 19:55 K.C. Undercover 20:20 Mech-X4 20:45 Mighty Med 21:10 Walk The Prank 21:35 Disney Mickey Mouse My Friends Tigger & Pooh 21:40 Disney Mickey Mouse 21:45 Guardians Of The Galaxy 22:10 Ultimate Spider-Man 22:35 Boyster



00:30 Ghosts Of Shepherdstown 01:20 A Haunting 02:10 Jonben?t: An American Murder Mysterv 03:00 The Darkest Of Nights: People Magazine.. 03:48 The Injustice Files: Sundown Towns 04:36 Pandora's Box: Unleashing Evil 05:24 Murder Book 06:12 Blood Relatives

CHOICE 00:10 The Chase

The Chase

The Chase

Coach Trip

Coronation Street

Jekyll And Hyde

NAT GEO

00:15 Cruise Ship Diaries 01:10 Street Food Around The

The Food Files

03:00 Food Lover's Guide To The

03:55 The Game Chef 04:50 Living Free With Kimi Werner

05:45 Street Food Around The

06:15 Cesar Millan: Love My Pit

08:30 Food Lover's Guide To The

09:25 The Game Chef 10:20 Living Free With Kimi Werner

11:45 Cesar Millan: Love My Pit

The Food Files

14:00 Food Lover's Guide To The

14:55 The Game Chef 15:50 Living Free With Kimi Werner

Street Food Around The

17:15 World's Biggest Festival:

18:10 Charlie Luxton's Homes By

20:00 Living Free With Kimi Werner

21:00 Street Food Around The

12:40 Croatia's Finest

Poh & Co.

19:05 The Game Chef

13:05 Food School

Street Food Around The

01:40 Croatia's Finest

Poh & Co.

07:10 Croatia's Finest

08:05 The Food Files

07:35 Food School

02:05 Food School

people

22:50 Emmerdale 23:15 Coronation Street

World

02:35

Planet

03:30

World

Bull

Planet 09:00 Poh & Co.

11:15

World

13:35

Planet

14:30

16:45

World

Kumbh Mela

The Sea

World

Who's Doing The Dishes?



20:10 Last Of The Longnecks 21:00 World's Weirdest Animal O/N MOVIES HD FAMILY NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC **CHANNEL**

01:00 K-9 Adventures: Legend Of The Lost Gold 03:00 Hocus Pocus 05:00 Eight Below 07:00 Atlantis: The Lost Empire 09:00 Turner & Hooch 11:00 Eight Below 13:00 Atlantis: Milo's Return 15:00 Chicken Little 17:00 Turbo: A Power Rangers Movie 19:00 Black Beauty 21:00 Race To Witch Mountain 23:00 Chicken Little

WITH CARLOS BARDEM

00:20 Promzillas

23:15 Daddy I'm A Zombie

21:45 Mune

01:10 The Undateables 02:00 My Big Fat Fabulous Life 02:25 Say Yes To The Dress: Bridesmaids 02:50 Love, Lust Or Run 03:15 Cake Boss 03:35 Are You Fitter Than A Pensioner? 04:20 Little People, Big World 04:45 Little People, Big World 05.10 Toddlers & Tiaras 06:00 Say Yes To The Dress: The Big Day 06:50 Promzillas 07:40 Outdaughtered: Busby Quints 08:30 Little People, Big World 08:55 Little People, Big World Sister Wives 09:20

AND DAVID STRATHAIRN

STEPHEN DORFF ALBERTO AMMANN



OLIVER'S DEAL ON OSN MOVIES FESTIVAL

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EIGHTAL

QALSARIA

CLASSIFIEDS <u>Kuwait</u> Times MONDAY, MAY 8, 2017



SHARQIA-1		GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY VOL. 2 - 3D	9:30 PM
SOUKAR BARAH	11:45 AM	GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY VOL. 2 - 3D	12:15 AM
SOUKAR BARAH	1:45 PM		
SPARK: A SPACE TAIL	4:00 PM	FANAR-3	
THE BOSS BABY	6:00 PM	SPARK: A SPACE TAIL	12:00 PM
SOUKAR BARAH	8:00 PM	SPARK: A SPACE TAIL	2:00 PM
SOUKAR BARAH	10:00 PM	SPARK: A SPACE TAIL	4:00 PM
SOUKAR BARAH	12:05 AM	SPARK: A SPACE TAIL	6:00 PM
		MONOLITH	8:00 PM
SHARQIA-2		MONOLITH	10:00 PM
GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY VOL. 2 - 3D	11:30 AM	MONOLITH	12:05 AM
GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY VOL. 2 - 3D	2:00 PM		
BAAHUBALI 2: The Conclusion -Telugu	1:30 PM	FANAR-4	
GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY VOL. 2-3D	4:45 PM	SOUKAR BARAH	11:30 AM
GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY VOL. 2-3D	7:15 PM	SOUKAR BARAH	1:30 PM
GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY VOL. 2-3D	9:45 PM	BAAHUBALI 2: The Conclusion -Telugu	3:30 PM
GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY VOL. 2-3D	12:30 AM	BAAHUBALI 2: The Conclusion - Hindi	3:30 PM
		NO FRI+SAT	
SHARQIA-3		BAAHUBALI 2: The Conclusion -Telugu	6:45 PM
ROBO-DOG: AIRBORNE	12:15 PM	BAAHUBALI 2: The Conclusion - Telugu	10:00 PM
ROBO-DOG: AIRBORNE	2:15 PM	SOUKAR BARAH	1:15 AM
ROBO-DOG: AIRBORNE	4:15 PM		
BAAHUBALI 2: The Conclusion -Hindi	6:15 PM	FANAR-5	
ROBO-DOG: AIRBORNE	9:30 PM	ROBO-DOG: AIRBORNE	1:00 PM
FAST & FURIOUS 8	11:30 PM	ROBO-DOG: AIRBORNE	3:15 PM
		ROBO-DOG: AIRBORNE	5:15 PM
MUHALAB-1		ROBO-DOG: AIRBORNE	7:15 PM
BAAHUBALI 2: The Conclusion -Hindi	11:45 AM	ROBO-DOG: AIRBORNE	9:15 PM
BAAHUBALI 2: The Conclusion - Telugu	3:00 PM	FAST & FURIOUS 8	11:45 PM
BAAHUBALI 2: The Conclusion - Telugu	6:15 PM		
BAAHUBALI 2: The Conclusion - Telugu	9:30 PM	MARINA-1	
FAST & FURIOUS 8	12:45 AM	ROBO-DOG: AIRBORNE	12:00 PM
		ROBO-DOG: AIRBORNE	2:00 PM
MUHALAB-2		ROBO-DOG: AIRBORNE	4:00 PM
ROBO-DOG: AIRBORNE	12:45 PM	ROBO-DOG: AIRBORNE	6:00 PM
SPARK: A SPACE TAIL	2:45 PM	ROBO-DOG: AIRBORNE	8:00 PM
BAAHUBALI 2: The Conclusion -Telugu	1:30 PM	SOUKAR BARAH	10:00 PM
SPARK: A SPACE TAIL	4:45 PM	SOUKAR BARAH	12:05 AM
ROBO-DOG: AIRBORNE	6:45 PM		
	8:45 PM	MARINA-2	12.15 DM
FAST & FURIOUS 8	10:45 PM	FAST & FURIOUS 8	12:15 PM
MUHALAB-3		THE BOSS BABY THE BOSS BABY	3:00 PM 5:00 PM
SPARK: A SPACE TAIL	11.20 AM	THE BOSS BABY	7:00 PM
GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY VOL. 2-3D	11:30 AM 1:30 PM	FAST & FURIOUS 8	9:00 PM
GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY VOL. 2-3D	4:00 PM	FAST & FURIOUS 8	9.00 PM 11:45 PM
GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY VOL. 2-3D	4:00 PM 6:30 PM		I I HJ FIVI
GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY VOL. 2-3D	9:00 PM	MARINA-3	
GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXT VOL. 2-3D	11:45 PM	GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY VOL. 2-3D	11:45 AM
GOANDIANS OF THE GALAXT VOL. 2-50	I I J J I W	GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY VOL. 2-3D	2:15 PM
FANAR-1		GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY VOL. 2-3D	4:45 PM
SOUKAR BARAH	12:30 PM	GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY VOL. 2-3D	7:30 PM
SOUKAR BARAH	2:30 PM	GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY VOL. 2-3D	10:00 PM
THE BOSS BABY	4:30 PM	GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY VOL. 2-3D	12:45 AM
THE BOSS BABY	6:30 PM	GOARDIANS OF THE GALAXT VOL.2 SD	12.43740
SOUKAR BARAH	8:30 PM	AVENUES-1	
SOUKAR BARAH	10:30 PM	ROBO-DOG: AIRBORNE	11:30 AM
SOUKAR BARAH	12:30 AM	ROBO-DOG: AIRBORNE	1:30 PM
	1	ROBO-DOG: AIRBORNE	3:30 PM
FANAR-2		ROBO-DOG: AIRBORNE	5:30 PM
THE BOSS BABY	11:45 AM	ROBO-DOG: AIRBORNE	7:30 PM
GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY VOL. 2 - 3D	1:45 PM	ROBO-DOG: AIRBORNE	9:30 PM
GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY VOL. 2-3D	4:15 PM	FREE FIRE	11:30 PM
GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY VOL. 2 - 3D	6:45 PM		

KNCC PROGRAMME FROM THURSDAY TO WEDNESDAY (04/05/2017 TO 10/05/2017)

AVENUES-2 GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY VOL. 2 -3D-4DX THE BOSS BABY -3D-4DX GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY VOL. 2 -3D-4DX THE BOSS BABY -3D-4DX GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY VOL. 2 -3D-4DX GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY VOL. 2 -3D-4DX	11:30 AM 2:15 PM 4:15 PM 7:00 PM 9:15 PM 12:05 AM
AVENUES-3 THE BOSS BABY NO SUN	11:30 AM
THE BOSS BABY THE BOSS BABY THE BOSS BABY THE BOSS BABY FAST & FURIOUS 8 MONOLITH	1:30 PM 3:45 PM 6:00 PM 8:15 PM 10:30 PM 1:15 AM
AVENUES-4 ROBO-DOG: AIRBORNE FAST & FURIOUS 8 THE BOSS BABY ROBO-DOG: AIRBORNE FAST & FURIOUS 8 FAST & FURIOUS 8	12:30 PM 2:30 PM 5:15 PM 7:15 PM 9:15 PM 12:05 AM
360°- 1 GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY VOL. 2 -3D GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY VOL. 2 -3D GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY VOL. 2 -3D GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY VOL. 2 -3D FREE FIRE	11:30 AM 2:15 PM 5:00 PM 7:45 PM 10:30 PM 1:15 AM
360°-2 The BOSS BABY MONOLITH THE BOSS BABY MONOLITH MONOLITH MONOLITH MONOLITH	11:45 AM 1:45 PM 3:45 PM 6:00 PM 8:00 PM 10:00 PM 12:05 AM
360°- 3 THE LOST CITY OF Z BAAHUBALI 2: The Conclusion -Tamil BAAHUBALI 2: The Conclusion -Malayalam BAAHUBALI 2: The Conclusion -Tamil MONOLITH	12:15 PM 3:15 PM 6:30 PM 9:45 PM 1:00 AM
AL-KOUT.1 THE BOSS BABY GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY VOL. 2 -3D GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY VOL. 2 -3D	11:30 AM 1:30 PM 4:00 PM 6:30 PM 9:00 PM 11:30 PM
AL-KOUT.2 FAST & FURIOUS 8 FAST & FURIOUS 8 BAAHI IBALL 3: The Conclusion Jaluau	12:45 PM 3:15 PM 2:45 PM

BAAHUBALI 2: The Conclusion - Telugu



FOR SALE

Honda City, Model 2013,

silver color, low mileage

April 2019. Price KD 1800,

4-5-2017

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Sakthi Ishwarya D/o Ganeshkumar (Date of Birth 32000KMs, registered until 04.03.1994, Civil ID # 294030401581, Passport Phone: 97922128. (C 5308) No. K3652571, issued at Kuwait) have changed my name to Shakthi Aishwarya as per School & College records. (C 5307)

PRAYER T	IMINGS
Fajr:	03:35
Shorook:	05:02
Duhr:	11:45
Asr:	15:20
Maghrib:	18:27
Isha:	19:52



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Flight Schedule

Directorate General of Civil Aviation Home Page (www.kuwait-airport.com.kw)

2:45 PM

DIAL161 FOR AIRPORT INFORMATION

		hts on Monday 8/5/2017		KAC	512	Mashhad	14:25			Flights on Monday 8/5/2017	-	UAE	872	Dubai	14:15
Airlines	Fit	Route	Time	SVA	500	Jeddah	14:45	Airlines	Flt	Route	Time	KAC	673	Dubai	15:00
HY	772	Istanbul Alexandria	00:10	KNE	529	Jeddah	14:55	AIC	982 572	Ahmedabad/Chennai	00:05	KNE	382	Taif	15:00
R	553	Alexandria	00:15	KAC	692	Muscat	14:55	JAI	573	Mumbai	00:30	GFA	222	Bahrain	15:00
AC	786	Jeddah	00:30	KAC	788	Jeddah Abu Dhahi	14:55	FDB	072	Dubai	00:30	FDB	060 1079	Dubai	15:05 15:15
ZR	267	Beirut	00:35	ETD	303	Abu Dhabi	15:05	PIA	206	Lahore	01:00	QTR SVA	501	Doha Jeddah	
(AC	102	London	00:55	OMA	645	Muscat	15:10	THY	773	Istanbul	01:40	KAC	775	Riyadh	15:45 15:50
DLH	635	Doha	01:00	KAC	562	Amman	15:25	KAC DLH	363	Colombo Frankfurt	01:55	KAC		Abu Dhabi	
GT	858	Istanbul	01:15	KAC ABY	502 127	Beirut	15:25		635 859	Istanbul	02:00 02:35	KAC	661 530	Jeddah	15:55 15:55
ZR	539	Cairo	01:25			Sharjah	15:35	PGT				KAC	743	Dammam	16:00
JAE	853	Dubai	01:40	UAE SAW	857	Dubai	15:45	THY ETH	765 621	Istanbul Addis Ababa	02:50 02:50	KAC	619	Doha	16:00
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QTR	1086	Doha	01:55	QTR	1072	Doha	16:15	UAE	854	Dubai	03:30	ETD	128	Sharjah Abu Dhabi	16:15
GFA	211	Bahrain	02:05	FDB	051	Dubai	16:15	OMA	644	Muscat	04:05		304		16:20
SFA KAC	418	Manila	02:15	JZR	535	Cairo	16:20	QTR	1087	Doha	04:10	KAC	563	Amman	16:25
CAC OMA	643	Muscat	02:50	JZR	125	Bahrain	16:25	ETD	306	Abu Dhabi	04:10	KAC	615	Bahrain	16:30
ETD	305	Abu Dhabi	03:10	KAC	118	New York	16:55	MSR	613	Cairo	04:15	SAW	706	Damascus	16:50
KAC	382	Delhi	03:10	KAC	542	Cairo	17:05	KAC	417	Manila	04:20	FDK	802	Damascus	16:55
VAC MSR	582 612	Cairo	03:15	SVA	542	Riyadh	17:05	PGT	861	Istanbul	04:20	RJA	641	Amman	16:55
DB	069	Dubai	03:15	GFA	215	Bahrain	17:30	JZR	560	Sohag	04:45	FDB	052	Dubai	17:05
PGT	860	Istanbul	03:25	JZR	777	Jeddah	17:35	CEB	019	Manila	04.45	JZR	266	Beirut	17:15
QTR	1076	Doha	03:40	JZR	177	Dubai	17:45	QTR	1077	Doha	05:35	JZR	552	Alexandria	17:25
CEB	018	Manila	03.40	QTR	1080	Doha	18:05	RJA	643	Amman	06:25	QTR	1073	Doha	17:25
(AC	346	Ahmedabad	04:00	MSR	620	Cairo	18:30	THY	771	Istanbul	06:25	JZR	240	Amman	17:30
KAC	358	Kochi	04:50	JZR	483	Istanbul	18:30	GFA	212	Bahrain	06:50	KAC	357	Kochi	17:40
CHY	770	Istanbul	05:05	KAC	514	Tehran	18:35	FDB	070	Dubai	07:05	UAE	858	Dubai	17:40
CHX	170	Bahrain	05:10	UAE	875	Dubai	19:05	JZR	164	Dubai	07:15	KAC	381	Delhi	17:50
(AC	344	Chennai	05:30	GFA	217	Bahrain	19:05	KAC	167	Paris	07:15	KAC	331	Trivandrum	17:55
IZR	529	Asyut	05:35	KAC	744	Dammam	19:05	KAC	501	Beirut	07:50	KAC	283	Dhaka	18:00
<ac< td=""><td>362</td><td>Colombo</td><td>05:50</td><td>FDB</td><td>063</td><td>Dubai</td><td>19:10</td><td>BAW</td><td>156</td><td>London</td><td>08:20</td><td>SVA</td><td>511</td><td>Riyadh</td><td>18:15</td></ac<>	362	Colombo	05:50	FDB	063	Dubai	19:10	BAW	156	London	08:20	SVA	511	Riyadh	18:15
BAW	157	London	06:05	ABY	123	Sharjah	19:20	FDB	054	Dubai	08:30	JZR	184	Dubai	18:20
<ac< td=""><td>204</td><td>Lahore</td><td>06:20</td><td>KAC</td><td>154</td><td>Istanbul</td><td>19:30</td><td>KAC</td><td>511</td><td>Mashhad</td><td>08:35</td><td>GFA</td><td>216</td><td>Bahrain</td><td>18:20</td></ac<>	204	Lahore	06:20	KAC	154	Istanbul	19:30	KAC	511	Mashhad	08:35	GFA	216	Bahrain	18:20
(AC	284	Dhaka	06:35	JAI	572	Delhi	19:35	KAC	773	Riyadh	08:35	JZR	538	Cairo	18:35
(AC	206	Islamabad	06:40	KAC	674	Dubai	19:40	KAC	117	SNN/New York	09:00	KAC	785	Jeddah	18:45
<ac< td=""><td>302</td><td>Mumbai</td><td>06:55</td><td>KAC</td><td>616</td><td>Bahrain</td><td>19:40</td><td>KAC</td><td>161</td><td>Geneva</td><td>09:10</td><td>QTR</td><td>1081</td><td>Doha</td><td>19:15</td></ac<>	302	Mumbai	06:55	KAC	616	Bahrain	19:40	KAC	161	Geneva	09:10	QTR	1081	Doha	19:15
(AC	156	Istanbul	07:05	KAC	776	Riyadh	19:45	KAC	787	Jeddah	09:15	KAC	345	Ahmedabad	19:20
<ac< td=""><td>354</td><td>Bangalore</td><td>07:50</td><td>FDB</td><td>057</td><td>Dubai</td><td>19:50</td><td>KAC</td><td>671</td><td>Dubai</td><td>09:15</td><td>MSR</td><td>621</td><td>Cairo</td><td>19:30</td></ac<>	354	Bangalore	07:50	FDB	057	Dubai	19:50	KAC	671	Dubai	09:15	MSR	621	Cairo	19:30
DB	053	Dubai	07:50	KAC	620	Doha	19:50	KAC	163	Rome	09:20	GFA	218	Bahrain	19:50
<ac< td=""><td>384</td><td>Delhi</td><td>08:00</td><td>OMA</td><td>647</td><td>Muscat</td><td>20:05</td><td>JZR</td><td>534</td><td>Cairo</td><td>09:30</td><td>FDB</td><td>064</td><td>Dubai</td><td>19:50</td></ac<>	384	Delhi	08:00	OMA	647	Muscat	20:05	JZR	534	Cairo	09:30	FDB	064	Dubai	19:50
<ac< td=""><td>332</td><td>Trivandrum</td><td>08:05</td><td>KNE</td><td>381</td><td>Taif</td><td>20:10</td><td>KAC</td><td>691</td><td>Muscat</td><td>09:30</td><td>ABY</td><td>124</td><td>Sharjah</td><td>20:00</td></ac<>	332	Trivandrum	08:05	KNE	381	Taif	20:10	KAC	691	Muscat	09:30	ABY	124	Sharjah	20:00
JAE	855	Dubai	08:25	DLH	634	Frankfurt	20:15	JZR	482	Istanbul	09:35	FDB	058	Dubai	20:30
TD	301	Abu Dhabi	08:55	MEA	402	Beirut	20:15	ABY	126	Sharjah	09:40	UAE	876	Dubai	20:35
ABY	125	Sharjah	09:00	KAC	662	Abu Dhabi	20:20	KAC	101	London	09:45	JAI	571	Delhi	20:35
RA	667	Esfahan	09:15	QTR	1088	Doha	20:35	UAE	856	Dubai	09:50	KAC			
QTR	1070	Doha	09:20	KAC	164	Rome	20:55	KAC	561	Amman	09:55		353	Bangalore	20:55
-DB	055	Dubai	09:40	KAC	168	Paris	21:05	KAC	541	Cairo	10:00	KAC	543	Cairo	21:00
GFA	213	Bahrain	10:40	ETD	307	Abu Dhabi	21:10	ETD	302	Abu Dhabi	10:00	DLH	634	Doha	21:00
MEA	404	Beirut	10:55	ALK	229	Colombo	21:15	KAC	617	Doha	10:15	OMA	648	Muscat	21:05
AXB	889	Mangalore/Bahrain	11:05	KLM	445	Amsterdam	21:15	IRA	666	Esfahan	10:15	KNE	232	Riyadh	21:10
IZR	561	Sohag	11:10	UAE	859	Dubai	21:15	VIZ	205	IQA	10:30	MEA	403	Beirut	21:15
IZR	165	Dubai	11:50	GFA	219	Bahrain	21:50	KAC	153	Istanbul	10:30	KAC	301	Mumbai	21:40
MSC	401	Alexandria	12:30	KAC	564	Amman	21:55	QTR	1071	Doha	10:35	QTR	1089	Doha	21:45
<ac< td=""><td>774</td><td>Riyadh</td><td>12:45</td><td>QTR</td><td>1082</td><td>Doha</td><td>22:00</td><td>FDB</td><td>056</td><td>Dubai</td><td>10:35</td><td>DHX</td><td>171</td><td>Bahrain</td><td>21:50</td></ac<>	774	Riyadh	12:45	QTR	1082	Doha	22:00	FDB	056	Dubai	10:35	DHX	171	Bahrain	21:50
JAE	871	Dubai	12:45	ETD	309	Abu Dhabi	22:10	GFA	214	Bahrain	11:35	KAC	205	Islamabad	21:55
ΓHY	766	Istanbul	12:50	AIC	975	Chennai/Goa	22:25	MEA	405	Beirut	11:55	ETD	308	Abu Dhabi	22:00
MSR	610	Cairo	13:00	KAC	162	Geneva	22:25	JZR	776	Jeddah	12:00	ALK	230	Colombo	22:20
<ac< td=""><td>672</td><td>Dubai</td><td>13:55</td><td>BBC</td><td>143</td><td>Dhaka</td><td>22:30</td><td>AXB</td><td>890</td><td>Mangalore</td><td>12:05</td><td>KLM</td><td>445</td><td>Bahrain</td><td>22:25</td></ac<>	672	Dubai	13:55	BBC	143	Dhaka	22:30	AXB	890	Mangalore	12:05	KLM	445	Bahrain	22:25
QTR	1078	Doha	14:05	ETD	919	Abu Dhabi/Bahrain	22:40	KAC	413	Bangkok	13:05	UAE	860	Dubai	22:35
KNE	231	Riyadh	14:10	JZR	241	Amman	22:55	JZR	176	Dubai	13:10	KAC	383	Delhi	22:3
GFA	221	Bahrain	14:15	JZR	185	Dubai	22:55	JZR	124	Bahrain	13:30	GFA	220	Bahrain	22:5
(AC	364	Colombo	14:15	JAI	574	Mumbai	23:00	MSC	402	Alexandria	13:30	ETD	310	Abu Dhabi	23:0
DB	059	Dubai	14:20	MSC	405	Sohag	23:30	THY	767	Istanbul	13:45	JZR	528	Asyut	23:0
<ac< td=""><td>618</td><td>Doha</td><td>14:20</td><td>FDB</td><td>071</td><td>Dubai</td><td>23:35</td><td>MSR</td><td>611</td><td>Cairo</td><td>14:00</td><td>QTR</td><td>1083</td><td>Doha</td><td>23:20</td></ac<>	618	Doha	14:20	FDB	071	Dubai	23:35	MSR	611	Cairo	14:00	QTR	1083	Doha	23:20
	352	Kochi	14:20	THY	764	Istanbul	23:45	KAC	513	Tehran	14:10	KAC	1005	Bangkok	23:35



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76	-	+			77				-		+		78	-	+
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ACROSS

1. A rotating disk shaped to convert circular into linear motion.

4. Relating to the blood vessels or blood. 11. (British slang) Cafe.

15. Being two more than fifty.

16. A city of east central Mexico (west of Veracruz).

17. Fleshy and usually brightly colored cover of some seeds that develops from the ovule stalk and partially or entirely envelopes the seed.

18. Large long-armed ape of Borneo and Sumatra having arboreal habits.

- 20. Person who makes a gift of property.
- 21. The goddess of the moon.

22. A person with great powers and abilities.

24. With the mouth wide open as in wonder or awe.

26. A state in the Rocky Mountains. 27. A battle during the American

Revolutionary War (1777). 30. A white soft metallic element that tar-

nishes readily. 32. Doglike nocturnal mammal of Africa and southern Asia that feeds chiefly on

carrion 33. English scholastic philosopher and assumed author of Occam's Razor (1285-

1349). 37. A colorless and odorless inert gas. 38. A master's degree in fine arts.

- 40. An expression of greeting. 42. (Irish) Mother of the ancient Irish
- gods.
- 43. Not reflecting light.

(especially by women).

northeast and east.

1989).

or service.

prisoners.

endar.

by wind.

that has three allotropic forms.

68. A flask that holds spirits.

76. One thousandth of a second.

short wedge-shaped white tail.

DOWN

southeast through West Yorkshire.

made from aba cloth.

1. A compact mass.

- 46. Be abundant or plentiful.
- 49. Inability to control the flow of urine and involuntary urination.
- 53. A feeling of strong eagerness (usually
- in favor of a person or cause). 54. Treat or speak of with contempt.
- 55. A city in southern Turkey on the Seyhan River.

STAR TRACK

Aries (March 21-April 19)

There may be temptations to overextend your budget as short-distance travel is possible with friends today. Perhaps you will need to travel some distance to a popular entertainment attraction. Take time today to plan future time with your friendsit has been too long since you have been able to have long conversations and catch up on the news. Spending time with close, old friends can be rewarding. An outgoing and very expressive cycle of experience has begun for you. Now more than ever, you want to be admired by others, to do and create things that stir their hearts. This is child's play; this is romance; this is taking a chance. Really enjoy your companion this evening without being afraid to speak your feelings. Music can be most relaxing.

Taurus (April 20-May 20)

You should know there may be a few surprises this morning. The more you go with the flow, the more fun the surprises will become. This is really not the time to object; besides, your friends or family want an excuse to have a little fun with you today. There may be a little time this afternoon for making some desired personal changes . . . Perhaps your hair color, style or diet. You will be able to have your own surprise this evening. There is talk of visiting with some friends later today, perhaps taking a drive through the country or at the least, the outskirts of town. Be sure to stop at a roadside vegetable stand and purchase some of your favorite vegetables and fruits. You may want to add plants to your own garden. Happy birthday!

Gemini (May 21-June 20)

You may be able to enjoy your surroundings and the people that are in your life. You are happy and feel good about your place in the world at this time. You may even be ready to take on additional work or a new family member or some type of volunteer work. Talking with your family, you may even discover they are ready to take on some volunteer work as a group. You enjoy talking about history, the past and nostalgia with your friends. You can demonstrate understanding and sensitivity to the needs of others just now and you are in a good position to communicate concerning groups and society in general. You are driven to excel in any form of physical exercise or creative expression this evening-sports, theatrics, arts and crafts, etc.

Cancer (June 21-July 22)

You have a natural aptitude for describing the most sensitive areas of the human psyche, a practical psychologist of the first order. You can manage touchy issues that others would not go near. Today brings about an opportunity to heal through speech. You may be the first or the last to give a speech that many will remember and be better for having heard it. You communicate with accomplished skill and others will find it stimulating just being with you. Your dreams have been quite clear latelyyou may want to start a dream diary. It might be a good idea to write in this diary what you think might have inspired the dream as well as how your health was the day or evening before the dream. You may find some of your dreams are just fun.

Leo (July 23-August 22)

You are intense, passionate and very personal today. You will find yourself rushing past the superficial right to the heart of any matter. Communication is high and you may enjoy some good solid conversation with neighbors this morning. Home, family and security have been on your mind lately, and you may find yourself teaching young people about fairness, evenhandedness, goals, roots and the importance of family. An insight about your support system, your mother or other females may be important. You have clearheaded and practical insights for most anything you choose to do this day. This is a time of good fortune when things open up in a very naturally. Tonight you may meet a student that you can help or tutor.

Virgo (August 23-September 22)

There are opportunities for success with money now that were not previously available. Lady luck may smile brightly on you during this time. Moving quickly is the secret to securing a tidy sum or gaining the end result of your desire. Perhaps you are going to a casting call or displaying your creative accomplishments. Whatever the case, you will be successful. Fun, a good sense of humor and the ability to get along with most folks put a smile on everybody's face. There is a desire to understand a loved one's psyche and there may also be an opportunity for a deep emotional talk this afternoon. Take the time to really listen to the one who needs you. There is an opportunity to take the time to show others how much they mean to you.

Libra (September 23-October 22)

🕖 You may find yourself more than a little hungry today. Your current appreciation for just about everything may lead you to overspend or indulge too much. However, you will make some good choices as you seek a balance. You can expect some sort of major revision of your likes and dislikes, how and what you enjoy or appreciate about yourself and life-your value system. You may find that your appreciation for the quality of everything is stronger. Reappraisal is in order. Breakthroughs regarding relationships and the social life in general may be possible now. Unconventional approaches to partnerships and lovers are possible. An important relationship, perhaps to a younger person or someone in your near environment, may come into focus tonight.

Scorpio (October 23-November 21)

You will prosper by pursuing your ideals and most deep-seated dreams of how life could be. Don't be afraid to project that image, create your path and make those dreams real. You will find that your mind and thoughts could be very intense. Keep your focus strong and you will see successful results. You can be very intuitive when it comes to expressing yourself and you will know just what to say. Periods of intense creativity allow you to go through changes and inner growth and give you time to think and plan. This creative intensity is good for music, poetry, art, etc. Your friends, partners and relationships mean a lot to you. They are a primary source of strength and you look to them for encouragement. Enjoy your friends today.

Sagittarius (November 22-December 21)

This is a good time to initiate a feeling or sense of easy going. The need for security, however, may dominate that easygoing nature you yearn for just now. Finding a new place to live and becoming comfortable in a professional position will help to alleviate much of your anxiety. List three things you can do now that will help you feel more secure and work in that direction-do not stagnate. A volunteer service can be most beneficial in your life. This can also be a way to express your talents and help others. Some of the ways in which you could feel quite useful would be in a medical, counseling or clergy type of organization. You may be teaching someone techniques of a sensible diet today. You will be pleased with the results of your plans.

Capricorn (December 22-January 19)

Don't let a cranky person rule your morning; there may be more to his or her story than you know. Be attentive in your surroundings so that you catch any problems before they escalate. Keep your eye focused on new, renewed and better. Your statistical mind can be used to find better ways to improve, update or plan future goals that will help keep your family a strong unit. Today will certainly bring new inspiration. It is a good time to communicate. A new person will enter your life this afternoon and you may find some common beliefs or ideas that will promote a good friendship. You are warmly receptive and sympathetic toward particular causes and it may be the time to consider how you could help. Perhaps the family could work together as a group.



There is a cornucopia of emotional vulnerabilities available for you to cope with today. Change is the easiest thing to do now. Acknowledge this, create a new and positive insight and then let the old and perhaps negative become a moth that flies away. Quick answers, great wit and a surplus of insights and solutions are obtainable. This is a good time to write with real zest and originality. Insert your good sense of humor as a tool to get through some of the sensitive areas that may have formerly tripped you. This is a time of new beginnings in your life. There is an urge to strike out on your own in a new direction, to take on new challenges no matter what the risks. You can be bold-perhaps headstrong; you go where angels fear to tread.

Pisces (February 19-March 20)

Your personality and your mode of living appear to change at a moment's notice. Your attention is divided among numerous people and subjects. Be wise with your tendency to overexert your energies to help someone or to go in too many directions. Others may challenge your authority or the direction you are taking just now. Maintain a right mental attitude-the attitude of patience, sincerity and good cheer. To think rightly contributes to positive results. There is a chance to understand those around you and to have others understand you. The time is right for unexpected changes in the normal routine of family life. This evening there could be some special moments with someone you love. A sense of harmony creates a happy time.

people living in Australia when Europeans arrived. 10. Very slow in tempo and broad in

11. A high-crowned black cap (usually made of felt or sheepskin) worn by men in Turkey and Iran and the Caucasus.

people formerly living in northern

4. Scottish writer of rustic verse (1770-

5. A trivalent metallic element of the rare

7. Relating to or containing the azo radi-

9. A dark-skinned member of a race of

Indiana and southern Michigan.

6. The middle of the day.

8. A republic in eastern Africa.

1835)

cal

earth group.

manner n.

12. Wild sheep of northern Africa. 13. A native or inhabitant of Finland.

14. Emblem usually consisting of a rectangular piece of cloth of distinctive design.

19. Mild form of diabetes mellitus that develops gradually in adults.

23. A law passed by US Congress to prevent employees from being injured or contracting diseases in the course of their employment. 25. Gone by.

28. Old material that is slightly reworked and used again.

29. A hard gray lustrous metallic element that is highly corrosion-resistant.

31. A genus of orb-weaving spiders including common garden spiders and barn spiders.

34. Any taillike structure.

35. Type genus of the Annonaceae.

36. A state in southeastern India on the

Bay of Bengal (south of Andhra Pradesh). 39. A canvas bag that is used to feed an

animal (such as a horse). 41. A soft silvery metallic element of the alkali earth group. 56. A bag used for carrying money and 44. A circular segment of a curve. small personal items or accessories 45. A heavy brittle diamagnetic trivalent metallic element (resembles arsenic and 60. A very poisonous metallic element antimony chemically). 47. Any of numerous local fertility and 61. Surrealist Spanish painter (1904nature deities worshipped by ancient Semitic peoples. 62. The compass point midway between 48. A severe or trying experience. 50. The act of removing or getting rid of 63. A public promotion of some product something. 51. Fastener consisting of a resinous 65. A Russian prison camp for political composition that is plastic when warm. 52. Relating to a clinic or conducted in or as if in a clinic and depending on direct observation of patients. 72. The seventh month of the Hindu cal-57. A Bantu language spoken in western 75. Aircraft landing in bad weather in Kenya. which the pilot is talked down by ground 58. As the agent of or on someone's part. control using precision approach radar. 59. Freedom from activity (work or strain or responsibility). 77. Any of the short curved hairs that 64. (Irish) Chief god of the Tuatha De grow from the edges of the eyelids. Danann. 78. A barrier constructed to contain the 66. A former communist country in eastern Europe and northern Asia. flow or water or to keep out the sea. 79. Bulky grayish-brown eagle with a 67. The right to take another's property if an obligation is not discharged. 80. Shaken into waves or undulations as 69. King of Saudi Arabia since 1982 (born in 1922). 81. A loose sleeveless outer garment 70. Someone who works (or provides workers) during a strike. 71. God of love and erotic desire. 73. An emotional response that has been acquired by conditioning. 2. A river in northern England that flows 74. (sports) The chief official (as in boxing or American football) who is expected to 3. A member of the extinct Algonquian ensure fair play.

CANTEEKARAPBEAVER GGRHMADLLEMMINGOOSE NIEOEOTUEMUIDOLPHIN

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Daily SuDoku

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The hidden animal is: AMERICAN CROCODILE

Yesterday's Solution								
6	1	8	7	2	9	5	3	4
4	2	3	6	5	8	1	7	9
5	9	7	4	3	1	8	6	2
2	3	9	5	8	7	4	1	6
8	7	5	1	4	6	2	9	3
1	6	4	2	9	3	7	8	5
7	4	-	9	6	2	3	5	8
3	5	6	8	7	4	9	2	1
9	8	2	3	1	5	6	4	7

Animals 2

Find and circle all of the animals that are hidden in the grid. The remaining letters spell the name of an additional animal.

	1	Х	R	L	С	D	С	U	С	S	0	S	U	R	L	А	W	М	А
	М	Ν	Ρ	А	L	Т	G	К	G	К	А	Ν	G	А	R	0	0	Ρ	R
	А	Υ	W	U	F	Е	0	Е	Т	Ν	R	Е	К	К	0	А	L	А	С
	L	L	Ζ	Е	М	F	Ζ	Р	н	Ν	А	Е	W	E	W	н	А	L	Е
	F	Ζ	Е	в	R	А	Е	А	U	0	G	R	Н	Ζ	Υ	R	F	А	Н
	Н	А	Т	Е	Е	н	С	L	G	S	G	в	0	Т	Н	Υ	F	Υ	U
	R	А	Т	Т	L	Е	S	Ν	А	Κ	Е	Ρ	Ι	Т	Ν	в	U	в	Μ
	в	L	Ρ	D	s	Т	0	R	Κ	Т	0	G	Ν	R	Ν	А	в	А	Μ
	Е	А	Е	Е	А	н	А	Ν	Ν	R	0	0	Т	Τ	D	L	Ρ	Ν	Ι
	Е	М	Е	Е	0	в	Е	А	Ρ	R	С	А	U	М	J	L	С	Т	Ν
	L	Ρ	Н	R	в	К	н	0	Т	Е	С	G	0	А	R	А	0	Е	G
	Т	R	S	L	С	Ρ	T	L	R	в	Ν	U	G	R	0	W	Υ	L	В
	R	Е	Т	L	Е	s	L	0	0	Е	S	U	0	L	в	К	0	0	Ι
	U	Υ	Н	L	Е	А	S	в	Ρ	Е	А	R	R	Т	Т	А	Т	Ρ	R
	Т	С	Е	Е	G	D	Τ	R	Т	R	А	Ρ	F	Ν	Ν	Υ	Е	Е	D
ANTELOPE ELEPHANT BAT EMU BEAVER FLAMINGO BOBCAT FROG BUFFALO GAZELLE CHEETAH GIRAFFE CHICKEN GOOSE COYOTE GORILLA CRANE HEDGEHOG DEER HORSE DOLPHIN HUMMINGBIRD DUCK IMPALA			JAGU KAN KOA LAM LEM LYN) MAR MOC MON MOU OCT ORA	GAR LA PRE' MIN K LIN KIN KEY SE OPU	g GBIF		PAF PAF PEN POF PUT RAF RAT RHJ ROT	NTH RAKE RTRI NGU RPO MA BBIT BBIT	EET DGE IN ISE	KE	ST TU W W W YA	IREV TORK JRTL ALL/ ALRI EASI HAL K BRA	C ABY US EL E						

Yesterday's Solution MA G в Е А F Ρ А М Ι С А L U M в R 0 Ν L L Е Α А А I А G 0 Ε S Ι N B Α D L В D А В Т D D Е Ι R Α Α А М L в А R Ε С L v Ι А V Ι Α Е R Κ н M A H L Α Μ Α Е s М Ε Α R E O LA Т Е F Е Ν Y R Е Α LT Α А Ν s D Α Ρ D ULA Н С Κ U I O w А Κ А С Е Ν Ε Ε Α L Ι L s Т R WA R R A N T С Е Ν G U R Е E Е R Y G Α R в 0 A B U Т A A R Е А F 0 U L Κ Е B в Ν F R Ε Α в Α F А Α Н E M R R А Т Е Α Μ 0 J Α А Ν Н Ν С R А Ν Ι А L Α Ν А Α

Wordsearch Puzzle

Yesterday's Solution

Animals 1

A (RKY E K) N O DYP) M (B I S O N) (E) (F O X) È WI PRE AROTAGILLA OSWA LALOVULTURENNAWSU RXXXCHTCLLASMAJGGP CMCTW TBBNKREEDN NORMATEROERBUAC C $\begin{array}{c} \mathbb{R} \\ \mathbb{$ CAFR FOR A DO R U OKMRPRTOINNOREH CTROOOGGN<u>WEKRUT</u> HEEWLIEE<u>KRAVDRA</u> C А ΙE U Q ١G A A TORCUPINE ⁄s ∕s ∕€

AARDVARK	DONKEY	HIPPOPOTAMUS	OTTER	SALMON
ALLIGATOR	DOVE	JACKAL	PANTHER	SLOTH
BABOON	EAGLE	JELLYFISH	PARROT	SWAN
BARRACUDA	ELK	KIWI	PEACOCK	SWORDFISH
BEAR	FERRET	LEOPARD	PELICAN	TIGER
BISON	FOX	LION	PIG	TORTOISE
CAMEL	GECKO	LLAMA	PORCUPINE	TROUT
CHIMPANZEE	GOAT	MACAW	QUAIL	TURKEY
CHINCHILLA	GOPHER	MEADOWLARK	RACCOON	VULTURE
COBRA	HAMSTER	MINK	RAVEN	WOLVERINE
COUGAR	HAWK	MOOSE	REINDEER	WOODPECKER
CROW	HERON	NIGHTINGALE	ROADRUNNER	WREN

Kuwait - Times 55.

For labor-related inquiries and complaints: Call MSAL hotline 128

Hospitals

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

Clinics

Kaizen center	25716707
Rawda	22517733
Adaliya	22517144
Khaldiya	24848075
Kaifan	24849807
Shamiya	24848913
Shuwaikh	24814507
Abdullah Salem	22549134
Nuzha	22526804
Industrial Shuwaikh	24814764
Qadsiya	22515088
Dasmah	22532265
Bneid Al-Gar	22531908
Shaab	22518752
Qibla	22459381
Ayoun Al-Qibla	22451082
Mirqab	22456536
Sharq	22465401
Salmiya	25746401
Jabriya	25316254
Maidan Hawally	25623444
Bayan	25388462
Mishref	25381200
W Hawally	22630786
Sabah	24810221



PHARMACY **GOVERNORATE** Ahmadi Sama Safwan Abu Halaifa **Danat Al-Sultan** Jahra Modern Jahra Madina Munawara Capital Ahlam Khaldiya Coop Farwaniya New Shifa **Ferdous Coop** Modern Safwan Hawally Tariq Hana Ikhlas Hawally & Rawdha Ghadeer Kindy Ibn Al-Nafis **Mishrif Coop** Salwa Coop

ADDRESS	PHONE
Fahaeel Makka St	23915883
Abu Halaifa-Coastal Rd	23715414
Mahboula Block 1, Coastal Rd	23726558
Jahra-Block 3 Lot 1	24575518
Jahra-Block 92	24566622
Fahad Al-Salem St	22436184
Khaldiya Coop	24833967
Farwaniya Block 40	24734000
Ferdous Coop	24881201
Old Kheitan Block 11	24726638
Salmiya-Hamad Mubarak St	25726265
Salmiya-Amman St	25647075
Hawally-Beirut St	22625999
Hawally & Rawdha Coop	22564549
Jabriya-Block 1A	25340559
Jabriya-Block 3B	25326554
Salmiya-Hamad Mubarak St	25721264
Mishrif Coop	25380581
Salwa Coop	25628241

PHARMACIES

ON 24 HRS DUTY

Tel: (+965) 161 Ext: 2627 - 2630 Fax: (+965) 24348714 www.met.gov.kw

Expected Weather for the Next 24 Hours Issued 07/05/2017-19:00 LT UTC +3hr

DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION

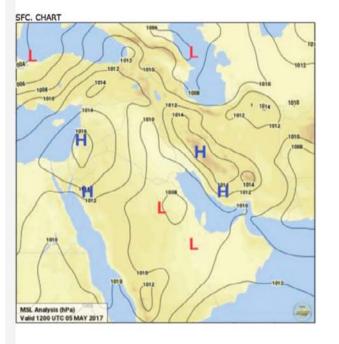
MIN Temperature 28 °C

STATE OF KUWAIT

METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT

By Night :Partly cloudy with moderate to fresh south easterly to southerly wind, with speed of 20 - 40 km/h with a chance for scattered rain and raising dust

By Day : Mostly sunny with light to moderate south easterly to easterly wind, with speed of 12 - 35 km/h



no warnings or weat	her watches	
Kuwait Forecast		
Station	MIN °C EXP	Max °C REC
KUWAIT CITY	29	33
KUWAIT AIRPORT	28	36
ABDALY	26	38
BUBYAN	27	31
JAHRA	27	37
FAILAKA ISLAND	27	32
SALMIYAH	26	29
AHMADI	27	30
JAL ALIYAH	26	38
QAROH ISLAND	26	29
UMM AL-MARADEM	26	28
NUWAISIB	27	32
WAFRA	25	37
SALMY	25	38
MUTRIBA	25	40

Recorded	d Yesterday a	at Kuw	ait Air	
Max Tem	p (°C)		34	
Min Temp (°C)			27	
Max Rei Hum (%) Min Rei Hum (%)			71	
			37	
Max Wind Speed (km/h) and Direction		50 E		
TOTAL RA	AINFALL IN 24	HR	0 m	
1	Sunrise		05:02	
•	Sunset		18:28	
Tomorro	w Prayer Tin	nes		
Fajr		03:3	4	
Sunrise		05:02		
Zuhr Asr Sunset		11:45		
		15:20 18:28		
				Isha

MONDAY, MAY 8, 2017

INTERNATIONAL CALLS



Afghanistan	acc	1.44	0007-
U U	0093	Lithuania	00370
Albania Algeria	00355	Luxembourg Macau	00352 00853
Andorra	00376	Macedonia	00389
Angola	00244	Madagascar	00261
Anguilla	001264	Majorca	0034
Antiga Argentina	001268	Malawi Malaysia	00265
Argentina Armenia	0034	Maldives	00960
Australia	0061	Mali	00223
Austria	0043	Malta	00356
Azerbaijan Bahamas	00994	Marshall Islands	00692 00596
Bahrain	001242	Martinique Mauritania	00596
Bangladesh	00880	Mauritius	00230
Barbados	001246	Mayotte	00269
Belarus	00375	Mexico	0052
Belgium Belize	0032	Micronesia Moldova	00691 00373
Benin	00229	Monaco	00377
Bermuda	001441	Mongolia	00976
Bhutan	00975	Montserrat	001664
Bolivia Bosnia	00591	Morocco Mozambique	00212 00258
Botswana	00387	Myanmar (Burma)	00250
Brazil	0055	Namibia	00264
Brunei	00673	Nepal	00977
Bulgaria	00359	Netherlands	0031
Burkina Burundi	00226	Netherlands Antilles New Caledonia	00599 00687
Cambodia	00257	New Zealand	0064
Cameroon	00237	Nicaragua	00505
Canada	001	Nigar	00227
Cape Verde Cayman Islands	00238	Nigeria Niue	00234 00683
Cayman Islands Central African	001345	Norfolk Island	00683
Chad	00235	N. Ireland (UK)	0044
Chile	0056	North Korea	00850
China Colombia	0086	Norway Oman	0047 00968
Colombia Comoros	0057 00269	Oman Pakistan	00968
Congo	00242	Palau	00680
Cook Islands	00682	Panama	00507
Costa Rica	00506	Papua New Guinea	00675 00595
Croatia Cuba	00385	Paraguay Peru	00595
Cyprus	00357	Philippines	0063
Cyprus (Northern)	0090392	Poland	0048
Czech Republic	00420	Portugal	00351
Denmark Diego Garcia	0045	Puerto Rico Qatar	001787 00974
Djibouti	00253	Romania	0040
Dominica	001767	Russian Federation	007
Dominican Republic		Rwanda	00250
Ecuador Egypt	00593	Saint Helena Saint Kitts	00290 001869
El Salvador	00503	Saint Lucia	001758
England (UK)	0044	Saint Pierre	00508
Equatorial Guinea	00240	Saint Vincent	001784
Eritrea Estonia	00291	Samoa US Samoa West	00684 00685
Ethiopia	00372	San Marino	00378
Falkland Islands	00500	Sao Tome	00239
Faroe Islands	00298	Saudi Arabia	00966
Fiji Finland	00679 00358	Scotland (UK) Senegal	0044 00221
France	0033	Seychelles	00284
French Guiana	00594	Sierra Leone	00232
French Polynesia	00689	Singapore	0065
Gabon Gambia	00241	Slovakia Slovenia	00421
Georgia	00995	Solomon Islands	00677
Germany	0049	Somalia	00252
Ghana	00233	South Africa	0027
Gibraltar Greece	00350	South Korea	0082 0034
Greece Greenland	0030 00299	Spain Sri Lanka	0034
Grenada	001473	Sudan	00249
Guadeloupe	00590	Suriname	00597
Guam Guatemala	001671	Swaziland Sweden	00268 0046
Guatemala Guinea	00502	Sweden	0046
Guyana	00592	Syria	00963
Haiti	00509	Serbia	00381
Holland (Netherlands)		Taiwan Tanzania	00886
Honduras Hong Kong	00504 00852	Tanzania Thailand	00255 0066
Hungary	0036	Тодо	00228
Ibiza (Spain)	0034	Tonga	00676
Iceland	00354	Tokelau	00690
India	0091 00873	Trinidad Tunisia	001868 00216
Indian Ocean	00873	Turkey	00216
Indian Ocean Indonesia	0098	Tuvalu	00688
		Uganda	00256
Indonesia Iran Iraq	00964	5	
Indonesia Iran Iraq Ireland	00353	Ukraine	00380
Indonesia Iran Iraq		5	
Indonesia Iran Iraq Ireland Italy	00353 0039	Ukraine United Arab Emirates	00976
Indonesia Iran Iraq Ireland Italy Ivory Coast Jamaica Japan	00353 0039 00225	Ukraine United Arab Emirates United Kingdom Uruguay USA	00976 0044 00598 001
Indonesia Iran Iraq Ireland Italy Ivory Coast Jamaica Japan Jordan	00353 0039 00225 001876 0081 00962	Ukraine United Arab Emirates United Kingdom Uruguay USA Uzbekistan	00976 0044 00598 001 00998
Indonesia Iran Iraq Ireland Italy Ivory Coast Jamaica Japan Jordan Kazakhstan	00353 0039 00225 001876 0081 00962 007	Ukraine United Arab Emirates United Kingdom Uruguay USA	00976 0044 00598 001 00998 00678
Indonesia Iran Iraq Ireland Italy Ivory Coast Jamaica Japan Jordan	00353 0039 00225 001876 0081 00962	Ukraine United Arab Emirates United Kingdom Uruguay USA Uzbekistan Vanuatu	00976 0044 00598 001 00998
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Indonesia Iran Iraq Ireland Italy Ivory Coast Jamaica Japan Jordan Kazakhstan Kaya Kiribati Kuwait Kyrgyzstan	00353 0039 00225 001876 0081 00962 007 00254 00686 00965 00996	Ukraine Uhited Arab Emirates United Kingdom Uruguay USA Uzbekistan Vanuatu Vanuatu Venezuela Vietnam Virgin Islands UK Virgin Islands US	00976 0044 00598 001 00998 00678 00582 0084 001284 001340
Indonesia Iran Iraq Ireland Italy Ivory Coast Jamaica Japan Jordan Kazakhstan Kenya Kiribati Kuwait Kyrgyzstan Laos	00353 0039 00225 001876 0081 00962 007 00254 00686 00965 00996 00996	Ukraine Uhited Arab Emirates United Kingdom Uruguay USA Uzbekistan Vzbekistan Vanuatu Venezuela Vietnam Vietnam Virgin Islands UK Virgin Islands US Wales (UK)	00976 0044 00598 001 00998 00678 00582 0084 001284 001284 001340 0044
Indonesia Iran Iraq Ireland Italy Ivory Coast Jamaica Japan Jordan Kazakhstan Kaya Kiribati Kuwait Kyrgyzstan	00353 0039 00225 001876 0081 00962 007 00254 00686 00965 00996	Ukraine Uhited Arab Emirates United Kingdom Uruguay USA Uzbekistan Vanuatu Vanuatu Venezuela Vietnam Virgin Islands UK Virgin Islands US	00976 0044 00598 001 00998 00678 00582 0084 001284 001340
Indonesia Iran Iraq Ireland Italy Ivory Coast Jamaica Japan Jordan Kazakhstan Kazakhstan Karya Kiribati Kuwait Kyrgyzstan Laos Latvia	00353 0039 00225 001876 0081 00962 007 00254 00686 00965 00996 00856 00856	Ukraine Uhited Arab Emirates United Kingdom Uruguay USA Uzbekistan Vanuatu Vanuatu Venezuela Vietnam Vietnam Virgin Islands UK Virgin Islands US Wales (UK) Yemen	00976 0044 00598 001 00998 00678 00582 0084 001284 001340 0044 00967

New Jahra	24575755
West Jahra	24772608
South Jahra	24775066
North Jahra	24775992
North Jleeb	24311795
Ardhiya	24884079
Firdous	24892674
Omariya	24719048
N Khaitan	24710044
Fintas	23900322

24770319

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
	1			1
	200		Dust	X
Expected Weather	Mostly sunny	hot + raising dust	hot + raising dust	hot
Min Temp °C	28	28	27	29
Max Temp °C	37	40	41	42
Wind Direction	south easterly to easterly	north westerly	north westerly	north westerly to light variable
Wind Speed km/h	12 - 35	15 - 40	20 - 45	08 - 32

All times are local time (GMT+3) unless otherwise stated



Jahra

Ophthalmologis	its			
Dr. Abidallah Al-Mansoor	25622	444		Dr. Mo
Dr. Samy Al-Rabeea	25752	222		Dr. Ab
Dr. Masoma Habeeb	25321	171		Dr. Ab
Dr. Mubarak Al-Ajmy	25739	999		
Dr. Mohsen Abel	25757	700		Dr Di
Dr Adnan Hasan Alwayl	25732	223		DrD
Dr. Abdallah Al-Baghly	25732	223		
Ear, Nose & Throat	(ENT)			Dr. Es
Dr. Ahmed Fouad Mouner	24555	050 Ext 51	0	Dr Eis
Dr. Abdallah Al-Ali	25644	660		
Dr. Abd Al-Hameed Al-Taweel	25646	478		DrAdı
Dr. Sanad Al-Fathalah	25311	996		Dr. Ve
Dr. Mohammad Al-Daaory	25731	988		Dr. Fo
Dr. Ismail Al-Fodary	22620	166		Dr. Ma
Dr. Mahmoud Al-Booz	25651	426		Dr. At
General Practitior	ners			
Dr. Mohamme Y Majidi	24555	050 Ext 12	3	Dr. Sa
Dr. Yousef Al-Omar	24719	312		
Dr. Tarek Al-Mikhazeem	23926	920	_	Dr. Ar
Dr. Kathem Maarafi	25730	465		Dr. M
Dr. Abdallah Ahmad Eyadah	25655	528	_	
Dr. Nabeel Al-Ayoobi	24577	781		Dr. Ac
Dr. Dina Abidallah Al-Refae	25333	501	_	Dr. M
Urologists				Dr. La
Dr. Ali Naser Al-Serfy	22641	534		
Dr. Fawzi Taher Abul	22639	955		Dr. Na
Dr. Khaleel Abidallah Al-Awad	i 2261	6660		Dr. Mo
Dr. Adel Al-Hunayan FRCS (C)	25313	120		Dr Na
Dr. Leons Joseph	66703	427		
Paychologists			Soor Ce	enter
Psychologists /Psychotherapists			Tel: 229	0-1677
/rsychotherapists			Fax: 22	90 1688

PRIVATE CLINICS

Plastic Surgeons

Family Doctor

Psychiatrists

Gynaecologists & Obstetricians

General Surgeons

Internists, Chest & Heart

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Dr. Mohammad Al-Khalaf

Dr. Abdal-Redha Lari

Dr. Abdel Quttainah

Dr Divya Damodar

Dr. Esam Al-Ansari

Dr Eisa M. Al-Balhan

Dr. Verginia s.Marin

Dr. Fozeya Ali Al-Qatan

Dr. Ahmad Al-Khooly

Dr. Amer Zawaz Al-Amer

Dr. Mohammad Yousef Basher

Dr. Salem soso

Dr. Adnan Ebil

Dr. Mousa Khadada

Dr. Latefa Al-Duweisan

Dr. Nadem Al-Ghabra

Dr. Mobarak Aldoub

Dr Nasser Behbehani

Dr. Majeda Khalefa Aliytami

DrAdrian arbe

eons		Paediatricia	Paediatricians		
	22547272	Dr. Khaled Hamadi	25665898		
	22617700	Dr. Abd Al-Aziz Al-Rashed	25340300		
	25625030/60	Dr. Zahra Qabazard	25710444		
tor		Dr. Sohail Qamar	22621099		
23729596/23729581		Dr. Snaa Maaroof	25713514		
sts		Dr. Pradip Gujare	23713100		
	22635047	Dr. Zacharias Mathew	24334282		
22613623/0		Dermatolog	Dermatology		
bstet	tricians	Dr. Mohammed Salam			
237	29596/23729581	Bern University	23845955		
2572-6666 ext 8321		Dentists	Dentists		
	22655539	Dr Anil Thomas	3729596/3729581		
i	25343406	Dr. Shamah Al-Matar	22641071/2		
	25739272	Dr. Anesah Al-Rasheed	22562226		
	22618787	Dr. Abidallah Al-Amer	22561444		
jeons		Dr. Faysal Al-Fozan	22619557		
	22610044	Dr. Abdallateef Al-Katrash	22525888		
ner	25327148	Dr. Abidallah Al-Duweisan	25653755		
t & He	art	Dr. Bader Al-Ansari	25620111		
22639939		Neurologists			
	22666300	Dr. Sohal Najem Al-Shemeri	25633324		
	25728004	Dr. Jasem Mola Hassan	25345875		
	25355515	Gastrologis			
	24726446	Dr. Sami Aman	22636464		
	25654300/3	Dr. Mohammad Al-Shamaly			
		Dr. Foad Abidallah Al-Ali	22633135		
center.com		Kaizen center	Noor Clinic		

25716707

23845955

-	Dr. Abd Al-Naser Al-Othman	25339330			
	Dr. Ahmad Al-Ansari 25658888				
ľ	Dr. Kamal Al-Shomr 25329924				
	Physiotherapists & VD				
	Dr. Deyaa Shehab 25722291				
	Dr. Musaed Faraj Khamees	22666288			
	Rheumatologists:				
	Dr. Adel Al-Awadi 25330060				
	Dr. Khaled Al-Jarallah	25722290			
	Internist, Chest & Heart				
	DR.Mohammes Akkad	24555050 Ext 210			
	Dr. Mohammad Zubaid MB, ChB, FRCPC, PACC Assistant Professor Of Medicine Head, Division of Cardiology				
	Mubarak Al-Kabeer Hospital	25339667			
	Consultant Cardiologist				
	Dr. Farida Al-Habib MD, PH.D, FACC	2611555-2622555			
	Inaya German Medical Center Te: 2575077 Fax: 25723123				
	William Schuilenberg, RPC Zaina Al Zabin, M.Sc. 2290				

Endocrinologist





Khloe Kardashian says her niece dream is the most precious girl

George Shelley's sister sadly died last week

Shelley, 21, suffered serious head injuries and was being treated in intensive care at Southmead Hospital Bristol, in South West England, but a friend of the family has confirmed to The Sun Online that Harriet tragically lost her fight. Her mother Toni Harris - who had been at her bedside since the accident - is understandably devastated about Harriet's tragic passing and knows her daughter was just "in the wrong place at the wrong time". It also had been reported that Toni didn't feel anybody was to blame for the incident and had previously thanked hospital staff for their wonderful care. She said: "She was hit by a car. She's very poorly but she's stable. Everybody

he 23-year-old singer's younger sister Harriet 🔰 at Southmead Hospital has been amazing; they have been working 24/7 to make sure she is alright. "I would like to thank everyone in Clevedon for praying for our daughter. They have been holding church services, Bristol's Buddha centre has also been helping - everybody across different religions have been so amazing." Harriet's condition had been stabilised but had gotten worse. George found fame when he joined Union J whilst auditioning for 'The X Factor' in 2012. After appearing on 'I'm A Celebrity... Get Me Out Of Here!' George decided to leave the band to focus on his acting and broadcasting career whilst also working on his solo material. George is yet to comment on his sister's tragic passing.



Uzo Aduba has always been a precocious child

he Orange is the New Black' actress who is best known for playing Suzanne 'Crazy Eyes' Warren in the Netflix drama - showed an interest in acting from a young age thanks to her imagination and creativity. She told Britain's Marie Claire magazine: "I've been pretty precocious since I was a kid. "I had a huge imagination and would try and turn that into a reality. "During my teenage years, my group of friends was quite diverse, as I had so many hobbies. "Between 12 and 18, I was into sport, as well as being in the drama club and the chess club. "I was always interested in people and learning more about them, and I guess acting really is a study of people." Uzo grew up in a small town in Massachusetts but always dreamed of living in New York, so she's excited to have finally set down roots in the Big Apple. She said: "I'm doing [my house] up at the moment and feeling this great relief as I'm so happy with it. "My roots have been permanently put down in New York. "As a kid, I always dreamed of here. "I remember being so taken with the lights and movement of the city, as it's so different to where I'm from, which really is in the middle of the sticks. "I know it's cheesy but it just feels like dreams come true." The 32-year-old actress got her big break in 'Orange is the New Black' and can remember how she knew it was an instant hit, even though she was isolated in a remote part of Utah. She must have been really popular."



recalled: "There was no internet or phone signal anywhere [apart from my cabin]. At the end of the day, I checked my Twitter and it was like, 'You have 5,000 new followers' I only had about 100 at that point. "I just thought a tweet I'd sent the day before

23-year-old singer will kick off his debut solo tour in the US and Canada before

Harry Styles is overwhelmed after his solo world tour tickets sold out



he 'Keeping Up With the Kardashians' star appeared to be on babysitting duties on Friday night as she cuddled up to the five month old - the daughter of her younger brother Rob Kardashian and his on/off partner Blac Chyna - and seemingly passed the time by messing around with the Snapchat dog filter. Taking to her Instagram account, the 32-year-old beauty uploaded a photograph of her and Dream with a button nose and ears belonging to pooches and wrote: "She's the most precious girl! Dreamy dream Auntie KoKo loves YOU! (sic)" Although it's not known for sure, the blonde beauty was no doubt taking care of the baby while Rob and Chyna - who split up two months ago spend some time together as the sock designer is determined not to "give up" on the curvaceous babe. A source said recently: "They are co-parenting and independently working on themselves but they're more cordial now than they have been, which is why they hung out recently. But by no means are they back together." Chyna, 28, has also recently moved into a new home as she wanted a bigger space and is now closer to her Lashed Salon. The insider added: "She's really excited about this house and she's been busy nesting." But Rob, 30, still gets to see his daughter on a weekly basis and is "always so happy" to spend time with her, especially as her personality is changing and developing every day. The source explained: "She's not quite rolling over yet but she is very giggly, laughing at everything and has a million new facial expressions. "She's starting to watch and absorb cartoons now. It's so cute."



e former One Direction star took to his Twitter account on Friday to express how grateful he is after all the tickets for his forthcoming gigs across the globe got snapped up by fans almost instantly and to reassure those who missed out that he will be back "next year" so they'll be able to see him during that tour. He wrote: "I am overwhelmed, thank you. If I don't get to see you this tour, I'll come back around next year if you'll have me. Love, H. (sic)" The

he'll jet to Europe, Asia and Australia and New Zealand for his gigs there. Harry's tour comes just days after he dropped his second single 'Sweet Creature' and, although his solo career is going from strength to strength, he's already been bombarded with criticism as some fans think the tune is too similar to The Beatles. Fans took to Twitter to point out the similarities between Harry's song and the band's 1968 smash hit 'Blackbird', which was penned by Sir Paul McCartney. Meanwhile, although all of the One Direction boys - who are currently on an extended hiatus - have released their own solo material, Niall Horan is adamant they'll eventually make more music together. He said recently: "It's been a year and a bit already. We don't want to put a time on it. But when that phone call does come, no matter whoever it comes from, we're back again. At the minute it's exactly where it was six months ago - we're doing our own thing. You know I'm going to probably end up touring [with his solo music], Harry will probably end up doing the same, probably Liam probably Louis, that's a year time adds up."

Jennifer Aniston can't understand Justin Theroux's craze for video games

he 45-year-old actor thinks it's hilarious when his wife comes into his office and sees him and his friends with their controllers in their hands shouting at the screen while little figurines get blown up because she's baffled by their child-like behavior. Speaking on 'The Late Late Show with James Corden', he said: "We play 'Call of Duty.' Me and Will [Arnett] and some very funny other people log on, and we play that game together and we kill each other. You know, girls go on girls' nights, and so you kind of got to pitch it like, 'Oh, by the way, the guys are getting together tonight,' and she's like, 'Oh cool, where are you going?' and I'm like, 'To my office." In my ear, we're all together and we're all having fun and we're murdering 11-year-olds. She comes to my office and looks in the door and kinda goes like, 'You're just sitting there laughing and howling and screaming.' She just sees blood

going across the screen and she doesn't understand that I'm actually having a bros night." Meanwhile, the screenwriter tied the knot with the 48-year-old actress in August 2015 and recently revealed that being married has made their relationship even better. He said recently: "Marriage makes the small things much smaller and the big things small. You have an ally. It's good to have someone have your back." And although Jennifer is happily settled in Los Angeles with his wife, he admitted that he was not a fan of the city when he was younger. He said: "LA is a terrible place to go as a young actor who's just got nothing. You're, like, tearing tickets for people to see the movie. You're not a part of anything. I got a really good piece of advice early on: Don't ever fly yourself to LA. Only go if you're invited and someone bought you a ticket. And I kind of stuck to that, and it worked."

Charlie Hunnam fakes excuses to return to the Sons of Anarchy set



he 37-year-old actor admitted it was very "emotional" for him to have to say goodbye to his biker alter ego Jackson Teller when the series drew to a close after seven seasons so kept prolonging the "personal process" of closing the door on that chapter of his life. He said: "It was actually quite emotional for me, living and loving that guy for eight years, to have finally put him to bed. "I found myself going back to set a lot. I knew the security guards and for a couple of days said, 'Oh I forgot something' so they'd let me onto the set, and I'd just walk around at night because I wanted to be in that environment and go through a personal process of saying goodbye. "After a couple of nights I didn't really need the alibi to get in, and then after a while I just said, 'OK, enough, this is done.'" While the 'King Arthur: Legend of the Sword' actor was born and raised in Newcastle, North East England, he admits he has "gone a bit Californian" in terms of looking after his diet and fitness since he moved to Los Angeles some time ago. He said: "Enormous emphasis is put on nutrition and healthy lifestyle there. "I never spent much time or energy thinking about nutrition and health when I was in the north of England." Over three years ago, Charlie had to pull out of playing Christian Grey in the 'Fifty Shades' franchise because of a schedule clash with 'Crimson Peak' but he insists he never thinks about where he might be in his career if he'd kept the role, which eventually went to Jamie Dornan.



Kris Jenner and Corey Gamble back together

he 61-year-old matriarch reportedly called time on her relationship with her toyboy lover earlier this year in order to focus on her famous family, but it seems she's had a dramatic change of heart recently as the pair appeared to be inseparable on the red carpet at the Race to Erase MS Gala in Los Angeles on Friday night. The couple appeared to be on cloud nine as they burst into a fit of giggles in front of the happy snappers after Corey, 36, whispered something in the brunette babe's ear. At one point, Corey - who was dressed in a black suit to coordinate with his lover - pulled the 'Keeping Up With the Kardashians' star into him and hugged her waist. The pair has been dating for two years but Kris seemingly got cold feet a few months ago when she told him she needs some space to focus on her show. A source said at the time: "Kris told Corey that she needed some space so that she could focus on her family and the show right now. "She said that she was getting sidetracked with this relationship and that she needed to put her family before her own needs and wants." The news came after it was revealed in the current season of 'Keeping Up With the

Kardashians' has attracted its lowest ratings ever and Kris - who started dating Corey in November 2014 after ending her marriage to Caitlyn Jenner - is said to be keen to get the show back on track. The source added: "Kris just really wants to focus on the show right now to ensure that her family stays on air. "A lot of people in her inner circle think that Corey was nothing but a rebound from Caitlyn anyway." Kris previously admitted she wasn't keen to get married to Corey, though wouldn't rule it out completely. She said: "You know I've done that twice and it didn't work out so well. So, I don't know. You never know. "I'm going to take a page out of Goldie [Hawn] and Kurt [Russell]'s book or Kourtney [Kardashian]'s book. I just think as long as things are going to well, why ruffle it up?" And the momager previously quipped she has "too much sex" with Corey and their physical relationship has left her exhausted. She said: "I literally have too much sex. I'm exhausted ... I've realised I don't want to get married, but I really have a lot of fun with Corey, and I love being with him. He said, 'I don't want kids. I love you, and I feel that way about you."

Leading soprano brings new life to lost Meyerbeer

n the first half of the 19th century, Giacomo Meyerbeer was perhaps the world's most successful opera composer, pioneering on-stage theatrics as he worked comfortably across European cultures. Meyerbeer's fame faded after his death in 1864. But as part of a revival, German soprano Diana Damrau has released a new album devoted entirely to arias, some obscure, by Meyerbeer. Damrau, whose bursting yet lush and agile coloratura voice has increasingly made her a top attraction at opera houses around the world, said that a Meyerbeer album had long been a career goal.

"This idea was a dream," said the 45-year-old, whose nonchalant smile and giggly laugh belie the grim stock image of a diva. "Meyerbeer: Grand Opera," her album which came out on Friday, runs from selections from the composer's best-known operas, "Les Huguenots" and "Robert le diable," to two arias that have never before been recorded.

She also sings from Meyerbeer's "Dinorah" which she said had served as an introduction to coloratura, the vocal art characterized by quick-paced high notes, trills and other ornamentations.

"I don't come from a musical background and I didn't grow up in the opera house like some of my colleagues did. What you hear when you search for a coloratura soprano repertoire is naturally 'Dinorah," she told AFP in New York, where she is taking part in



German soprano Diana Damrau poses for pictures during an interview with AFP at the Warner Music headquarters in New York City. — AFP

a gala Sunday to mark the Metropolitan Opera's 50 years at Lincoln Center.

An innovator, then shunned

More than most composers, Meyerbeer, a German Jew, felt at ease in multiple languages. His most celebrated operas were in French but he also wrote in German and Italian and brought in Orientalist motifs that were then fashionable in Europe. He was instrumental in creating the modern concept of a grand opera, with professional librettos and elaborate productions to enhance the drama, including-at the 1849 premiere of "Le Prophete" at the Paris Opera-the first use on stage of electric lighting.

Amid his success, he was viciously attacked by Richard Wagner, whose grandiose style would be embraced by the Third Reich. Wagner, who had earlier enjoyed support from Meyerbeer, denounced him in the anti-Semitic essay "Judaism in Music" as uncreative and cravenly following popular taste. The Nazi effort to purge Jewish cultural influences took a toll on Meyerbeer's legacy but he has found a new audience in recent years.

The Deutsche Oper Berlin is producing Meyerbeer's operas as a cycle-calling him the capital's "greatest ever composer"-and the Royal Opera House in London in 2012 staged "Robert le diable" for the first time in more than a century. Beyond anti-Semitism, Meyerbeer's work faces impedimentshis operas generally require sprawling casts and are strikingly long for 21st-century attention spans, with the recent Berlin production of "Les Huguenots" running five hours.

An earlier pan-European

While hesitating to draw connections to the present day, Damrau noted that Meyerbeer showed a fluency in three languages and cultures long before the era of European integration. "On one CD, it sounds like there are three composers, but there is only one," Damrau said. "And that in a time when traveling, connections, multimedia, social media, all of this did not exist in the way it does now. How difficult it was, and how unthinkable for so many of his contemporaries."

Damrau herself shows comfort singing in multiple languages. She is married to a French opera singer, Nicolas Teste. The wife-husband duo recently completed a tour of South America, a trip Damrau described as "amazing" as she sensed a hunger in the region for opera. Damrau had performed nearly constantly for 15 years, during which she had two children, until 2015 when doctors told her to stay silent for six weeks. "Sometimes one concert or more can be too much. The body says, maybe you should give me a little rest," she said. "You can never plan it. You have visions, but the reality is always different." — AFP



In this file photo, Adam Devine arrives at the Guys Choice Awards at Sony Pictures Studios in Culver City, California. — AP

MTV celebrates summer viewing season with Movie & TV Awards

TV is heralding the start of summer viewing season with its Movie & TV Awards. Formerly known as the MTV Movie Awards, TV shows are newly eligible for Golden Popcorn trophies at this year's ceremony, which broadcasted live yesterday from the Shrine Auditorium in Los Angeles. MTV is also breaking down gender barriers in its new format, with men and women competing together in the acting categories.

The show is keeping up its traditional irreverence, though, with awards recognizing the best hero, villain, kiss and duo across television and film. Several new categories were added this year: Best American Story,

for the program or film that "showcases America at its best"; Best Fight against the System, which celebrates underdog efforts and social justice; top trending moment; and best musical moment.

The horror hit "Get Out" leads all nominees with six bids, including movie of the year. "Beauty and the Beast" and the Netflix series "Stranger Things" have four nominations each. The cast of the "Fast and Furious" franchise will receive the Generation Award, which Vin Diesel is set to accept. Hosted by actor Adam Devine, the MTV Movie & TV Awards will also feature sneak peeks of anticipated films including "Transformers: The Last Knight" and "Spider-Man: Homecoming."—AP



In this file photo, Conrad Hilton, left, Kathy Hilton, center, and Rick Hilton arrive at the launch party of new MTV series 'Paris Hilton's My New BFF' in Los Angeles. — AP

Conrad Hilton arrested for alleged car theft in LA

Paris Hilton's younger brother, Conrad Hilton, has been arrested in Los Angeles for allegedly stealing a car and violating an ex-girlfriend's restraining order. Police say the 23-year-old Hilton Hotel heir was arrested shortly before 5 am Saturday at a home in the

Hollywood Hills. He allegedly was in a Bentley owned by his ex-girlfriend's father.

Hilton was booked for grand theft auto and violating a restraining order and jailed on \$60,000 bail. It wasn't immediately clear whether he had obtained a lawyer. Hilton has had a series

of run-ins with the law. He was arrested two years ago inside his ex-girlfriend's home. He also received probation for threatening British Airways flight attendants. Last year, he spent two months in jail for violating that probation by using cocaine and other drugs. — AP

Barbra Streisand ponders 'what might have been' with Clinton

Barbra Streisand usually talks to her audience, but Saturday night she had a special message for two guests: Bill and Hillary Clinton. Streisand gave former president and former Democratic presidential candidate much more than a shout out at her concert at the Barclays Center in Brooklyn, New York, her hometown. She noted that she performed at President Clinton's inauguration and then went on to list his accomplishments, including lowering taxes for some and raising taxes on the rich.

"And speaking of taxes, he showed us his tax returns," she said, a dig at Republican President Donald Trump, who has refused to release his. She also introduced Hillary Clinton as "the winner of our country's popular vote." She later talked about hearing a recent interview by Hillary Clinton and said it "makes us yearn for what could have been, what should have been. I was thrilled to hear yourself describe yourself as an activist citizen and part of the resistance." Taking another shot at Trump and his tweeting habits, she quipped: "Usually when a man that age is up at 4 am, he forgot to take his Flomax," referring to a medication to treat the prostate.

Despite the Trump barbs, she called for a bridging of the political divide before breaking into "Happy Days Are Here Again."



In this file photo, honoree Barbra Streisand attends the Film Society of Lincoln Center's 40th Annual Chaplin Award Gala in New York. — AP

Streisand had been a longtime Democratic fundraiser and supporter, and friend of the Clintons. Streisand, who recently turned 75, was doing two dates in the New York City area, calling it a mini-tour. She hinted it could be her last. When the audience moaned, she shrugged her shoulders and said, "You know other things to do." — AP

Miley Cyrus takes to Instagram to clarify hip-hop, rap remarks

iley Cyrus says she respects and appreciates all genres of music, but is gravitating now to "more uplifting, conscious rap," with an eye to giving the younger generation a more positive message with her own music. The pop star took to Instagram over the weekend to clarify remarks in a recent interview that some have seen as denigrating hip-hop music and rap lyrics.

"So, to be clear I respect ALL artists who speak their truth and appreciate ALL genres of music," Cyrus wrote Friday. "I have always and will continue to love and celebrate hip hop as I've collaborated with some of the very best!" But, she added, "At this point in my life I am expanding personally/musically and gravitating more towards uplifting, conscious rap!"

In a Billboard magazine interview published online Wednesday, Cyrus gave a generic example of sexually explicit lyrics about women, and said that such lyrics "pushed me out of the hiphop scene a little." On Instagram, Cyrus added that as she gets older, she understands the

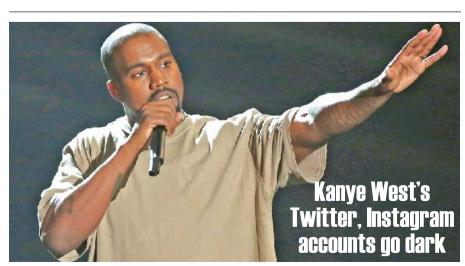


effect music has on the world. "I feel the younger generation needs to hear positive powerful lyrics!" she wrote.

Cyrus also told Billboard that she hadn't smoked marijuana in three weeks - the longest she's ever gone without it. The 24-year-old former Disney star also said she had been surprised by the reaction to her much-discussed twerking performance at the MTV Music Video Awards in 2013, alongside Robin Thicke. Cyrus is promoting an upcoming album. Its lead single, "Malibu," is set to be released Thursday. She said her new music is unlike anything she has recorded before.—AP

In this file photo, Miley Cyrus talks with students while campaigning for Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton at George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia. — AP





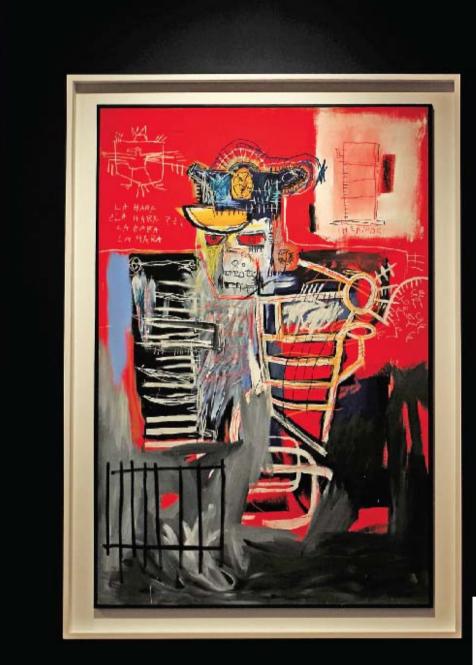
Anye West has apparently deleted his Twitter and Instagram accounts. Both accounts went dark sometime Friday, for unknown reasons. A representative for the rapper did not immediately respond to an email asking for comment Saturday. West did not attend the Met Gala on Monday evening. His wife, Kim Kardashian West, was there with her sisters, and said her husband was at home. She said he'd been "taking some time off and really loving that." In November, West was admitted to UCLA Medical Center in Los Angeles for sleep deprivation and exhaustion, later canceling his Saint Pablo tour. The next month, the rapper made a highly publicized visit to then President-elect Donald Trump at Trump Tower. He explained the visit in a series of tweets but later deleted them. — AP

A young fan dressed as a jawa waits to deliver the game ball while standing in front of a row of stormtroopers characters from the Star Warstfilmtfranchise before a game between the Los Angeles Angels and the Seattle Mariners at Safeco Field in Seattle, Washington. — AFP

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MONDAY, MAY 8, 2017



A man looks at Cy Twombly's 'Leda and the Swan' during Christie's press preview of the 20th Century Week, in New York. — AFP photos



A journalist looks at 'Buste de Diego,' by Alberto Giacometti.

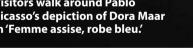


Cy Twombly's 'Leda and the Swan.'











Germaine Richier's 'Don Quichotte' is displayed during a media preview at Sotheby's In New York.





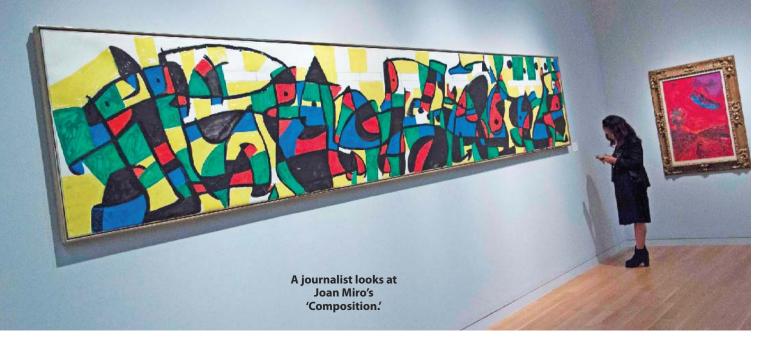


Journalists and Sotheby's officials talk in the background of Tom Wesselmann's 'Smoker #21.'



A Sotheby's official speaks about an untitled painting by Jean-Michel Basquiat.





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LIFESTYLE FASHION

MONDAY, MAY 8, 2017



Blake Lively wore 200 carats of jewelry to this year's Met Gala

he 29-year-old actress turned heads at the star-studded bash in New York on Monday as she adorned a gold, embellished Versace gown with a blue feathered train, which she paired with 130 carats of Lorraine Schwartz sapphire accessories, including an 82 carat pair of Burma earrings and a 50-carat triple sapphire ring, all of which are believed to be worth over \$3.5 million, as well as a 50-carat diamond ring. The American jeweler shared the details of the former 'Gossip Girls' attire on her Instagram account.

Alongside a picture of the golden-haired beauty and her 40-year-old husband at the red carpet bash, it read: "I mean how perfect can you get?!!! Super hot couple #blakelively and #ryanreynolds at the 2017 #metball in #versace My girl blake rockin 130 carats #lorraineschwarz and #ofirajewelz #sapphires and 48 carat #lorraineschwartzjewelry #diamondrings wow#family #lovethem (sic)."

Although Blake - who has daughters James, two, and seven-month-old Ines - wore a floor length dress with a train, she has previously admitted she always questions herself why she chooses to wear ensembles with the extended piece when she struggles walking up stairs. Speaking previously, she said: "I love a train but then when I get on these stairs, I'm like, 'Why am I wearing a train?"

Meanwhile, Blake has been credited as having "amazing hair and style" by fashion designer Michael Kors. Speaking previously, the creative mastermind said: "Blake and I have been friends for a long time and she always makes me laugh. "Her sense of humor and sunny disposition are infectious. I think the video will make people everywhere smile. "She brings charm and optimism, not to mention amazing hair and style, to everything she does."

Olivier Rousteing





Models present creation by Georgian designer Lako **Bukia during a Fashion Week in** Tbilisi, Georgia.

Mercedes-Benz FashionWeek





is set to design a lipstick line



he 31-year-old fashion designer, who is the creative director of the French fashion house Balmain, is set to collaborate with L'Oreal Paris on the brands Color Riche lipstick line, which is set to launch in September this year. According to Vogue.co.uk, the latest project will see the creative mastermind create 12 new shades of the make-up item under his designer label and in partnership with the beauty empire, which will be divided into three different color palettes. And the entrepreneur - who boats an extensive celebrity

clientele including Kim Kardashian West, Kylie Jenner, as well as Bella and Gigi Hadid - is "thrilled" about his latest venture, which he hopes will "empower" women across the globe. He told Vogue.co.uk: "L'Oreal Paris and Balmain share the same strong vision of femininity and the same goal, to empower women and offer them diverse ways to express themselves.

He added: "With this collaboration, I'm thrilled to make this idea tangible for every woman around the world." And it has been reported the mogul - who has previously joined forces with the high street brand H&M on a fashion range in 2015 - will be on board in every aspect of the project from creating the packaging, the products as well as discussing the ideas for the advertising campaign. L'Oreal Paris is excited to partner with

Olivier because they love his "vision of a new Parisian beauty". The brand's global brand president, Pierre-Emmanuel Angeloglou, said: "L'Oreal Paris loves this vision of a new Parisian beauty developed by Olivier Rousteing. This collaboration builds on the partnership between L'Oreal Paris and Paris Fashion Week, which seeks to democratise runway beauty for everyone. "Olivier Rousteing and his Balmain Paris team have proved exceptional partners in making this idea a reality. Accessible beauty and high fashion now have a symbolic meeting point: this new Colour Riche limited collection with Balmain Paris."



Models present creation by Georgian designer Avtandil during a Fashion Week in Tbilisi, Georgia. — AP/AFP photos









Members of the group, Ballet Folklorico Orgullo de mi Tierra, perform at the Mariachi Loco Music Festival in El Paso, Texas for the Cinco de Mayo celebration. — AFP

Fancy a noodle burger? East meets West in Indonesian fusion food

rom a restaurant serving burgers and pizzas made with local noodles to a social media star giving street food a touch of haute cuisine, a new wave of innovative chefs are putting a modern twist on Indonesia's traditional fare. New eateries have sprung up rapidly in recent years in the capital Jakarta offering a wide array of foreign foods to cater to a growing consumer class which has emerged after a long economic boom.



This picture show a burger made from noodles at a restaurant in Jakarta.

But rather than focus entirely on cuisine from overseas, some chefs decided to fuse the new influences with age-old Indonesian foods. One eatery offering fusion food is "Mammamie", whose name is a playful take on an Italian expression of shock combined with the local word for noodles, "mie". It uses the country's favorite instant noodles, Indomie-cheap blocks of fodder in colorful packaging that are sold at almost every grocery store and supermarket-to make Western dishes.

Among the most popular are the "mizza", a pizza whose base is made out of noo-



This picture shows pizza made from noodles at a restaurant in Jakarta.

dles, and a "merger", a burger which has buns fashioned from Indomie. It also serves burrito, quesadillas and sushi dishes made with the noodles. Cafe owner Muhammad Luqman Baehaqi said he was trying to appeal to young Indonesians who were keen to try Western foods but still enjoyed Indomie.

"There isn't a single Indonesian person that doesn't know Indomie," the 39-year-old said. "It's tasty and familiar to all of us." The small cafe can seat about 20 people on chairs designed to look like Indomie packing cases and has a distinctly hipster vibe, with young office workers enjoying dishes that cost the equivalent of about two to four dollars under an image of late Apple founder Steve Jobs.

Gourmet street food

While the "Mammamie" cafe uses Indonesian ingredients to spice up Western dishes, Jakarta chef Dede Akbar is taking local dishes as his starting point, and seeking to make them classier. In his brightlydecorated kitchen, the 34-year-old carefully placed two blocks of tempe-a traditional soybean patty-onto a plate. He blowtorched a hard-boiled egg and added small flowers as a garnish before artistically dripping sauce across the dish.

Satisfied with his creation, he took out a camera and snapped pictures from various angles, before uploading them to Instagram. It was his popular Instagram account "Warteg Gourmet", which currently has about 40,000 followers that catapulted him to fame. Wartegs are modest stalls or kiosks selling cheap food, often cramped spaces on street corners where blue-color workers stop for a bite and to smoke a cigarette.

But rather than drab dishes for people



This picture shows Indonesian food stylist Dade Akbar displaying some of his food in Jakarta. — AFP photos

earning low incomes, Akbar said he celebrates warteg food as it has "different textures and a wide range of colors that we can play with". Akbar was inspired to make hautecuisine, warteg-style food after becoming annoyed at the careless presentation of dishes at the traditional streetside eateries.

What started off as a hobby became an obsession, and eventually Akbar found he was receiving so many invites to be a "food stylist" at events that he quit his day job as an advertising agency art director to become a full-time chef. He hopes his efforts can help raise the profile of humble Indonesian street food, which is not as wellknown as local cuisine from other parts of Asia, such as Thailand.

"I want to make Indonesian food more appreciated by Indonesians in general and recognized internationally," he said. — AFP



This picture shows Indonesian food stylist Dade Akbar preparing food at his kitchen in Jakarta.