

Backpacks campaign for stateless students



Mass exodus as hurricane eyes Florida, batters Cuba



3,500-year-old tomb discovered in Egypt



Mane off as five-star Man City crush Liverpool



KUWAIT AND US UNITE AGAINST TERROR, RENEW COMMITMENTS

AGREEMENT REACHED TO BOOST KUWAIT ARMED FORCES

Min 31°
Max 46°
High Tide 02:03 & 14:27
Low Tide 08:27 & 20:53



KUWAIT: Kuwaitis write remarks on a banner bearing the image of their Amir HH Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, at the Avenues Mall in Kuwait City yesterday, on the third anniversary of the United Nations honoring him as a humanitarian leader. (See Page 2) — Photo by Yasser Al-Zayyat

WASHINGTON: US and Kuwait yesterday renewed their commitments to promoting stability and security during the second round of their annual Strategic Dialogue. The meeting was co-chaired by US Secretary of State Rex W Tillerson and Kuwaiti First Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Sabah. In a joint statement, the two sides discussed specific areas of cooperation and charted a roadmap for the bilateral relations for the coming year.

Top US and Kuwaiti officials renewed partnership agreements on defense, security, trade, investment, education, consular, customs, and border protection issues. In particular, both sides recommitted to promoting stability and security in the Gulf region and the broader Middle East, including targeting ISIS and other violent extremists, according to the statement released by the State department.

The United States and Kuwait headed political talks on several topics including tensions between Qatar and GCC nations, with Tillerson expressing gratitude to Kuwait's efforts to ease escalating tensions between Qatar and other GCC countries. "Our two countries share the view of the importance of GCC unity in addressing the region's many challenges," said the Secretary of State. Tillerson praised Kuwait's extensive humanitarian efforts in some of the world's most troubled areas and its direct assistance to the internally-displaced and refugees in the region.

He expressed US appreciation for Kuwait's offer to host a donors' conference for Iraqi reconstruction in 2018. US and Kuwait agreed to work closely on defense cooperation in the meeting. An agreement was reached to enhance the defensive capabilities of Armed Forces of Kuwait. The US agreed to help expedite the acquisition of US military equipment, including the sale of its F/A-18 Super Hornet, a supersonic combat jet, to Kuwait's Air Force.

"United States and Kuwait share the responsibilities of cooperation on defense and the joint fight against terrorism. "As an enduring symbol of our commitment to carry the partnership into a secure future, we agreed today on the priority of moving forward with modernizing the military facilities in Kuwait, guided by our Joint Military Commission," according to the statement. "In the face of the global terrorism threat, Kuwait and the US agreed to coordinate security efforts, including boosting bilateral information sharing like biometric information, to deter terrorist attacks.

Continued on Page 11



LONDON: A Pro-EU demonstrator holds up a placard on a march through central London during the People's March for Europe yesterday. The pro-EU march is calling on politicians to 'unite, rethink and reject Brexit'. — AFP

TRUMP HAILS KUWAIT MEDIATION EFFORTS

QATAR RULER PHONES SAUDI CROWN PRINCE; ARAB STATES REACT

WASHINGTON: President Donald Trump has hailed efforts by the leader of Kuwait, a staunch American ally, to mediate a festering diplomatic crisis involving Qatar and its Arab neighbors that could have implications for the US military presence in the region. However, the quartet of Arab nations now boycotting Doha issued a strongly worded statement early Friday morning dismissing some of HH Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah's comments, signaling the diplomatic crisis roiling the Gulf is far from over.

At a White House news conference with Kuwait leader, Trump said he appreciated the Amir's thus-far unsuccessful bid to end the dispute between Qatar and Saudi Arabia, the

United Arab Emirates, Bahrain and Egypt. He applauded Kuwait's "critical contributions to regional stability" but also repeated an offer to mediate himself, particularly between Qatar and Saudi Arabia and the UAE. He suggested a deal would be "worked out very quickly" if he became personally involved.

Trump said all the countries involved - members of the Gulf Cooperation Council - are "essential partners" with the United States in efforts to crack down on extremism, including the fight against Islamic State group. "We will be most successful with a united GCC," he said. "We will send a strong message to both terrorist organizations and regional aggressors that they cannot win." His

comments came after he sent conflicting signals about where he stands on the dispute.

Trump initially appeared to side with Saudi Arabia, but then instructed Secretary of State Rex Tillerson to support the Kuwaiti mediation effort. Still, the dispute has dragged on for more than three months, even after Tillerson shuttled between the parties in July and dispatched two other US envoys to bolster the 88-year-old Kuwaiti Amir's initiative. The crisis erupted June 5 when Bahrain, Egypt, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates all cut ties to Doha over allegations Qatar funds extremists and has ties that are too warm with Iran.

Continued on Page 11

GOVERNMENT URGED TO 'RETHINK, REJECT BREXIT'

LONDON: Thousands of people marched through central London yesterday calling on the government to "rethink and reject Brexit". A stream of protesters poured through Trafalgar Square and stopped to boo outside Prime Minister Theresa May's Downing Street office before congregating at a rally outside parliament. The self-styled People's March for Europe comes ahead of a key vote in the House of Commons on Monday night.

"Help! We're trapped on a small island that's been taken over by mad people!" read one sign held aloft above a sea of blue EU flags. "Take back control from these clowns," demanded a banner featuring photos of senior ministers, while another referenced the divorce negotiations, saying: "This best deal is the deal we've got!" "There's no good reason for leaving the EU-it's all bad," said Beverley Townsend, a 55-year-old from eastern England, holding up a sign calling for an "exit from Brexit".

She and her husband Dave, both

draped in EU flags, said they had been life-long supporters of May's Conservative party but switched to the pro-European Liberal Democrats. "I don't believe May listens to anyone, but we've got to do what we can to make the point that this will severely harm our country," Townsend said. Dr John Wale, who works at Warwick University in central England, brought along his two sons aged 16 and 12, both of them holding up EU flags.

"It's all so negative. Why would you throw away something that is so beneficial to appease the will of a few fanatics?" he said, adding: "The problem is there are more than a few." Louisa Paches, a 39-year-old Spaniard wearing a beret in the design with the EU flag, said she had lived in Britain for 13 years but was now thinking of leaving. "I don't feel welcome here," she said, standing with her French partner and two young children, both of whom have British passports. MPs will on Monday hold their first vote on a crucial piece of legislation intended to smooth Britain's departure from the European Union. — AFP

HIJAB, ABAYA DAZZLE NY RUNWAY

NEW YORK: The hijab and abaya dazzled center stage on the New York runway as up-and-coming Indonesian designers kicked off an increasingly diverse fashion week, hoping to change prejudices in the West. "We're not oppressed and we just want to show the world that we still can be beautiful, stylish with our hijab on," said designer Dian Pelangi, 26, who has 4.8 million followers on Instagram.

She was one of five Indonesian luxury ready-to-wear designers, joined by an accessories designer, who presented collections at the show "Indonesian Diversity" - held opposite a special needs school in Chelsea on the first day of fashion week. Two of the five fell into the category "modest fashion" - in this instance designed specifically for the affluent, modern, religiously observant Muslim woman - and featured models all of whom covered their hair Islamic style.

Pelangi was one, Vivi Zubedi, 30, the other. Making her New York fashion week debut, Zubedi felt moved to come partly because of Donald Trump, who has sought to restrict immigration from certain Muslim majority countries. "Mr president, I love your country and also I love your people, and we will not (do) anything to you or your people. We are all the same, it's about humanity," the Jakarta-based designer said, overcome with emotion.

Continued on Page 11



NEW YORK: A model wearing a hijab walks the runway during the Indonesian Diversity show at New York Fashion Week. — AFP

Photo

of the day



KUWAIT: A couple enjoying the golden sunset at the Scientific Center's walking tracks. — KUNA

ARAB AUTHORITIES CONGRATULATE AMIR ON UN PROCLAMATION ANNIVERSARY

KUWAIT: Arab authorities have expressed congratulations to the State of Kuwait on the third anniversary of the UN proclamation of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah as Humanitarian Leader and its naming of the State of Kuwait as Humanitarian Center. Ramadan Tanboura, head of the Palestinian Al-Falah Charity, said in a statement that the UN honoring of His Highness the Amir is an international accomplishment by Kuwait and is a testimony to Kuwait's civilization.

He praised Kuwait's charitable aid to the Palestinian people, noting its accomplishments at the educational, health, cultural, social, sports and development levels. Identical sentiments were expressed by Adel Al-Sagr, General Director of the Arab Organization for Industrial Development and Mining, who said in remarks to KUNA that the UN honoring of His Highness the Amir is an international recognition of his efforts for boosting solidarity among nations and humanitarian work. He noted the imminent role by the State of Kuwait for promoting humanitarian action and coordinating initiatives for alleviating plight of nations at wars or those suffering from poverty. —KUNA



NEW YORK: UN honoring of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah as a "Humanitarian Leader" and Kuwait as a "Humanitarian Center." —KUNA photos



OIC OFFICIAL PRAISES KUWAIT'S HUMANITARIAN CONTRIBUTIONS

DOHA: A senior official in the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) has commended Kuwait's "exceptional" humanitarian contributions, as well as the "distinguished" humanitarian record of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah at Arab and international levels.

Sheikh Dr Abdulaziz Al-Thani, Chairman of Board of Trustees of OIC's Humanitarian Funds, said Kuwait has emerged as one of the world's biggest humanitarian contributors. Al-Thani, speaking on occasion of the 3rd anniversary of the UN's naming of His Highness the Amir a Humanitarian

Leader, told KUNA in an interview that Kuwait earned the Humanitarian Center title. He attributed this to His Highness the Amir's relentless endeavors to helping the people in need around the globe.

"His Highness the Amir of Kuwait planted in the hearts of the Kuwaiti people the spirit of social responsibility towards people suffering from crises," he said. The UN title, he added, reaffirmed Kuwait's leading humanitarian and philanthropic role at different levels. Kuwait, said Al-Thani, has extended its hands to all needy around the world, eager to help the people cope with the harsh liv-

ing conditions and contribute to their development by, for example, eradication of illiteracy.

Al-Thani said the humanitarian action played a great role in the development of societies, and help them address ramifications of crises. He commended efforts of Dr Abdullah Al-Maatouq, President of Kuwait-based International Islamic Charitable Organization (IICO), during his tenure as UN Secretary General Special Humanitarian Envoy. Al-Maatouq, also Amiri Diwan Advisor, was honored by the OIC's Humanitarian Funds at the end of his tenure. — KUNA

ICCO LAUNCHES CAMPAIGN MARKING THE AMIR'S HONORING ANNIVERSARY

KUWAIT: The International Islamic Charitable Organization (ICCO) is launching a campaign themed, "eyalak yehanounank (your children congratulate you)," today to express felicitations to His Highness the Amir on his UN honoring as Humanitarian Leader. The ICCO will launch the campaign online, in appreciation for His Highness the Amir humanitarian initiatives, said the ICCO Chairman and Amiri Diwan Advisor Dr Abdullah Al-Maatouq in a statement to KUNA.

The campaign theme alludes to Sheikh Sabah's fatherly leadership of the Kuwaiti people. Al-Maatouq told KUNA that the initiative, to be launched in coordination with patriotic young Kuwaitis, aims at presenting His Highness as an exemplary leader in relieving impoverished and stricken nations worldwide.

The ICCO has formed a special team to run the campaign and receive messages. UN designation of His Highness the Amir, third

anniversary of which fell yesterday, was intended to honor him for his great efforts to relieve stricken nations and mark Kuwait's hosting of international charitable conventions. His Highness the Amir had masterminded relief efforts for the Syrian refugees, victims of quakes in Pakistan, Turkey, in addition to victims of hunger and desertification in Somalia and other African nations.

Qatari Amir lauds Amir

Qatari Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani appreciated the generous efforts being made by His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah to settle the Gulf crisis. During a phone conversation with US President Donald Trump, initiated by the latter, on Thursday night, the Qatari Amir reviewed the latest developments of the Gulf crisis and the efforts of His Highness the Amir of sisterly Kuwait to settle it through dialogue. He also lauded US President Trump's stance



ICCO Chairman and Amiri Diwan Advisor Dr Abdullah Al-Maatouq

on the need to settle the dispute through constructive dialogue in order to maintain the security, stability and unity of the Gulf states, Qatar News Agency reported. On his part, US President Trump briefed the Qatari Amir on the outcomes of his talks with His Highness the Amir in Washington. The two sides also discussed the Qatari-US strategic partnership in all areas, according to the report. — KUNA

KUWAIT CONTRIBUTES TO AIDING SYRIAN REFUGEES

BEIRUT: As Essam, a Syrian refugee, was waiting for his brother Mohammad to leave the operation theater, where doctors were treating a hearing impairment, he was next to do the same procedure. Haneen, their sister, underwent the same surgery and she was sitting next to her parents waiting for her brothers to finish. The trio, from the Syrian city of Aleppo, were just an example of the tragic living and health conditions of the Syrian families plagued by the conflict in their country. Mohammad, 11, Essam, eight, and 13-year-old Haneen Abdulmajeed are all suffering from hearing impairments. They live with their family in a refugee camp in Jeyyeh, a coastal area south of Beirut.

The seven-member family travelled from Aleppo to Lebanon in 2013. Their father, Abdullateef Abdulmajeed, worked as a farmer to feed his family only to discover that three of his kids suffered from hearing impairment. Abdullateef explained to workers of the UN refugee agency (UNHCR), during a routine visit to the camp, the gravity of the hearing impairment problem and that he was unable to treat it. UNHCR deals with emergency and life-threatening conditions, said Alan Ghagri, one of the workers.

However, the hearing impairment of the three Syrian children "fall within the humanitarian cases which are not life-threatening," he told KUNA, which prompted UNHCR to reach out to Kuwait Red Crescent Society (KRCS) to

explore a possible solution. Dana Snow, director of the health program at Makhzoumi institute, who oversaw the treatment of the three children, said UNHCR contacted KRCS and the latter paid for their treatment, including the operation.

Speaking to KUNA, Snow said Makhzoumi was assigned to follow up the treatment journey of the Syrian refugees. It was a long and agonizing waiting period before Mohammad and Essam left the operation theater, feeling reborn with the gift of Allah successfully restored. Abdullateef, who thanked Kuwait and KRCS for their help, said Mohammad and Essam suffered from complete hearing impairment and needed a cochlear implant, while Haneen needed to install a device to help her hear.

"I can't describe how happy I am. I can't pay the cost of an operation for one son, imagine three," he said. Mohammad, Essam and Haneen feel

they born again. They were enrolled in a special school to learn how to speak well and thus feel normal as the other kids. Dr Musaed Al-Enezi, head of KRCS's mission in Lebanon, said humanitarian cases were "a real agony for the refugee families who work hard to provide the basic needs." He told KUNA operations and treatment cost a hefty sum of money, and the parents could not afford them, hence KRCS contributed to help. The family of Abdulmajeed require big assistance from humanitarian organizations, he noted.

KRCS has been offering assistance for the Syrian refugees since the eruption of the Syrian conflict in March 2011, whether food, clothes and heaters, said Al-Enezi, who also noted that the society intervened to address critical cases. KRCS, he said, offered aid to carry out surgeries to patients suffering from kidney problems, burns or in need of artificial limbs. — KUNA



LEADERS GROUP MONTHLY REPORT

KUWAIT STILL OUT OF GCC COMPETITION FOR UNKNOWN TRANSPARENT REASONS

HIGH COST FOR DELAY IN TOURISTIC PROJECTS FOR OVER 10 YEARS

KUWAIT: Leaders Group for Consulting and Development, the representative of the World Tourism Organization in Kuwait, issued its monthly report on recent development in the tourism sector in Kuwait. Leaders Group General Manager, Mrs Nabila M Al-Anjari, pointed towards some variables in touristic and recreational projects and services amongst GCC states, which was clear in the official data and news announced by some brotherly states in view of tension between them.



Nabilah Al-Anjari

Meanwhile, some analysis was made about contradiction and similarities between projects and policies (both economic and developmental) adapted in those countries call for concern as this will have a negative impact on the performance of regional mega projects and investments as a whole. The report added that because of such speculations, Leaders Group studies the section tackling the most important traits and characteristics of Kuwait tourism and hospitality industry and whether it's safe from the negative impacts of any similarity or contradiction in GCC projects or economic and touristic plans.

Contrarily, the report emphasizes that Kuwait was still lagging behind compared to GCC sister states in terms of taking care of tourism and stressed that this calls for immediate action. The report sums up the political and executive measures needed to undo this noting that special governmental political decisions were urgently needed. The report also noted that projects and decisions of touristic nature had been delayed for over a decade for unknown, unjustified and unclear reasons at a time when

ment projects and the projects related to the national tourism development plan.

2- Projects that Kuwait has not yet considered despite the huge opportunities they provide such as tourism, regional marine sports or transit tourism.

3- Projects which will provide Kuwait with enough touristic marketing and coordination.

Cost of delay, reward of achievement

The current phase requires that decision-makers and those really interested in tourism, diversifying income sources and financial and economic reform immediately opt to the means of making the best use of the above projects. The sooner those projects are executed, operated and marketed, the more revenues they will make for Kuwait while delay will only increase the losses making all investments and efforts go in vain. It also leads to outdated and consuming idea even before they appear. Potential losses also involve the state's reputation and the credibility of its promises, which is wasteful if not more.

Achievement or delay involve executing projects, setting an independent touristic organizational structure to coordinate with the private sector in addition to setting constant marketing and development plans and strategies. The same applies for the hotels sector, which is the most outstanding edifice in hospitality industry in Kuwait so far. It needs national assistant as Kuwait has the lowest hotel occupancy rates amongst GCC states though it increased from 7326 rooms in 2015 to 9352 in 2017.

Table 2 shows new projects' details and nature and they all appear far from similarity or duplication compared to those in other GCC states because they primarily address national needs. They all contribute to GCC integration in terms of tourism, recreation and heritage, which can be clearly detected through artistic, cultural and recreational centers. The same applies for substantial sports projects such as the Olympic Village and Car Race Tracks. As far as projects such as the railway are concerned, they serve so many local touristic and transport goals but still are the result of decisions on linking GCC states together.

One cannot say that the Failaka and other islands development projects contradict with similar GCC ones because the ideas started 15 years ago including qualifying bidders. It was mismanagement and hesitation in decision-making that led to all this depressing delay. Nonetheless, it still represents a local urge to meet the increasing demand on marine resorts and chalets, not to mention the island's national, archeological

and historic value.

All the above proves that Kuwait's touristic performance calls for exceptional care in the form of executing related projects in a more systematic and organized manner or improving its performance to diversify sources of income, economic activities and encourage the pri-

private sector as well as other elements mentioned in the economic and financial reform chart that ought to have included the national strategic tourism plan set in 2004 and updated in 2013 that seems to have joined a long list of delayed, postponed or sluggishly executed touristic projects and plans.

Table 2
Table prepared by Leaders Group's Research department based on official announcements about Kuwait's new and planned touristic projects

Project	Executer	Location	Dates	Project Details
The Scientific, Cultural and recreational Center at Abdullah Al-Ahmed Street.	K. Municipality Project is due to be offered for investors' bidding by PPP Authority	Down Town Kuwait City- Abdullah Al-Ahmed str.	Scheduled to be concluded in 2017	Complete edifice including museums, theatres, halls for conferences and exhibitions, a restaurant and cafes.
Abdullah Al-Salem Cultural Center	Amiri Dwan (via: Al-Ghanem International Co. for General Trading and Contracting	Al-Shaah Al-bahri	Idea developed 11 years ago and commenced a while earlier to be concluded in May 2017	Total area 130,000 s. meters. Includes 8 buildings with 6 of them for museums such as natural history, space sciences, formative arts, theatre, ceremonial hall and parking of 1200 vehicles
Car racing Track	Amiri Dwan	Araifjan-South of Kuwait	Offered for execution last year/ divided into three phases	Includes 7 rinks for all type of vehicles, an academy to teach fast driving, commercial mall and a hotel with tot. cost of KD 50 million
The Olympic Village	Public Authority for Housing Welfare	Jabber Al-Ahmed City	Design was announced in 2010/ Tender expected to be offered for bidding in 2017	Total area of 213,000 s. meters. Cost KD 306 million. Includes stadium, a complex and hotel
Railway Project	MOC MPW	Kuwait- Airport- Ports- Wafra- GCC states	Was supposed to be offered for bidding in 2014. Gradually referred and was supposed to be concluded in 2018	Links the capital to Kuwait airport, the ports and other GCC states with total length of 511 k.m.
Failaka Island	Municipality, MPW, Silk City & Bouhyan Island Development Project. The Supreme Planning & Development Council's Secretariat General, PPP Authority	Covers 20 kilometer of Kuwait city coast. Covers 43,0000 kilometer area with a 38 kilometer long coastline	Project postponed several times after qualifying companies. Subjected to various studies. Municipality was recently asked to prepare comprehensive related study	Full design of the island taking into consideration its being the most important Kuwaiti island and due care will be given to archeological, cultural and touristic sites on it.

Table 1

State	Tourism Revenues (in \$ billions)	Percentage of tourism revenues compared to Arab tourism revenues
UAE	16.038	27.80%
KSA	10.130	17.65%
Qatar	5.035	8.74%
Bahrain *	1.900	*****
Oman	1.540	2.67%
Kuwait	0.499	0.08%

Table prepared by Leaders Group's Research department based on WTO statistics and other specialized indicators in 2015

* No statistics were available about Bahrain in 2015 and thus it was ranked fifth upon the 2014 ones. Bahrain is the only GCC state that makes more tourism revenues than its citizens spend on tourism abroad, according to World Bank statistics in 2014.



KUWAIT: (Left to right) General Director and Chairman of the Award Steering Committee, Abdulrahman Al-Mutairi, Zeineb Ben Jelloun, UNIFEM Regional Programme Director and Dima Khatib, UNDP Deputy Resident Representative. —Photo by Yasser Al-Zayyat

PAY LAUNCHES ARAB YOUTH AWARD

By Faten Omar

Public Authority for Youth (PAY) launched the Humanitarian Action Center for Arab Youth award yesterday, which aims to support humanitarian action and encourages Arab youth to lead and participate actively in serving their communities and countries. During his speech at a news conference at UN headquarters yesterday in Mishref, General Director and Chairman of the Award Steering Committee, Abdulrahman Al-Mutairi said that the award was launched as a part of the activities marking Kuwait's Capital of Arab Youth 2017 festival.

Mutairi noted that the award coincides with the third anniversary of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah being proclaimed as the humanitarian leader by the United Nations Organization. Adding that as per the Amir's recommendations, the award aims to invest the energy of young people and involve them in building the future of their country. This is done by empowering their abilities to produce, create and innovate and to make a positive change in sustainable development reflected positively on Arab societies.

He pointed out that the fields of work of the award, which will be related to humanitarian development projects related to education, water, agriculture, energy, transport, communications and health. These fields are in line with the goals of sustainable development of the

United Nations aimed at young people to be able to make and achieve change in their interaction with their communities.

Mutairi stressed on the importance of this award, as more than half of the population of the country is under the age of 25 years. "They are the driving force of development due to the diversity of their leadership qualities, the ability to acquire knowledge, skills and vision towards the future and the desire to achieve valuable deeds in life," he said.

He pointed out that the authority, based on its belief in participatory planning methodology and activating the strategy of partnership with UNDP, has coordinated with the United Nations Program in the award of the Humanitarian Action Center in an integrated and comprehensive manner. He noted that the Red Crescent Society allocated \$ 100 thousand to support the implementation of one of the ten projects winning the award.

Humanitarian challenges

Representative of the award of the Youth Public Authority, Salah Al-Arjani said that the award will be available to all Arab youth in the age of 18 to 34 individuals or as a group not exceeding more than three people providing a five minutes video explaining the idea of the project and how to deal with one of the social humanitarian challenges in the Arab world. He added that among the criteria is the idea of the project is to address, pre-

vent, solve problems or community's needs. "The priority of participation in the award will be for humanitarian projects aimed at refugees."

He pointed out that the committee has received prizes of 10,000 Kuwaiti Dinars for the first place, 7000 dinars for the second place and five thousand Kuwaiti dinars for the third place. Deputy Resident Representative of the United Nations Development Program in Kuwait, Dima Khatib, said that an arbitration committee will be formed to be represented by international, regional and national bodies to set the right framework to carry out the arbitration process, which will not be easy since it will be held in the Arab region.

Khatib added that there are two phases of the first arbitration, the first phase being the consideration of all projects in general, which will be presented through a representative committee from several countries where the program is located and identify projects corresponding to the conditions of the award. The second phase will be to select the winning projects from the jury. "The jury will include entities from Kuwait, namely the General Secretariat of the Supreme Council for Planning and Development and the Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Sciences, as well as a number of regional and international organizations, namely the General Secretariat of the GCC States, the Arab League and the United Nations Development Program," she said.

DEAD BODY OF GIRL DUMPED IN GARDEN

KUWAIT: A citizen reported finding a girl's body in his own garden. After identifying the girl, detectives quickly found out about her relation with a citizen in his twenties living in a nearby block in the same area. After the suspect's arrest, he told the police that the girl was with him at his home when she allegedly fell dead. He added that out of fear of being legally held accountable for her death, he carried the body and dumped it in the other citizen's garden. Further investi-

gations are in progress.

Suicide in Jabriya

After having a nice time with his friends, a citizen reportedly became hysteric and jumped out of the seventh floor of a Jabriya building. He was found dead amidst a pool of his own blood. Security sources later brought in the friends who were there to explain what had happened that led to the suicide. They said they had only heard his screams from another

room and on checking on him, he had already jumped off.

Child falls in manhole

A four-year-old Egyptian child was recently killed when she accidentally fell into an open manhole while playing with other children near her family's house in Fintas.

Parents lock kids at home

Two Lebanese kids (5 and 7 years old) were recently rescued after their parents locked them in the family apartment in Sabah Al-Salem alone area alone. Sources claimed the kids were continuously crying and screaming for hours until the neighbors heard them and called the police to break open the door. The parents are now facing charges of negligence.

Market raid

Ahmadi detectives raided a street market in Mahboula where vendors were selling expired food items and used, worn-out garments. Security sources noted that 22 street vendors were arrested in the raid.

— Al-Rai/Al-Qabas

KUWAITI PATIENTS SAFELY MOVED FROM IRMA'S PATH

KUWAIT: Health Minister Jamal Al-Harbi said in a statement that the office evacuated 40 Kuwaiti patients from the regions that were later hit by the hurricane to safe areas in the US. The ministry covered the expenses for transportation and housing at hotels close to hospitals in the regions that were not targeted by the hurricane.

For his part, Dr Ali Al-Enezi, the head of the Kuwaiti Health Office in Washington, said 40 Kuwaiti patients who were undergoing treatment at six hospitals in Florida were successfully moved. Four children undergoing treatment at a Miami hospital were kept there after the management recommended not moving them.

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A BACKPACKS CAMPAIGN FOR STATELESS STUDENTS

By Athoob Al-Shuaibi



Suppose the new school year is starting and you as a parent cannot afford to get school supplies for your kids after a major financial crisis. It might be hard to imagine it could happen in a country like Kuwait, where stationery can be amongst the cheapest materials you can find but it is a sad reality for thousands of stateless students at the start of the academic year. This year however, a human rights activist took an oath to help stateless families by providing school backpacks and supplies through fundraising. She is set to work together with a group of other activists to provide aid and media appeal to solve this particular issue and maybe improve their living condition on the whole as well.

Hadeel Buqrais, a dramatist and a human rights activist has dedicated herself to educate kids and adults about their internationally recognized human rights. This spark of interest in human rights began in 2011 when she went to document the stateless (Bedoon) peaceful demonstrations on a Friday of every week, permitted to do thusly. As a human rights photographer, she found herself making conversations with kids, parents, especially, the

women, whom she has seen crying out against injustice. "Some of them rushed to me with identification papers and evidences to indicate that they are from the oppressed category. But, after the demonstration was broken by the Ministry of Interior, we continued to visit them and build a good relationship with them. We became good friends and I saw and learnt about their poor condition. Many girls do not receive equal opportunity with their brothers in education due to the rising cost", said Buqrais.

Last year, Buqrais conducted a similar fundraising effort to supply school bags. However, it wasn't supported enough. Fortunately this year, over 114 school backpacks have been supplied, until the writing of this story. "The reaction from our community was very positive. Many thanks must be given to the Liberal movement for their support, represented by Eman Johar Hayat and Anwar Al-Rashaid who provided the use of their headquarters to receive and distribute donations. We have also had calls from citizens asking how they can help," explained Buqrais. Last weekend was allocated to the beneficiaries to have school bags before the start of the academic year today. Buqrais concluded by inviting the Minister of Education to include the private schools of Kheitan, Jahra and Jleeb Al-Shuyoukh which accept stateless students, in his annual inspection visit to schools in order to ascertain the extent of their struggles and improve the level of their education system.



AMERICAN COUNCIL CONFERS PRIZE ON KUWAITI POET

KUWAIT: The National Council on US-Arab Relations (NCUSAR) has bestowed its Global Humanitarian and Business Achievement Award upon a prominent Kuwaiti poet and activist for his work to promote the Islamic faith. The award was given to Abdulaziz Saud Al-Babtain fresh off a key speech he delivered before the International Peace Institute (IPI) in New York, read a statement by the Al-Babtain Cultural Foundation yesterday.

NCUSAR's founding president and CEO Dr. John Duke Anthony granted Al-Babtain

the award as a token of appreciation for his diligent efforts to share Islamic culture and teachings with the rest of the world, the statement noted. As he addressed the IPI, Al-Babtain outlined a plan to incorporate the principles of peace into global school curriculums as a strategy to ensure a safer and better tomorrow. Founded in 1983, the National Council on US-Arab Relations is an American non-profit, non-governmental and educational organization dedicated to improving American knowledge and understanding of the Arab world. — KUNA



The National Council on US-Arab Relations founding president and CEO Dr John Duke Anthony bestows Global Humanitarian and Business Achievement Award to Abdulaziz Saud Al-Babtain. — KUNA

UN OFFICIAL LAUDS KUWAIT'S HUMANITARIAN RESPONSES

DOHA: UN Secretary General for Humanitarian Affairs Ambassador Ahmad Al-Mraikhi has valued the humanitarian role undertaken by the State of Kuwait and His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah to relieve victims of crises and catastrophes worldwide. Ambassador Al-Mraikhi's statement to KUNA on Friday marked third anniversary of the UN designation of the State of Kuwait as a global humanitarian center and His Highness the Amir as humanitarian leader — on September 9, 2014, during a session of the UN General Assembly. The State of Kuwait has always been sympathetic toward people around the globe and its humanitarian leadership, namely His Highness the Amir, has responded to humanitarian situations.

Such Kuwaiti efforts have saved hundreds of lives and motivated many to take part in coordinated humanitarian operations, he indicated, singling out Kuwait's aid for the Syrian people, "an action that deserves to be praised." Moreover, he noted Kuwait's hosting of three consecutive international conventions to raise funds for the Syrian people, where up to USD seven billion had been collected.

Kuwait, during these conventions, donated USD 1.3 billion. And, in London in 2016, it took part in the international conference to support Syria and the region, also pledging an additional USD 300 million, in addition to its chairmanship of the "support for Syria and the region" convention, held in Brussels this year, where it pledged USD 100 million. Furthermore, Kuwait

had hosted scores of other meetings for donors for Syria and five annual conferences on "effective partnerships and information swap for improving humanitarian action." Al-Mraikhi indicated at Kuwait's generous contributions to various humanitarian conditions globally. He expressed gratitude to HH the Amir for his devotion for the cause of the people in need worldwide.

Educating children

As to the UN role in coordinating relief aid worldwide, he said the organization plays a main role in this respect, noting that the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) plays a key role in crises. Elaborating, Al-Mraikhi said that number of people in need for aid since 2017 has climbed to 141.1 million in 37 countries. The UN and its partners have dedicated priority to 101 million people. Up to USD 23.5 billion were needed for aiding people in 2017, he said noting that such aid is quite necessary for many people threatened with hunger, in addition to protecting the helpless as well as for educating children.

As to the Middle East, Al-Mraikhi said there are more than 5.1 million Syrian refugees and relocated since 2011. As to Yemen, it suffers from lack of food security, while in Iraq relief aid had been given to 4.8 million people in the first half of this year. The Kuwaiti humanitarian efforts were crowned in September 2014, at the UN, when the former chief, Ban Ki-moon honored His Highness the Amir and the State of Kuwait in appreciation for the outstanding global relief role. — KUNA

Kuwait Times

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القلم

Al-Qabas

FIGHTING CORRUPTION

By Qais Al-Usta

Everyone in Kuwait is fighting corruption be it together or individually; they also pay a price for that. Members of parliament tweet, make statements, write and grill against corruption, seventy thousand different supervisory authorities monitor the performance of the government apparatus, and despite of all that all local and neutral international indicators place us in a bad category and this is an issue we have been facing for many years with unmatched success.

We, in Kuwait have never heard about an official being jailed due to financial violations, on the contrary, we hear about the exit of suspects from the country at the right time and there are those who do not want the people to know all of the truth. Rather, we hear about the promotion of those having doubts about their financial reputation, and the evidences are many and well known in various areas.

Few days ago, HE Social Affairs Minister said that she is paying the price for fighting corruption, which is something we do not doubt, but the big question is about some appointments, formation of boards of directors, and the insistence on those who have a suspicious financial past to lead important and large institutions. Her Excellency might answer these questions only when and if she is grilled.

The government in turn is continuously making statements against corruption, and that it has formed a team to support the minister in fighting against the grilling that some members of parliament are planning to submit. I would like to ask the MPs who are wavering towards voting for the grilling, about accepting admissions to military colleges, treatment abroad, promotions to assistant under secretaries and managers in most important sectors to rescue Her Excellency from no confidence, will it be legal and care for the justice principle? This is just a question? Was the message delivered?! I hope so.

qaisalasta@hotmail.com

— Translated by Kuwait Times

KUWAITI AND SONS RESCUED IN DESERT

By A Saleh

KUWAIT: Saudi civil defense forces recently managed to locate and rescue the Kuwaiti citizen, Mohammed Bin Nasser Al-Ajmi and his two sons (9 and 5 years old), who had been lost in the desert for two days during a trip from Riyadh to Kuwait. Al-Ajmi explained that he got lost as he was trying a new short cut on a desert road. He added that as soon as he got off the paved road, he reached an area filled with sand dunes and his vehicle's four wheel drive system broke down because of the harsh terrain. He then had to walk back for two kilometers. A camel herder had passed him and provided them with food and water shortly before the rescue team arrived.

Kindergarten licenses

MSAL assistant undersecretary for special development, Hassan Kathem stressed that shifting the responsibility for kindergartens to MOE was still pending a response from the Fatwa and legislation department. He stressed that kindergartens were still supervised by MSAL until further notice. Kathem added that MSAL would continue issuing kindergarten licenses according to the conditions and regulations set by the ministry's women and childhood department.

Real estate mafia

The Iraqi Investment Authority recently called for putting an end to what it described as the phenomena taking over Kuwait and GCC nationals' property in Basra by a 'real estate mafia'. A TV report on this subject showed that Basra Investment Authority feared this mafia would take over those properties and that this would have a negative impact on general investments in the governorate.

Land allocation

The Ahmadi committee at the municipal council is due to discuss a request made by the private universities secretariat general to allocate separate pieces of land for the Canadian University in Abu Halifa and another to build a petrochemical industries zone in a meeting to be held next Thursday and headed by member Adel Allumai.

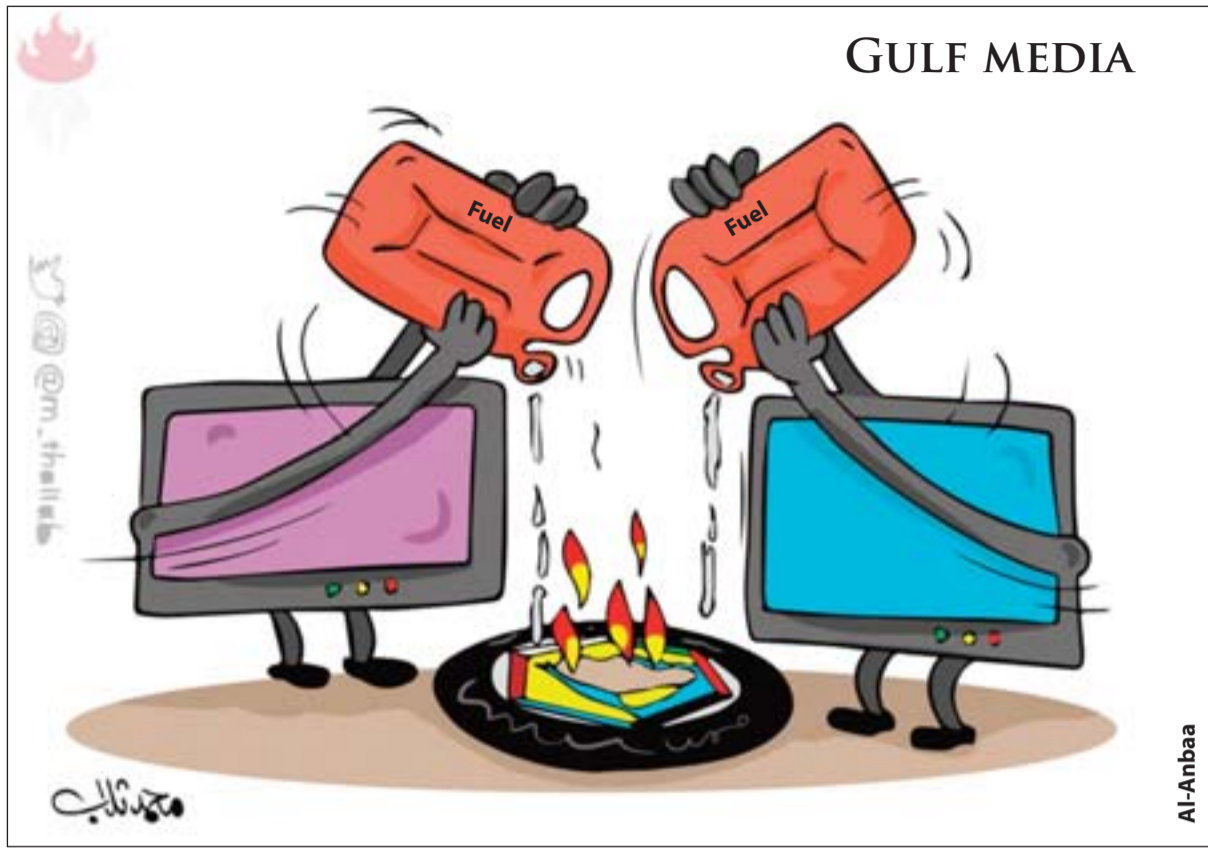
KOC criticized

Responding to what he described as rumors about abuse of powers to dismiss some employees from the local marketing department, KOC's CEO, Mohammed Al-Muttairi strongly refuted them and stressed that the company was always keen on protecting its employees' rights. Al-Muttairi also denied appointing any expats in the said department as KOC was keen on hiring citizens and filling all vacant positions with Kuwaitis.



CBK STAFF PAY VISIT TO SICK EMPLOYEES

Within the arrangements made by the Commercial Bank of Kuwait (CBK) to support various social activities organized by various governorates on special occasions like Eid Al-Adha, and in collaboration with Farwaniya governorate CBK recently visited the governorate's hospitalized staff members. In this regard, CBK's deputy director for PR and publicity, Amani Al-Wer'a said a government team escorted CBK as they visited the sick and hospitalized employees while presenting special gifts and wishing them a speedy recovery.



KUWAITIS SAFE IN MEXICO AFTER EARTHQUAKE, SAYS EMBASSY

KUWAIT: Kuwait's Embassy to Mexico affirmed the safety of its staff and Kuwaiti citizens after the powerful 8.2-magnitude quake that struck off the country's southern coast late Thursday. The Embassy, in a statement on Friday, urged all Kuwaitis in Mexico to exercise caution, take all the necessary precautions for their safety, and follow local authorities' safety and security guidance. It also reiterated full readiness to provide all necessary services and aid to all Kuwaitis. The embassy went on to urge Kuwaiti citizens to stay in touch with the embassy through the following phone numbers: (+52) 5552451714 and (+52) 5513632619. — KUNA



ILLEGAL RESIDENTS FOUND GAMBLING

By Hanan Al-Sa'doun

KUWAIT: MOI's relations and security media department announced that residency detectives had arrested three Asians while gambling including one who had been deported several times and somehow managed to illegally return to Kuwait. All three suspects were caught red-handed and all turned out to be illegal residents.

Inspection campaigns

Mubarak Al-Kabeer municipality inspection team leader, Majed Al-Muttairi said that his team had recently inspected 32 stores to make sure they matched municipality conditions and regulations. Al-Muttairi added that the campaign also resulted in the removal of 25 illegal ads and made a warning notice to houses for violating government property.

Elsewhere, the capital municipality inspection team recently toured a number of stores and restaurants to inspect adherence to municipality regulations, said team leader Abdullah Jaber. The tour resulted in the confiscation and destruction of over 5 tons of food and expired food items including 4 tons of stored expired food items and one ton of foul oranges in an orange juice factory. Jaber added that the tour also resulted in filing 30 citations for violations such as violating cleanliness conditions, dealing in expired food items, operating without a license and using unlicensed ads.



Local spotlight

MYANMAR, BURMA, ROHINGYA; 3 KEY WORDS LEADING TO ONE ISSUE



By Muna Al-Fuzai

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There is a lot of confusion about the Rohingya Muslims in Myanmar. I don't think many of us are fully aware of the root of the problem there. Perhaps the geographical dimension or preoccupation with our own problems has kept the Arab media inactive. I believe it is time to reconsider this issue seriously - and without any more delays. After reading many reports on this issue, I realized that knowing the history of these people is important - so as to know the reality of what is happening today. The news of Muslims being persecuted sends across a frightening image. The reason behind such violence seems to be religion but it is inconceivable to believe that the sole reason. India is a secular country with many religions but they still live in relative peace and harmony.

In 1989, the Burmese government changed the name of the state from Burma to Myanmar. While the United Nations recognized this new name, there are still countries that call it Burma, including the United Kingdom. Most of the Muslims which remain a minority in the country are from the Rohingya community. During colonial times, the British rulers brought many Muslims from India to Burma to help them in their office work and trade.

This information from the past will help us to understand the future. I am becoming more convinced that although what is happening today seems to be a kind of persecution against the Muslims because of religious differences - that is not the entire picture.

Anti-Indian and anti-Muslim sentiments began during British rule itself. Most of the reasons were due to old conflicts between the Indians and the Burmese because of a lack of jobs which triggered riots against the Indians in 1930. The conflict in Burma is historic and old and I fear that the widespread fanaticism we are seeing today may worsen the situation amid the silence and the neglect.

International human rights organizations have repeatedly documented and condemned the widespread human rights violations. The government of Myanmar has been accused of ethnic cleansing of the Rohingya population and crimes such as mass murder, torture, and forced displacement. In August 2017, a new massacre occurred in many Rohingya villages.

Unfortunately the Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Aung San Suu Kyi is facing severe international criticism over her government's treatment of 1.1 million Rohingyas who are now one of the world's most persecuted ethnic groups. UNESCO has called the Nobel Committee to withdraw Myanmar's leader Aung San Suu Kyi Nobel Peace Prize, which was awarded to her in 1991. They argued that it is unreasonable for her to remain a Nobel Laureate amid the mass killings of innocent people.

Pakistan has stated that it is committed to providing humanitarian assistance but has not elaborated further. The solution to this issue needs a quick and effective political intervention. I suggest an imposition of strict economic sanctions against government of Myanmar because it holds full responsibility for what is happening on its land and its people regardless of their origin and religion. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) has announced that more than 87,000 Rohingya refugees have fled to Bangladesh because of recent abuse over the last 10 days. I hope swift action is taken from governments and international organizations in the coming days.

US-KUWAIT ECONOMIC FORUM SIGNIFICANT TO JOINT INVESTMENT

WASHINGTON: A number of Kuwait's private sector representatives commended Thursday outcomes of the US-Kuwait Economic Forum, held on the sidelines of His Highness the Amir's recent visit to the US. The forum, held at the US Chamber of Commerce on Wednesday, and concluded yesterday, is also significant for boosting joint investment between the two countries, the representatives, part of the economic delegation accompanying His Highness the Amir, indicated to KUNA.

The Kuwaiti private sector was keen on strengthening His Highness the Amir's efforts to consolidate economic and commercial ties between the two countries, Isam Al-Sager, Group Chief Executive Officer of National Bank of Kuwait (NBK), said. For his part, Kuwait Finance House (KFH) Chairman Hamad Al-Marzouq said that the event addressed several ideas and projects that were notably related to His Highness the Amir's vision to turn Kuwait into a pioneering financial and commercial hub in the region.

Meanwhile, Dabbous Al-Dabbous, Board Member of Kuwait Chamber of Commerce and Industry, said the economic delegation accompanying His Highness the Amir was keen on marketing Kuwait as a promising investment arena and business gate reaching several markets in the region. The forum was successful by all standards, Al-Dabbous noted, adding that such a success is due to the forum's significant activities and discussions, reflecting the American interest in boosting US investments in Kuwaiti market.

For her part, Wafa Al-Qatami, Deputy Chairman of the Board of Directors of Kuwait Direct Investment Promotion Authority (KDIPA), mentioned the US-Kuwaiti forum saw participation of around 150 representatives of major US companies, which reflected the event's importance and desire to bolster US investment in Kuwait.

Kuwaiti diverse economy

US businesses and companies are interested in Kuwait's strategy to diversify its economy, said Dr Merza H Hasan, Executive Director and Dean of the Board of Executive Directors for the World Bank Group (WBG) here Thursday. Speaking to KUNA and Kuwait television after the first US-Kuwaiti Economic Forum Dr Merza Hasan said that the event, gathering major American enterprises and Kuwaiti private sector bodies, had succeeded in showcasing Kuwait's economic plans and strategies to US companies.

Bringing more American investments to Kuwait will be beneficial for the Gulf State's economy, said the WBG official who indicated that several US participants expressed their interest in what the State of Kuwait is doing to attract investors. He noted that the Kuwaiti side had presented not only opportunities in Kuwait but also displayed lucrative investments in the region which will hopefully would attract major US corporations and businesses. The First US-Kuwait Economic Forum was held on the sidelines of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah's visit to the US capital Washington DC. — KUNA



Desperation spreads in Rohingya camps as basic resources scarce

POPE PRAYS FOR RECONCILIATION WITH COLOMBIA WAR VICTIMS



MARIGOT, St Martin: The Fort Louis Marina in Marigot is seen in Saint-Martin island, devastated by Hurricane Irma. — AFP

MASS EXODUS AS HURRICANE IRMA EYES FLORIDA, BATTERS CUBA

CUBA OFFICIALS REPORT SIGNIFICANT DAMAGE, NO CASUALTIES YET

MIAMI: After laying waste to several Caribbean islands, Hurricane Irma was barreling yesterday towards Florida, where some 5.6 million people faced orders to evacuate as the monster storm made landfall in Cuba. Irma—which has killed at least 19 people and devastated thousands of homes in the Caribbean-made landfall late Friday on the Camaguey Archipelago of Cuba as a maximum-strength Category 5 storm.

The hurricane weakened slightly to a Category 4 hours later, swirling some 245 miles away from Miami and packing still powerful maximum sustained winds of 155 miles per hour, according to the US National Hurricane Center. In Cuba officials reported “significant damage” in parts of the island’s center without providing further details, but said there were not yet casualties. More than a million people on the Caribbean’s largest island have evacuated as a precaution, authorities said.

Irma is expected to strike the Florida Keys late Saturday and Sunday before moving inland, and many residents have joined a mass exodus amid increasingly dire alerts to leave. “Irma remains an extremely dangerous hurricane!” tweeted the National Weather Service early yesterday. “It’s not too late to get off the Keys!!!” the agency said. “You still have time, this morning, to get out! Please, the Keys are not safe.”

According to Florida’s Division of Emergency Management some 5.6 million residents have been ordered to evacuate—nearly a quarter of the state population. Warning that Irma would be worse than Hurricane Andrew—which killed 65 people in 1992 — Florida’s governor said all 20.6 million Floridians should prepare to flee. “If you’re in an evacuation zone, you should be very cautious, you should get out now,” Governor Rick Scott told CNN. “This is a powerful storm bigger than our state.”

Bumper-to-bumper traffic was snaking north out of the peninsula, with mattresses, gas cans and kayaks strapped to car roofs. North of the Keys, in Miami Beach, 82-year-old Cuban-American Orlando Reyes had suddenly to flee his assisted living facility. “It is frightening,” he said at a shelter in Miami. “We had to leave without a cent, without taking a bath, or bringing anything.” The storm ravaged a series of tiny islands before slamming into the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico.

French state-owned reinsurer CCR estimated Irma had caused 1.2 billion euros (\$1.4 billion) worth of damage to homes, vehicles and businesses in the territories of Saint Martin and Saint Barts. “Houses are smashed, the airport is out of action,” Saint Barts resident Olivier Toussaint said. “Upside-down cars are in the cemeteries. Boats are sunk in the marina, shops are destroyed.” Meteorologists meanwhile were closely monitoring two other Atlantic storms.

Jose, another powerful Category 4 storm, was heading towards the same string of Caribbean islands Irma has pummeled in recent days. Katia made landfall in eastern Mexico late Friday—just as

the country was grappling with its worst earthquake in a century—as a Category 1 hurricane. It was later downgraded to a tropical storm but was still bringing rains that could bring “life-threatening flash floods and mudslides.”

Caribbean relief disrupted

Hurricane Jose was wreaking havoc with emergency operations in the Caribbean, as the deteriorating weather prevented boats from leaving with relief supplies and grounded aircraft. Cuba had already evacuated 10,000 foreign tourists from beach resorts ahead of Irma’s arrival. The hurricane “seriously affects” the central provinces of Camaguey and Ciego de Avila, Cuban meteorologist Elier Pila said on state television. But because of Irma’s massive size, its effects were felt from central-west regions to the island’s east, he said.

Communications are down in many municipalities there. The neighboring Bahamas escaped the hurricane’s wrath mostly unscathed, with no reports of casualties or major damage. In Florida, where forecasters warned of storm surges of up to 12 feet, normally bustling Miami Beach was deserted. “Nobody can be prepared for a storm surge. They can destroy everything,” said David Wallack, a 67-year-old salsa club owner attempting to secure his property on the city’s Ocean Drive. “We just can pray for the best. You put what you can in a suitcase and hope.”

Destruction and rebuilding

The US military was mobilizing thousands of troops and deploying several large ships to aid with evacuations and humanitarian relief, as the Air Force removed scores of planes from the southern United States. In the Caribbean, violent winds ripped roofs and facades off buildings, hurling lumps of concrete, cars and even shipping containers aside. At least two people were killed in Puerto Rico, and more than half of its three million residents were without power after rivers broke their banks in the center and north of the island.

Another four people were killed on the US Virgin Islands, with a number of badly injured people airlifted to Puerto Rico. One person died in tiny Barbuda, where 30 percent of properties were demolished and the entire island has been evacuated. France said at least 10 had been killed across its Caribbean territories with seven more missing. There were 112 people injured, two seriously. On the Dutch side of Saint Martin island, two people died.

In northwest Haiti, a motorcyclist was missing after trying to cross a flooded river and a number of roads were washed out. European nations quickly mobilized to help their citizens in the Caribbean, with France and the Netherlands ordering hundreds of police to Saint Martin—where most of the 80,000 inhabitants have lost their homes—to tackle an outbreak of looting amid major shortages of food, water and petrol. —AFP



MEXICO: Soldiers with specially trained dogs search for survivors amid the ruins of buildings knocked down Thursday night by a 8.1-magnitude quake, in Juchitan de Zaragoza, Mexico. — AFP

RACE TO RESCUE SURVIVORS OF MEXICO QUAKE AS STORM KATIA STRIKES THE EAST

JUCHITAN DE ZARAGOZA, Mexico: Police, soldiers and emergency workers raced to rescue survivors from the ruins of Mexico’s most powerful earthquake in a century, which killed at least 61 people, as storm Katia menaced the country’s eastern coast yesterday with heavy rains. In the southern region hit hardest by the quake, emergency workers looked for survivors—or bodies—in the rubble of houses, churches and schools that were torn apart in the 8.1-magnitude quake.

President Enrique Pena Nieto said 45 people were killed in Oaxaca state, 12 in Chiapas and four in Tabasco. But the actual death toll could be over 80, according to figures reported by state officials. Meanwhile storm Katia made landfall in the east as a Category One hurricane and hours later was downgraded to a tropical storm with maximum sustained winds of 45 miles per hour. The storm was bringing rains likely to cause “life-threatening flash

floods and mudslides, especially in areas of mountainous terrain” the US National Hurricane Center said.

Katia was lashing the state of Veracruz, which borders the Gulf of Mexico, as well as parts of Hidalgo and Puebla. Forecasters were predicting the storm could unleash upwards of 25 inches (64 centimeters) of rain in some areas. In Tecolotla, a coastal town of 8,000 residents, AFP journalists found felled trees and branches as families hunkered down to weather the storm. The government warned that Katia could threaten about one million people and unleash dangerous floods.

Adding to the concerns, authorities warned another massive aftershock could follow within 24 hours of the first quake. Pena Nieto toured the hardest-hit city, Juchitan in Oaxaca, where at least 36 bodies were pulled from the ruins. The city’s eerily quiet streets were a maze of

rubble, with roofs, cables, insulation and concrete chunks scattered everywhere. A crowd had formed at Juchitan’s partially collapsed town hall, a Spanish colonial building where two policemen were trapped in the rubble.

Rescuers managed to extract one and were still working to save the other 18 hours after the quake. “God, let him come out alive!” said a woman watching as four cranes and a fleet of trucks removed what remained of the building’s crumbled wing. His blue uniform covered in dust, Vidal Vera, 29, was one of around 300 police officers digging through the rubble. He hadn’t slept in more than 36 hours. “I can’t remember an earthquake this terrible,” he told AFP. “The whole city is a disaster zone right now. Lots of damage. Lots of deaths. I don’t know how you can make sense of it. It’s hard. My sister-in-law’s husband died. His house fell on top of him.” —AFP

GERMAN NGO RESUMES MIGRANT RESCUE OPERATIONS OFF LIBYA

BERLIN: German aid group Sea-Eye said yesterday it was resuming its migrant rescue operations in the Mediterranean, a month after pulling out when Libya barred foreign vessels from a stretch of water off its coast. "Sea-Eye has decided to resume its rescue missions in the Mediterranean which had been halted for a month," the NGO said in a statement. However, its two ships, the Sea-Eye and the Seefuchs, would now operate in a perimeter of 70 to 90 nautical miles from the Libyan coast, it said, "to take account of the constant threat from the Libyan coastguard and to not compromise the safety of the crews".

Sea-Eye said its decision to return was partly prompted by events on September 2, when the Seefuchs was called on to help with a rescue mission 50 miles off Libya in which 16 people in a wooden boat were saved from drowning. "This case shows that claims by Frontex and the EU that there are no more refugees, and therefore no more drowning people, off the Libyan coast are false." Frontex is the EU's border management agency. Survivors last week reported that two more vessels, rubber boats filled with migrants, had set out at the same as they did, the NGO said. Those boats and their passengers disappeared without a trace.

Irresponsible

"The deal between European countries and the Libyan coast guard is irresponsible," Sea-Eye chairman Michael Buschheuer said in the statement, because it allowed "a situation contrary to international law" to continue. "We owe it to the people in need to stay on site and undertake rescue operations when necessary," he said. Tensions have risen since the Libyan navy last month ordered foreign vessels to stay out of a coastal search-and-rescue zone, a measure it said was specifically aimed at non-governmental groups.

Libyan authorities have accused charities of

aiding human smugglers with their rescues at sea, hampering efforts to crack down on the illegal migration route. Six years since a revolution that toppled longtime dictator Moamer Kadhafi, Libya has become a key departure point for migrants risking their lives to cross the Mediterranean to Europe. Tens of thousands of migrants have resorted to paying people traffickers for the journey, often on overcrowded and unseaworthy boats. Migrant aid ships have played a key role in assisting the rescue operations. Sea-Eye says it has helped save some 12,000 lives since April 2016. —AFP

SEVEN KILLED IN BOKO HARAM ATTACK ON DISPLACED CAMP

KANO, Nigeria: At least seven people were killed when Boko Haram jihadists attacked a camp for people displaced by the conflict in northeast Nigeria, militia members and locals said Saturday. The attack on Friday evening in Ngala, near the border with Cameroon, came as two people were killed in an explosion outside another camp in Borno state capital, Maiduguri. In Ngala, a civilian militia member, Umar Kachalla, said jihadists in two pick-up trucks fired a rocket-propelled grenade at the camp, which houses some 80,000 people.

"They fired an RPG into the camp from behind the fire fence, killing seven people and injuring several others," he told AFP, saying they let off a bout of sustained gunfire as they drove away into the night. Ngala resident Abubakar Yusuf, who corroborated Kachalla's account, said: "The casualties were relatively minimal because most people had retired for the night." The camp in Ngala was set up in January last year after the return of thousands of Nigerian refugees from Cameroon, where they had fled the fighting.

Boko Haram seized the trading hubs Ngala and neighbouring Gaboru in August 2014 when it took over a swathe of territory across Borno state and the wider northeast. Nigerian troops retook both towns in September 2015 with the help of Chadian forces. However, Boko Haram fighters still launch sporadic attacks, laying ambush to troops and vehicles as well as attacking and abducting farmers.

Rise in attacks

Nigeria's military and government maintains the Islamic State group affiliate is a spent force but its continued attacks underline the lingering threat, particularly to civilians. Eight farmers were killed in a

series of raids on Wednesday and Thursday. Four others were shot dead on Tuesday. Many of the victims had returned home to try to grow crops to alleviate acute food shortages that have left hundreds of thousands of people on the brink of starvation.

Amnesty International said Boko Haram attacks since April had killed nearly 400 people in Nigeria and Cameroon—double the figure of the previous five months. Nigerian army spokesman Brigadier General Sani Usman dismissed claims of a resurgence in violence as part of a smear campaign against the military. Suggestions of security lapses or failings were "most unkind and uncharitable," he said in an emailed statement.

Checkpoint blast

In Maiduguri on Friday, two people were killed in an explosion outside the Muna Garage camp for internally displaced people (IDPs). The sprawling camp on the edge of the city is currently battling a cholera outbreak caused by unsanitary conditions exacerbated by the rainy season. Babakura Kolo, from the civilian militia assisting the military with security, said two women were asked to get out of a taxi at a checkpoint. "One of the women tried to run into a crowd nearby but the explosives concealed under her hijab went off prematurely," he said.

"A female passenger in the taxi and a rickshaw driver trailing behind were killed in the explosion," he said in an account supported by a militia colleague, Musa Ari. Five people—the taxi driver, another passenger and three men in the rickshaw—were injured, they added. Kolo, who was at the scene, said a second female suicide bomber was also killed with the first in the initial blast. —AFP



DEIR EZZOR: A picture shows Russian military vehicles carrying humanitarian aid parcels in the northeastern Syrian city of Deir Ezzor. — AFP

US-BACKED SYRIA FORCE LAUNCHES NEW ANTI-IS ASSAULT IN DEIR EZZOR

COALITION AIR STRIKES ALLOW SDF TO ADVANCE ON THE GROUND

ABU FAS, Syria: US-backed fighters launched a new offensive yesterday to oust the Islamic State group from swathes of Deir Ezzor, the last Syrian province still largely under jihadist control. The oil-rich province borders Iraq and is a strategic prize for many, including the Russian-backed Syrian troops that are battling for its western half. The new assault comes with IS under growing pressure in Syria and neighboring Iraq after a string of defeats.

The jihadists have lost more than half of their de facto Syrian capital Raqa and all of Iraq's second city, Mosul. Yesterday, the US-backed Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) announced they had begun fighting to clear IS from territory east of the Euphrates River, which runs diagonally across Deir Ezzor province, cutting it in half. "We are taking the first step to liberate territory east of the Euphrates River in Deir Ezzor," Ahmad Abu Khawlah, who heads the SDF's Deir Ezzor Military Council (DEMC), told AFP.

"Pivoting towards Deir Ezzor was inevitable." Abu Khawlah said US-led coalition air strikes had already helped his forces advance "around 30 kilometers" in the first day of "Operation Jazira Storm." Military operations yesterday were focused in the hilly desert area in northeastern parts of Deir Ezzor province, according to the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, a British-based monitor. "Clashes are ongoing and coalition air strikes are hitting jihadist positions to

allow the SDF to advance on the ground," said Observatory head Rami Abdel Rahman.

'No safe haven'

Since 2014, IS has held swathes of the eastern province and about 60 percent of the provincial capital, Deir Ezzor city. The coalition has bombed IS targets in Syria and Iraq since 2014 and is now backing the SDF's offensive to capture Raqa. The SDF has seized around 65 percent of Raqa city, which lies directly west of Deir Ezzor province. "Daesh will have no safe haven in the Euphrates River Valley," coalition spokesman Colonel Ryan Dillon said, using the Arabic acronym for IS.

"We continue to support our SDF partners as they fight to liberate their lands and homes from IS," Dillon said. Yesterday's announcement came as Russia-backed Syrian troops wage a separate offensive to oust IS from the west of Deir Ezzor province, as well as the provincial capital. Abu Khawlah said SDF forces were not coordinating with the government or with Russia on military operations.

But the coalition, the SDF, Syria's government and Russia have agreed on a "de-confliction line" in northeast Syria to prevent them clashing. According to the coalition, the line runs from Raqa province southeast along the Euphrates River towards Deir Ezzor. "The de-confliction line with the Russians is necessary in the complex and congested battlespace over eastern

Syria," Dillon said.

End of terrorism?

Yesterday, Syrian news agency SANA reported that regime troops captured the Al-Taym oil field south of Deir Ezzor's key military airport, which is held by the government but surrounded by IS. Regime loyalists launched an attack to break IS's siege on the airport on Friday, as part of their multi-pronged offensive to capture the whole city from jihadists. The foreign ministry in Damascus on Saturday hailed the army advance, which it said "foreshadowed the end of terrorism."

"The battle with these mercenaries is nearing its end, so that every inch of Syrian land will be free of terrorism," it said in a statement distributed by SANA. Syria's conflict erupted in 2011 with protests demanding that President Bashar al-Assad step down, but it has since evolved into a complex, multi-front war. More than 330,000 people have been killed and millions have fled their homes, but global efforts at reaching a peace deal have faltered.

Next week, Kazakhstan will host talks on a set of safe zones across Syrian territory agreed by world powers this year as a first step towards a political solution. And the United Nations is hoping to gather members of the Syrian opposition and the government for negotiations in Geneva in October. —AFP

FEARFUL ISLANDS AWAIT HURRICANE JOSE

MARIGOT: Battered and weary after being pummeled by Hurricane Irma, terrified residents yesterday awaited an unprecedented second monster storm bearing down on already devastated Caribbean islands. "Return to the safest shelters before the hurricane arrives, and avoid areas which could flood," police in the French part of St Martin pleaded, only three days it was ravaged by Irma. Jose, a Category Four storm, will bring heavy rains and winds of 130 to 150 kilometers an hour, meteorologists said.

But it may give islanders some relief and veer about 100 kilometers to the north of St Martin and St Barts when it hits later Saturday. Many on the once paradise island of St Martin divided between France and The Netherlands will be wondering where to go. Irma left at least 12 dead and hundreds injured across the island, and with the clean-up barely begun, authorities are struggling to get aid to the stricken population.

Across the island—a popular tourist destination known for its vibrant nightlife and pristine beaches—roofs were ripped off, windows blown out, cars and boats tossed about like matchsticks and palm trees uprooted by Irma when it barreled through on Wednesday.

Deadly debris

Debris still clogs the streets, many homes have been left uninhabitable, communications have not been fully restored, and tens of thousands are already without power, food and water. It was "an illusion" that islanders could prepare properly for Jose's arrival, said Dutch Navy commander Peter Jan de Vin. "Everything that is loose and lying

around and which can be picked up by the winds and thrown around is a projectile that can injure or kill," he told the Dutch daily NRC newspaper, urging people to seek shelter.

Seventy percent of the infrastructure on the southern Dutch part, known as Sint Maarten, was destroyed by Irma, according to Dutch officials. At the only fully operational airport in the French north, exhausted women including one with a baby born just hours previously, children and the elderly waited hoping for flights out to nearby Guadeloupe or even mainland France.

Amid reports of looting, French and Dutch troops have also fanned out across the island seeking to restore order. "The atmosphere is grim. People are walking around with weapons, but I can't confirm there are machetes," De Vin said. But he insisted that Dutch troops were "getting more of a grip on the situation."

Armed gangs

One Dutch holidaymaker told the tabloid Telegraaf daily though that he and about 50 guests had barricaded themselves into their hotel in the town of Philipsburg, claiming there were armed gangs on the streets. "Groups of several people, sometimes whole families, are roaming the streets with knives and firearms," Dick Algra, 61, a retired captain with the KLM airline, told De Telegraaf by telephone. "Shops are being broken into and everything carted away." The hotel manager was warning guests to stay in the hotel as it was "too dangerous" outside, he said. In a race against time, Dutch and French troops and aid workers have been sent to the region. —AFP

POLICE FIRE TEAR GAS AT ANTI-GOVERNMENT PROTESTS IN TOGO

LOME: Riot police fired tear gas at massive crowds gathered in Togo's capital late Thursday, breaking up the huge opposition protests against President Faure Gnassingbe's regime. Demonstrators, blowing whistles and waving Togo's green, yellow and red flag, had said they were determined to stay in the streets "all night" but were finally made to disperse by security forces. In Be, a working-class district of Lome, small groups of protesters set fire to barricades. "Faure, get out, you're driving us mad," shouted one young male demonstrator.

The rest of the city remained quiet, even as many residents had set up makeshift barricades in the streets, using tyres and rocks. The protesters, shouting "Liberate, liberate Togo!", had marched calmly during the day Wednesday and Thursday, but had been blocked from heading to the presidency, according to AFP journalists on the scene. Togo's political opposition has long demanded the introduction of a two-round voting system and a limit to the number of terms a president can serve.

Gnassingbe, who has repeatedly promised to look into the reforms but never implemented them, took power in 2005 after the death of his father, Gnassingbe Eyadema, who was installed as head of state of the tiny West African nation in 1967 after a military coup. "We're tired. Enough is enough," said one woman who gave her name as Agnes, 64. "I've known the same family since I was 14. Let's liberate Togo so these children can see something else." Protesters are demanding constitutional reforms, including limiting the president to two terms in office and a two-round election vote.

"We are going to stay on the streets until he listens to us," another protester, Jonas Badagbo, told AFP. "We want Faure to re-establish the 1992 constitution and him to leave office," added the 29-year-old. Veteran political opposition leader Jean-Pierre Fabre told AFP he was moved by the thousands of people who had turned out for the

protest. "To see the Togolese people rise up as one is a source of great satisfaction," he said. "I'm overcome with emotion." Observers say the scale of the protests is unprecedented, which explained the heavy security. One said there was "a lot of tension in the air" and more people than Wednesday.

Internet problems

Mobile internet services were cut in Togo on Thursday, after an estimated 100,000 or more protesters turned out across the country on Wednesday. On social media sites Facebook and

Twitter, which were still accessible using intermittent wifi access in the capital, users called for services to be restored. The Internet Without Borders group said the shutdown was "an attack on Togolese citizens' freedom of expression online". Amnesty International's Togo director, Aime Adi, told AFP by telephone that the internet and mobile phone networks were completely off in several cities in northern Togo. Information minister Gilbert Bawara has told several local radio stations that the government reserved the right to impose restrictions on access to the internet. —AFP



LOME: Togo's opposition leader Jean-Pierre Fabre speaks at the residence of leader of the Pan-African National Party (PNP) Tikpi Atchadam, to show solidarity after a crackdown against anti-government protests calling for constitutional reform led by a coalition of opposition parties, in Lome. — AFP

IRAQ STEPS UP STRIKES ON IS-HELD HAWIJA AHEAD OF OFFENSIVE

BAGHDAD: The Iraqi air force and the US-led coalition have stepped up a campaign of airstrikes on the Islamic State group-held town of Hawija ahead of a planned ground assault there, according to Iraq's minister of defense yesterday. Iraqi forces are pushing IS out of the remaining pockets of territory the group holds in the country after forces backed by the US-led coalition retook Iraq's second largest city of Mosul in July.

"There are large operations underway ahead of the liberation of Hawija and surrounding areas," Iraqi Defense Minister Erfan al-Hayali told The Associated Press, explaining that his forces were working closely with Iraqi Kurdish forces known as the Peshmerga as well as the coalition. Last month, the Iraqi military command over-seeing the IS fight declared victory in Tal Afar, west of Mosul and announced Hawija,

150 miles north of Baghdad, would be the next battle against the extremists. The stepped-up coalition strikes are targeting IS territory in western Anbar as well as Hawija, said US Army Colonel Ryan Dillon, coalition spokesman.

"Coming off of their victory in Tal Afar (Iraqi security forces) will use a lot of the same techniques," Dillon said. "Simultaneous attacks proved to be very successful as did operations ahead of time to let civilians know what to do." Defense Minister al-Hayali said his forces began radio broadcasts and leaflet drops on Hawija warning civilians of the planned push. The United Nations said the operation to retake Tal Afar forced some 20,000 people to flee, according to counts by Iraqi authorities. When the fight for Hawija begins, the UN estimates some 60,000 people will be affected. — AP

NEW JERSEY-NEW YORK LEADERS TALK HUDSON TUNNEL WITH TRUMP

ALBANY: Top officials from New York and New Jersey traveled to the White House Thursday to make a pitch to President Donald Trump for a new rail tunnel beneath the Hudson River - considered to be one of the region's most critical infrastructure needs. The meeting between Trump and Democratic Gov. Andrew Cuomo of New York and Republican Gov. Chris Christie of New Jersey also included several members of the two states' Congressional delegations.

The \$13 billion tunnel project is key to plans for addressing aging infrastructure and growing congestion in the New York City area. The price tag also includes renovations for the existing, century-old rail tunnel that carries Amtrak and commuter trains from New Jersey into the city. No decisions

were announced Thursday but US Senate Minority Leader Charles Schumer, who arranged the meeting, said it went well.

"We made a strong pitch," said Schumer, D-New York, told The Associated Press. "It was a good meeting. He (Trump) said he was favorably disposed. ... I am very hopeful and optimistic." Past proposals to build a new tunnel have run into funding problems. Supporters of the project hope Trump, a Republican, agrees to honor the pledge of his predecessor, Democrat Barack Obama, whose administration said it would pay for half of the work. Under that arrangement, the two states would be responsible for the other half.

Cuomo said the money would be generated through user fees - paid by those who use the rail

system. "We confirmed our original agreement with the previous administration whereby the Port Authority would finance 50 percent with user fees and the federal government would contribute 50 percent," Cuomo said in a statement about Thursday's meeting, which he called "inconclusive." New Jersey Republican Rep. Leonard Lance described the president as "very engaged and very interested."

"The point was made to the president that this is critically important not only to the region but to the whole country," Lance said. The tunnel is part of a larger overhaul and expansion of rail infrastructure known as the Gateway Program that has a total estimated cost of \$30 billion. Trump has vowed to make infrastructure a priority, a proposal

cheered by many officials from New York and New Jersey, from both political parties. On Thursday a White House official called the meeting productive and said the president remains committed to modernizing the nation's infrastructure.

Each day, 200,000 passengers use the existing, 110-year-old tunnel, which has a single track in two tubes, one for either direction. Amtrak officials have predicted that within 20 years they will have to shut down one tube for a year for repairs that would reduce the total number of trains using the tunnel from 24 to 6 per hour at peak times. That would put pressure on other commuting options while disrupting the entire Northeast Corridor, which is used by 750,000 passengers daily in eight states.—AP

POPE PRAYS FOR RECONCILIATION WITH COLOMBIA WAR VICTIMS

CIVILIANS, FORMER FIGHTERS EXCHANGE WORDS OF FORGIVENESS



MEDELLIN: Pope Francis alights from the airplane and is welcomed by Colombian President Juan Manuel Santos upon his arrival in Medellin, Colombia.—AFP

VILLAVICENCIO, Colombia: Pope Francis presided over a tearful act of reconciliation Friday between ex-fighters and victims of Colombia's civil war, urging "truth" and "justice" for victims of the half-century conflict. Wounded and bereaved civilians and former fighters exchanged words of forgiveness and wept as Francis urged the country to move on from Latin America's longest conflict. "Throughout this long, difficult, but hopeful process of reconciliation, it is... indispensable to come to terms with the truth," Francis said in the central town of Villavicencio. "Truth is an inseparable companion of justice and mercy. Together, they are essential to building peace."

'Break the cycle of violence'

On the third day of his Colombian tour, Francis held a mass followed by a symbolically-charged ceremony of "prayer for national reconciliation." Visibly moved, the 80-year old Argentine pope heard testimony from Colombians who said they had forgiven their tormentors for their sufferings. Pastora Mira Garcia spoke of how her father, husband and two children were killed by armed groups in the northwestern Antioquia region.

She recalled caring for a wounded paramilitary fighter who later admitted he was one of those who had tortured and killed her son. "Now I place this pain and the suffering of thousands of Colombian victims at the feet of the crucified Christ, so that it may be transformed into a blessing and forgiveness to break the cycle of violence," she said. As Francis led the prayer service later, Garcia wept, seated near another witness, former paramilitary member Deisy Sanchez Rey. Garcia said afterward that she felt "totally reconciled and able to invite many other people to do the same."

Ex-guerrillas ask forgiveness

Francis backed the contested peace process that has led to Colombia's biggest rebel group, the FARC, disarming and turning into a political party. The government pushed the FARC accord through congress despite resistance from critics who said the rebels were getting off too lightly with amnesties and alternative sentences. A separate official ceasefire has also been clinched with the last active guerrilla group, the ELN.

The conflict erupted in 1964 and drew in leftist guerrillas, right-wing paramilitaries and drug gangs as well as state forces. FARC leader Rodrigo Londono asked Francis in an open letter Thursday for his "forgiveness for any grief or pain we have caused to the people of Colombia." At the prayer ceremony, Juan Carlos Murcia, 38, told of his 12 years in the FARC after being recruited as a 16-year-old boy.

He lost his left hand while handling explosives. He now runs a sporting foundation to keep young people away from drugs and violence. "I ask for forgiveness if at any time I caused pain to a family or a person," he said in an interview. "Today, I feel proud. My heart has been relieved. I feel an inner peace."

Wounded by rebel mine

On a wall during the reconciliation prayers hung a mutilated Christ effigy that was all but destroyed by a deadly FARC bombing in the western town of Bojaya in 2002. During the ceremony, Luz Dary Landazury recalled nearly losing a leg from a landmine laid by guerrillas. She now works to protect people from landmines left over from the conflict. She left one of her crutches as an offering to the Bojaya Christ.

Reconciliation

Pope Francis was joined in the mass by leaders from indigenous communities stricken by the conflict. He planted a tree in a gesture of reconciliation and environmental protection. At the morning mass, Jesus Mario Corrales, 52, said he was dislodged from his land by the FARC in the late 1990s and later also abused by paramilitaries. The Colombian conflict has left 260,000 people confirmed dead, 60,000 unaccounted for and seven million displaced. "Besides forgiveness, I want them to return the bones... so we can pray for our relatives," Corrales said.—AFP

US FLOODS RESCUE WORKERS SUE OVER CHEMICAL PLANT FIRE

CHICAGO: Seven emergency workers who responded to the aftermath of last month's mega-storm Harvey sued chemical company Arkema Thursday for exposing them to smoke from a fire at its flooded Texas plant. The \$1 million lawsuit alleges negligence, claiming Arkema did not adequately prepare for potential flooding, forcing it to abandon the plant near Houston as waters rose without adequate safeguards to avoid volatile chemicals catching fire.

The lawsuit also says Arkema downplayed the danger and did not immediately warn nearby first responders after the first of nine truck-sized containment trailers ignited last Thursday-sending thick black smoke high into the sky. Arkema called the lawsuit "gravely mistaken," adding that it regretted any harm caused "as a result of the havoc wreaked on our plant by Hurricane Harvey." "We reject any suggestion that we failed to warn of the danger of breathing the smoke from the fires at our site, or that we ever misled anyone," the company said in a statement.

Arkema insisted it did all it could amid

five to seven feet of floodwaters, pointing to the 1.5-mile evacuation zone established around the plant as officials waited for the chemicals to burn out. The company had deemed it too risky to move the chemicals as the storm was bearing down on the Houston area. Once its refrigeration systems and backups failed, the chemical compounds began to decompose and overheat. The lawsuit describes a dramatic scene after the initial fire and accompanying smoke.

"One by one, the police officers and first responders began to fall ill in the middle of the road," the complaint filed in Harris County court alleges. "The scene was nothing less than chaos. Police officers were doubled over vomiting, unable to breathe." Fifteen sheriff's deputies were briefly hospitalized, according to authorities. At a news conference after the first fire, company executive Richard Rennard—who is also named in the lawsuit—held back from describing the smoke as toxic, instead saying it was "noxious" and an "irritant." "Toxicity, it's a relative thing," Rennard said.—AFP



TEXAS: FBI agents confront protestors at the gate of the Arkema plant which received major damage from flooding caused by Hurricane and Tropical Storm Harvey in Crosby, Texas.—AFP

US FORMALLY REQUESTS UN VOTE MONDAY ON N KOREA

UNITED NATIONS: The US has formally requested a UN Security Council vote on Monday on tough new sanctions against North Korea despite resistance from China and Russia, as Pyongyang's state media calls for a nuclear arms buildup. Washington has presented a draft UN resolution calling for an oil embargo on North Korea, an assets freeze on Kim Jong-Un, a ban on textiles and an end to payments of North Korean guest workers.

Diplomatic sources said Russia and China opposed the measures as a whole, except for the ban on textiles, during a meeting Friday of experts from the 15 Security Council members. "This evening, the United States informed the UN Security Council that it intends to call a meeting to vote on a draft resolution to establish additional sanctions on North Korea on Monday, September 11," a statement from the US mission to the UN read.

The statement declined to say what text would be voted on the original draft Washington first presented Wednesday, an amended text or another version. In North Korea, which was marking the nation's founding anniversary

Saturday, local media issued fresh calls for a nuclear arms buildup, in defiance of the mounting international sanctions. "The defense sector, in step with the party's Byungjin policy (of developing the economy and nuclear weapons at the same time) must make cutting-edge Juche weapons in greater quantities," the Rodong Sinmun said in an editorial, referring to the national philosophy of "Juche" or self-reliance.

North Korea conducted its fifth nuclear test on September 9 last year, and then carried out a sixth a week ago, saying it was a hydrogen bomb that could be fitted onto a missile-prompting global condemnation and calls for further sanctions. In July, it tested two intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBMs) that appeared to bring much of the mainland US into range.

The mouthpiece of the North's ruling party called for more "miracle-like events" such as the two ICBM tests to deter the United States which it said was bent "decapitating" leader Kim Jong-Un. In another commentary, Rodong Sinmun said the US would continue receiving "gift packages in different

shapes and sizes" as long as it sticks to what it said was a hostile policy against the North. Kim himself has called the ICBM tests "gift packages" that the North was delivering to the "US bastards".

Deal on the horizon?

One month after a ban on coal,

iron and shellfish imports from North Korea, diplomatic sources said council members are seeking new measures to punish Pyongyang for its sixth and largest nuclear test on September 3. The diplomats expressed optimism for the US-backed measure, despite Russia and China's reticence.—AFP



NEW YORK: Russian Ambassador to the UN Vasily Nebenzya, left, speaks with US Ambassador Nikki Haley, right, and Chinese Ambassador Liu Jieyi, center, after a UN Security Council emergency meeting over North Korea's latest missile launch, at UN Headquarters in New York.



FLORIDA: Northbound traffic on the turnpike near Sunrise Blvd. is backed up in the rain as motorists prepare for Hurricane Irma in Sunrise, Florida.—AP

TRAFFIC NIGHTMARE AS MILLIONS TOLD TO LEAVE SOUTH FLORIDA

MIAMI: The race to flee Hurricane Irma became a marathon nightmare as more than a half-million people were ordered to leave South Florida on Thursday. With the storm barreling toward the tip of Florida for perhaps a catastrophic blow this weekend, normally quick trips turned into daylong journeys on crowded highways amid a constant search for gasoline and lodging. Airline seats out of Florida were in short supply as well.

Mari and Neal Michaud loaded their two children and dog into their small sport-utility vehicle and left their home near Cocoa Beach about 10 am, bound for an impromptu vacation in Washington, DC. Using a phone app and calls to search for fuel along the way, they finally arrived at a convenience store that had gasoline nearly five hours later. The 60-mile trip up Interstate 95 should have taken an hour, Mari Michaud said. "There was no gas and it's gridlock. People are stranded on the sides of the highway," she said. "It's 92 degrees out and little kids are out on the grass on the side of the road. No one can help them."

Late Thursday, the National Hurricane Center issued the first hurricane warning for the Keys and parts of South Florida, including some of the Miami metropolitan area of 6 million people. It added a storm surge warning and extended watch areas along the east and west coasts. As people along the Atlantic Coast anxiously watched the behemoth, Irma battered the northern Caribbean, killing at least 11 people and leaving thousands homeless after destroying buildings and uprooting trees.

At least 31,000 people fled the Florida Keys, which could begin seeing wind and rain from Irma as early as Friday night, Gov. Rick Scott said. He noted the size of the powerful Category 5 storm, and told residents not to become complacent. "It is wider than our entire state and could cause major and life-threatening impacts from coast to coast. Regardless of which coast you live on, be prepared to evacuate," Scott said. Scott ordered all schools and state offices to close Friday through Monday.

'Be careful, be safe'

Florida State and the University of Florida canceled their home football games scheduled for Saturday. NASA secured Kennedy Space Center and SpaceX launched an unmanned rocket for an experimental flight. Kennedy

closed its doors to all nonessential staff and a crew of about 120 people will ride out the storm on site. Most of the critical buildings at Kennedy are designed to withstand gusts of up to 135. Irma's wind could exceed that if it reaches Cape Canaveral.

With winds that peaked at 185 mph, Irma was the most powerful hurricane ever recorded in the Atlantic. Georgia Gov. Nathan Deal ordered evacuations for all areas east of Interstate 95, including the city of Savannah, and authorized about 5,000 National Guard members to help with response and recovery. Noel Marsden said he, his girlfriend, her son and their dog left Pembroke Pines north of Miami with plans to ride out Irma in Savannah, only to find the city was also shutting down because of Irma. Marsden isn't sure where they'll all end up.

"I've got a buddy in Atlanta and a buddy in Charlotte. We'll wind up one of those two places because there are not hotels, I can tell you that," he said. The last time Georgia was struck by a hurricane of force Category 3 or higher happened in 1898. Irma's eventual path and Florida's fate depends on when and how sharp the powerful hurricane takes a right turn, National Weather Service Director Louis Uccellini said. "It has become more likely that Irma will make landfall in southern Florida as a dangerous major hurricane," the Hurricane Center said in a forecast discussion Thursday afternoon.

The last Category 5 storm to hit Florida was Andrew in 1992. Its winds topped 165 mph, killing 65 people and inflicting \$26 billion in damage. It was at the time the most expensive natural disaster in US history. President Donald Trump urged people to "be careful, be safe" during Hurricane Irma. In a tweet, Trump remarked that Irma "is raging but we have great teams of talented and brave people already in place and ready to help." Trump's exclusive Mar-a-Lago resort in Palm Beach - the unofficial Southern White House - sits in the path of the storm.

US Air Force Reserve weather officer Maj. Jeremy DeHart flew through the eye of Irma at 10,000 feet Wednesday and through Hurricane Harvey just before it hit Texas last month. He said Irma's intensity set it apart from other storms. "Spectacular is the word that keeps coming to mind. Pictures don't do it justice. Satellite images can't do it justice," DeHart said. Reeves reported from Ormond Beach.—AP

VENEZUELA'S MADURO ACCUSES OPPOSITION LEADER OF TREASON

CARACAS: Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro on Thursday accused opposition leader Julio Borges of treason for embarking on a European tour to rally international powers against Caracas. Borges, who leads the National Assembly that Maduro effectively shut down by creating a new Constituent Assembly in July, has held meetings this week with the leaders of France, Spain, Germany and Britain, with Prime Minister Theresa May on Thursday pledging her "unwavering support" for the opposition.

"It makes no difference to me what Merkel says or the queen of England, in Venezuela we have justice. We don't take orders from London, or Madrid, or Washington," he told the new legislative body. The leftwing leader, who weathered a wave of protests from

April to July that left 125 people dead but is facing a growing economic crisis, added that Borges must be tried for "treason to the fatherland," a crime punishable by up to 30 years in prison.

Legal actions have intensified against members of the opposition since the Constituent Assembly was sworn in on August 4. The body has created a "truth commission" to investigate several leaders for treason. Maduro accused Borges of conspiring with US President Donald Trump, who recently imposed tough new sanctions on Caracas. "Trump and Borges have united for a worldwide crusade against the economy of Venezuela," said Maduro, who has repeatedly accused Washington of trying to foment a coup to capture the country's vast oil reserves.—AFP

BANGLADESH FEARS ROHINGYA VIOLENCE MAY HELP RECRUIT EXTREMISTS

DHAKA: Bangladeshi security forces were on alert for attempts by homegrown Islamist militants to use the violence against Rohingya Muslims in neighboring Myanmar to recruit new fighters, a top official said yesterday. Nearly 300,000 Rohingya Muslims have fled Myanmar's Rakhine state for Muslim-dominated Bangladesh in the 15 days since the latest fighting erupted, according to the United Nations. Many of those have arrived with harrowing accounts of

deaths and rapes at the hands of Myanmar troops and Buddhist militias.

Images purportedly showing atrocities against the Rohingyas have flooded Bangladeshi social media, triggering an outpouring of sympathy among locals, who have historical ties with the community. Monirul Islam, the head of Dhaka's police counter-terrorism unit, said forces were on the lookout for any efforts to use the violence against Rohingyas to rally homegrown extrem-

ists. "We have taken appropriate surveillance measures and are on alert against the move by the inactive militants to draw inspiration from this (violence against Rohingyas) or use it for recruitment purposes," he told reporters.

Bangladesh has a history of homegrown extremist groups, including those who fought alongside the Mujahideen in Afghanistan against the Russians before returning home to form their own groups. Officials said they were par-

ticularly concerned that some of the homegrown groups would recruit students from the thousands of Islamic seminaries in the country to fight for the rights of the Rohingyas. "But we are all on alert so that no quarters can create disorder by exploiting the humanitarian crisis in Myanmar," he said.

Several fringe Islamist leaders have already issued calls to arm Rohingya refugees and help liberate Arakan, the Bengali name for Rakhine. Bangladesh's

government has a long-standing policy of "zero tolerance" towards extremism and hosting insurgent groups of neighboring nations. After the latest violence broke out, Dhaka proposed joint military operations with Myanmar against Rohingya militants fighting in Rakhine state. On Friday, more than 15,000 supporters of Islamist parties in Bangladesh staged demonstrations after weekly prayers, part of wider Muslim protests across Asia protesting the killings of Rohingyas by Myanmar's army.—AFP



SEOUL: Protesters shout slogans during a rally against the deployment of an advanced US missile defense system called Terminal High-Altitude Area Defense, or THAAD, near the presidential Blue House in Seoul, South Korea.—AP

SOUTH KOREA BRACES FOR ANOTHER POSSIBLE NORTH KOREA MISSILE TEST

SEOUL: South Korea is closely watching North Korea over the possibility it may launch another intercontinental ballistic missile as soon as Saturday when it celebrates its founding anniversary. Seoul's Unification Ministry spokeswoman Eugene Lee said Friday that Pyongyang could potentially conduct its next ICBM tests this weekend or around Oct 10, another North Korean holiday marking the founding of its ruling party. North Korea has previously marked key dates with displays of military power, but now its tests appear to be driven by the need to improve missile capabilities.

The North is just coming off its sixth and the most powerful nuclear test to date on Sunday in what it claimed was a detonation of a thermonuclear weapon built for its ICBMs. The country tested its developmental Hwasong-14 ICBMs twice in July and analysts say the flight data from the launches indicate the missiles could cover a broad swath of the continental United States, including major cities such as Los Angeles and Chicago, when perfected. North Korea fired the ICBMs at highly lofted angles in July to reduce ranges and avoid other countries.

But South Korean officials say the next launches could be conducted at angles close to operational as the North would seek to test whether the warheads survive the harsh conditions of atmospheric re-entry and detonate properly. In Washington, President Donald Trump reiterated Thursday that military action is "certainly" an option against North Korea, as his administration tentatively concurred with the pariah nation's claim to have tested a hydrogen bomb. A senior administration official said the US was still assessing last weekend's underground explosion but so far noted nothing inconsistent with Pyongyang's claim.

option," Trump told a White House news conference. "I would prefer not going the route of the military, but it's something certainly that could happen." Pressed on whether he could accept a scenario in which the isolated nation had nukes but was "contained and deterred," Trump demurred. "I don't put my negotiations on the table, unlike past administrations. I don't talk about them. But I can tell you North Korea is behaving badly and it's got to stop," he said.

North Korea broke from its pattern of lofted launches last month when it fired a powerful new intermediate range missile, the Hwasong-12, over northern Japan. North Korean leader Kim Jong Un then called the launch a "meaningful prelude" to containing the US Pacific island territory of Guam and called for his military to conduct more ballistic missile launches targeting the Pacific Ocean.

South Korean experts say that the launch was Pyongyang's attempt to make missiles flying over Japan an accepted norm as it seeks to test new projectiles in conditions close to operational and win more military space in a region dominated by enemies. Kim, a third-generation dictator in his 30s, has conducted four of North Korea's six nuclear tests since taking power in 2011. His military has maintained a torrid pace in testing weapons, which also include solid-fuel missiles built to be fired from road mobile launchers or submarines.

In accelerating his pursuit of nuclear weapons targeting the United States and allies South Korea and Japan, Kim is seen as seeking a real nuclear deterrent to help ensure the survival of his government and also the stronger bargaining power that would come from it. Washington, Seoul and Tokyo have been pushing for stronger sanctions to punish Pyongyang over its nuclear activities, such as denying the country oil supplies. China and Russia have been calling for talks, saying sanctions aren't working against North Korea.—AP

'Meaningful prelude'

"Military action would certainly be an



WELLINGTON: A file photo shows the leader of the New Zealand Labour Party Jacinda Ardern, center, speaking with her front bench at her first press conference at Parliament in Wellington.—AFP

RESURGENT OPPOSITION BOOSTS LEAD IN NEW ZEALAND ELECTION

WELLINGTON: A resurgent Labor opposition under charismatic new leader Jacinda Ardern has increased its lead over New Zealand's ruling National Party in fresh polls two weeks out from a general election. Support for Labor has surged 20 percent in the five weeks since the 37-year-old Ardern took over and turned the campaign into a generation game as she targets younger voters. The latest 1News-Colmar Brunton poll, released Thursday night, had the centre-left Labor Party on 43 percent, four points clear of the centre-right National which slipped to 39 percent—its lowest level in 12 years.

The margin was double the two-point lead Labour held in the same poll a week ago. Ardern described the new numbers as "heartening" but noted other polls had the margin much closer. "The polls that we see generally are really moving a little bit all over the place at the moment so I'm not focusing on any one poll," she said. Prime Minister Bill English said he was "not really" concerned by the numbers and believed there would

be more volatility as voters analyzed policies closer to the September 23 election.

Ardern has campaigned on issues such as education, health and housing affordability and argued that "my generation is being sold down the river," by the conservative government. On Friday she added climate change to her target list, describing it as "my generation's nuclear-free moment." "We have to take our place in the world to combat this problem, we have to show leadership," she said. National, looking for a record-equaling fourth term in government, has focused on its record for the past nine years steering the country through the global economic crisis and recovery from the devastating 2011 Christchurch earthquake.

Radio New Zealand, which collates various polls, said the average from the three most recent ones available had Labor on 41.8 percent, just ahead of National on 41.1 percent. On current poll numbers, neither National nor Labor would be able to govern alone and would likely need support from New Zealand First and other minor parties.—AFP

DESPERATION SPREADS IN ROHINGYA CAMPS AS BASIC RESOURCES SCARCE

FIGHTS ERUPT OVER FOOD AND WATER

COX'S BAZAR: With Rohingya refugees still flooding across the border from Myanmar, those packed into camps and makeshift settlements in Bangladesh were becoming desperate yesterday for scant basic resources as hunger and illness soared. Fights were erupting over food and water. Women and children were tapping on car windows or tugging at the clothes of passing reporters while rubbing their bellies and begging for food. Health experts warned of the potential for outbreaks of disease.

The UN said yesterday that an estimated 290,000 Rohingya Muslims have arrived in the border district of Cox's Bazar in just the last two weeks, joining at least 100,000 who were already there after fleeing earlier riots or persecution in Buddhist-majority Myanmar. The number was expected to swell further, with thousands crossing the border on foot each day. "More and more people are coming," said UNHCR spokeswoman Vivian Tan. With camps already "more than full," the new arrivals were setting up spontaneous settlements along roadsides or on any available patches of land.

Within the camps "we are trying our best, but it is very difficult because every day we are seeing new arrivals" with nowhere to go. The exodus began Aug 25 after Rohingya insurgents attacked police posts in Myanmar's northern Rakhine state. The military responded with what it called "clearance operations" to root out any fighters it said might be hiding in villages. The Myanmar government says nearly 400 people have been killed in fighting it blames on insurgents, though Rohingyas say Myanmar troops and Buddhist mobs attacked them and destroyed their villages.

Many of the newly arrived were initially stunned and traumatized after fleeing the violence. They are now growing desperate in searching for food distribution points that appeared only in recent days, passing out packets of biscuits and 25-kilogram bags of rice. One aid worker who asked not to be identified because they were not authorized to speak to the media said "stocks are running out" with the refugees' needs far greater than what they had imagined. "It is impossible to keep up," she said.

At one food distribution point, women were volunteering to help keep order by tapping people with bamboo sticks to gently urge them back in line. Weary women carried infants in their arms while clutching other children to their sides, afraid they might be separated in the crowds. One 40-year-old man, faint with hunger, collapsed while waiting and could not stand again on his own strength when others tried to help him up. They drizzled water between his lips in an



KUTUPALONG: A Rohingya woman breaks down after a fight erupted during food distribution by local volunteers at Kutupalong, Bangladesh.—AP

attempt to revive him, to no avail.

At one camp, a mobile clinic set up for the first time Saturday had already seen 600 patients by the afternoon. Patients, mostly children were coming in with severe diarrhea, fungal skin infections, ear infections and high fever, said Nasima Yasmin, the director of the clinic run by a well-known Bangladesh health group. Yasmin said their work was barely sufficient given the camp's scale and requirements. "We need deep tube wells so that there is clean water and people can clean themselves. Also toilets are needed," she said, adding that sheer numbers of newcomers raised fears of a serious outbreak of disease.

Refugee camps had already been filled to capacity before the influx. Makeshift settlements were quickly appearing and expanding along roadsides, and the city of Cox's Bazar - built to accommodate only 500,000 - was bursting at its seams. There was an urgent need for more temporary shelters, Tan said. "We are seeing the mushrooming of these very flimsy shelters that will not be able to house people for too long," she said. The UN has asked Bangladesh authorities to make

more land available so they can build new relief camps.

It's not known how many Rohingyas remain in Rakhine state. Previously the population had been thought to be roughly 1 million. Journalists in Rakhine state saw active fires in areas Rohingyas had abandoned, adding to doubts over government claims that Rohingyas themselves were responsible for setting them. Dozens of Rohingyas have died in boat capsizing as they fled the violence. Those who trek days through the jungle to cross the land border face other dangers, including land mines. Land mines were planted years ago along parts of the border.

Bangladeshi officials say Myanmar soldiers have planted new explosives since the latest wave of violence began, though the Myanmar military denies it. "It may not be land mines, but I know there have been isolated cases of Myanmar soldiers planting explosives three to four days ago," Lt. Col. S M Ariful Islam, commanding officer of the Bangladesh border guard in Teknaf, said Friday. He added that he was aware of at least three Rohingyas injured in explosions.—AP

HATE LAW PLAN IN AUSTRALIA AHEAD OF GAY MARRIAGE VOTE

SYDNEY: Australia's ruling and opposition parties vowed Friday to work together to introduce laws against hate speech ahead of a contentious postal vote on gay marriage. Same-sex marriage advocates have opposed the voluntary postal ballot that opens next week, arguing it could turn ugly and expose gay people and their families to abuse. Despite growing public support for same-sex marriage, Australia has not yet legalized such unions after more than a decade of political wrangling.

Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull last year made pledged to hold a national referendum, but switched to a postal vote when the original plan was twice rejected by the upper house. Some 15 million Australians will receive ballot papers after the High Court on Thursday threw out two challenges against the survey by marriage equality campaigners. The hate speech fears have led to the ruling conservative coalition and the left-leaning Labor opposition working together to try to get legislation past parliament as soon as next week.

Finance Minister Mathias Cormann, who is overseeing the survey, said the rules would include ensuring appropriate balance in broadcasting. Labor opposition leader Bill Shorten said the survey needed to have similar protections as political elections on what debate was allowed, and possibly even stronger safeguards. During election periods in Australia, restrictions are imposed on media advertisements in print, video and online.

"At the moment, the protections in an election... are better than what we have for the survey," Shorten told reporters. "So we do need to regulate it so that we have some more decent debate than I think we're seeing at the margins," he added. Heated exchanges among supporters and opponents of gay marriage outside a Brisbane church late Thursday were an early sign of what might be in store. One woman rallying for same-sex unions told broadcaster Channel Nine the situation turned "extremely aggressive and particularly violent."

Ahead of the court's decision, a poster emblazoned "stop the fags" was put up in Melbourne, while there were flyers describing homosexuality as "a curse of death" distributed in Sydney. The postal vote will close on November 7, with the result known later that month. If most Australians vote "yes," the government will move for a parliamentary vote, but will not do so if there is a "no" outcome.—AFP

MALAYSIA PM SAYS ROHINGYA FACE SYSTEMATIC ATROCITIES

SUBANG, Malaysia: Malaysian Prime Minister Najib Razak yesterday said Rohingya Muslims face systematic violence including torture, rape and murder in Myanmar. Predominantly Muslim Malaysia has spoken out strongly against mostly Buddhist Myanmar over its treatment of its Rohingya minority since violence erupted last October. In the past 15 days, nearly 300,000 Rohingya Muslims have fled to neighboring Bangladesh after raids by Rohingya militants triggered a Myanmar security forces crackdown in Rakhine state.

"Based on the reports we have received, (the Rohingyas) are discriminated and no mercy is accorded to them," he told reporters at the Subang Air Force base on the outskirts of the capital Kuala Lumpur. "Actually, it is done in a planned manner so that they are tortured, discriminated, killed and raped," he added. Earlier Najib witnessed the deployment of two airforce cargo planes with food and medical supplies to the port city of Chittagong in Bangladesh.

"We are sending two planes with biscuits, rice and soap. Malaysia will do whatever it can to help since this is a huge disaster," he said. Najib also said a reconnaissance team would arrive in Dhaka on Monday consisting of diplomats and military officers to identify further assistance

needed by the Rohingyas. Malaysia's armed forces chief said Saturday that Kuala Lumpur would provide a 200-bed military field hospital in Bangladesh if the government there granted permission.

Describing Myanmar's inaction to halt the violence against innocent civilians as "rather disappointing," Najib said he will raise the Rohingya humanitarian tragedy with President Donald Trump on September 12 during an official visit to the White House. "We have to help because the Rohingya tragedy has reached terrible proportions," he said. On Friday, the powerful youth wing of Najib's dominant Malaysia's ruling party led a noisy street protest urging Kuala Lumpur to sever diplomatic ties with Yangon.

Malaysia on Tuesday summoned the Myanmar ambassador to voice its "deep concern" over the situation in Rakhine state, where witnesses said entire villages have been burned. Over 1,000 people—more than twice the government's total estimate—may already have been killed in Rakhine, mostly Rohingyas, said Yanghee Lee, the UN special rapporteur on human rights in Myanmar. As of June this year, there are 59,100 Rohingya refugees registered with the UN Refugee Agency in Malaysia.—AFP



MALAYSIA: Malaysia's Prime Minister Najib Razak, center, speaks to journalists during the deployment of humanitarian aid for Rohingya refugees to Chittagong in Bangladesh, at the Subang Air Force base in Subang.—AFP

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Focus

IRMA: FORECAST, FACTS, FIGURES

Hurricane Irma has pounded the Caribbean, destroying homes and leaving at least 19 people dead. The hurricane made landfall in Cuba's Camaguey Archipelago late on Friday as a maximum-strength Category Five storm, and is now bearing down on the US state of Florida, where authorities have ordered 5.6 million people to evacuate. Though it weakened yesterday to Category 4, it was still packing powerful maximum sustained winds of 250 kilometers (155 miles) an hour as it zeroed in on the Sunshine State. The International Red Cross says 1.2 million people have already been affected by Irma—a number that could rise to 26 million. The bill for loss and damage could hit \$120 billion (100 billion euros) in the United States and Caribbean, according to data modeling firm Enki Research.

Barbuda

Irma hit the tiny Caribbean island of Barbuda on Wednesday. The island suffered "absolute devastation," with up to 30 percent of properties demolished, Prime Minister Gaston Browne said. One person is known to have died on the island of 1,600 residents, apparently a child whose family was trying to get to safer ground.

St Barts and St Martin

Irma then slammed into the holiday islands of St Barts and St Martin, wielding monster winds and torrential rain. St Martin is divided between France and the Netherlands. France said 10 people had died, while the Netherlands said the storm killed two on the Dutch side, called Sint Maarten. Both governments said the damage was enormous and condemned looting.

Virgin Islands

At least four people were killed in the US Virgin Islands, officials said. "We lost a significant and a good number of assets... in terms of fire stations, police stations," Governor Kenneth Mapp said on Facebook, adding that the region's main health facility, the Schneider Regional Medical Center, lost its roof. In the British Virgin Islands, Governor Gus Jaspert declared a state of emergency and said "there have sadly been reports of casualties and fatalities".

Puerto Rico

At least two people were killed in the US territory of Puerto Rico, and more than half of its three million residents were without power after rivers broke their banks in the centre and north of the island.

Dominican Republic

The storm tore past the Dominican Republic Thursday, bringing torrential rain. Some 20,000 people were evacuated and more than 2,000 homes hit by floods.

Haiti

Irma brought flooding and caused several injuries in Haiti, but passed further north than had been forecast, sparing the impoverished island the worst. In northwest Haiti, a motorcyclist was missing after trying to cross a flooded river and a number of roads were washed out.

Bahamas

The Bahamas escaped the worst of Irma's wrath, with no casualties or major infrastructure damages reported Friday. But reports indicated that there were several downed power lines, toppled trees, debris and roofs damaged.

Cuba

Irma made landfall on the island's Camaguey Archipelago late Friday. Close to a million people have left their homes to stay with relatives or in shelters. The Caribbean's biggest island, Cuba had already evacuated 10,000 foreign tourists from beach resorts and raised its disaster alert level to maximum ahead of Irma's arrival.

Where next?

Irma is expected to strike the Florida Keys today before moving inland to Georgia and South Carolina, according to the US National Hurricane Center. Authorities have ordered 5.6 million to evacuate—around a quarter of Florida's population—and many residents have joined a mass exodus. The US military is mobilizing thousands of troops and deploying several large ships to help with evacuations and humanitarian relief. US President Donald Trump has already declared a state of emergency for Puerto Rico, the US Virgin Islands and Florida, while Georgia ordered the evacuation of the city of Savannah and other coastal areas.

More hurricanes

On Friday, another hurricane, Jose, strengthened to Category 4 as it followed the path of Irma, packing winds of 240 kph. St Barts and St Martin have been placed on alert ahead of its projected passage over the islands. A third hurricane, Katia, made landfall in eastern Mexico late Friday, just as the country grappled with damage inflicted by its worst earthquake in a century. It was later downgraded from Category One to a tropical storm, but the US National Hurricane Center warned it was bringing rains likely to cause "life-threatening flash floods and mudslides, especially in areas of mountainous terrain". — AFP



THE DREAMERS DESERVE BETTER THAN THIS

Dr James J Zogby
 President Arab American Institute

In the midst of the many immediate challenges confronting the White House and Congress, President Donald Trump just added one more. This past week, Trump told the Department of Justice to rescind the Obama-era DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals) Program. When President Obama initiated DACA in 2012, he did so out of frustration with Congress' inability to pass a comprehensive immigration bill that would have addressed the plight of the estimated 11 million undocumented immigrants living and working in the US.

Of special concern to Obama were the young people who had come into the US with their parents, had lived here for many years, were in school or working or in the US military, knew no other country but America - but through no fault of their own were undocumented and could be deported at any time. Obama, therefore, instituted DACA, a program that allowed these young people an opportunity to normalize their lives. DACA allowed them to get work permits and to be safe from deportation.

To qualify for DACA, registrants had to meet specific requirements. Among them, they had to have been under 16 years of age when they entered the US, under 31 in the year DACA was introduced, and have virtually no criminal record. They also needed to demonstrate that they were working, in school, or serving in the military. Over 800,000 applied and most were found eligible. Everyone knew that the program was a temporary fix, but given the failure of Congress to responsibly resolve the status of the undocumented, this fix provided

much needed relief to those who were living in fear. DACA was immediately denounced by Republicans as an unconstitutional overreach and they pledged to have it overturned. One of the most virulent opponents of the program was then Senator Jeff Sessions, the current Attorney General. From his public statements on immigration, Trump has appeared to be somewhat ambivalent on the matter. He, too, accused Obama of overreach and had railed against "illegal immigrants."

At the same time he has expressed compassion for the young people who find themselves in this predicament. We are led to believe that the actions he took this

week reflected this ambivalence. He ordered the Justice Department to announce the termination of DACA - but provided a six month window before its expiration - giving, he said, Congress that much time to legislate a solution.

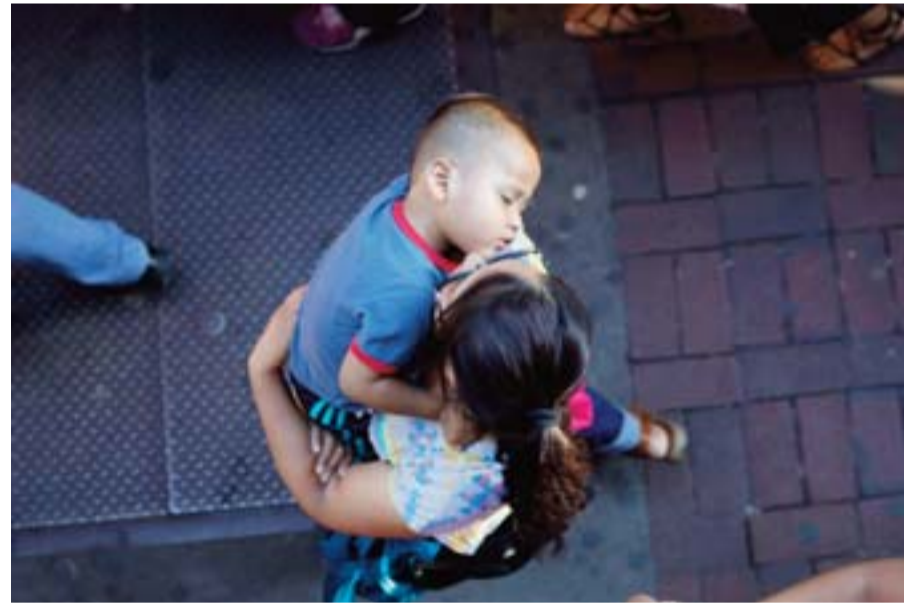
The problem with what the president has done is that it was both unnecessary and unrealistic. It was also cruel and unsettling to the young people whose fate now hangs in the balance.

It was unnecessary because it didn't have to be done. With Congress facing other pressing challenges - passing a budget, extending the debt ceiling, finding agreement on tax reform and health care reform,

and dealing with costly crises brought on by this year's hurricane season - the termination of DACA adds yet another burden to an already packed legislative calendar. It is unrealistic to expect that the same dysfunctional Congress that hasn't been able to pass any meaningful legislation this year will now find its way to come to agreement in the next six months on the very issue (immigration reform) that they have failed to resolve for well over a decade.

And it is unsettling for the DACA recipients who now find themselves, once again, facing an uncertain future. As an explanation of just how sticky this issue will be for a divided Congress to address, some Republicans are now proposing to their Democratic colleagues that they might support legislation to normalize the status of the DACA recipients if the Democrats will agree to support their efforts to cut in half the total number of immigrants allowed annually into the US and support funding for the wall Trump hopes to build between Mexico and the US.

Not only do Democrats find it immoral to callously use the future of these young people as bargaining chips, they also consider both of these options to be unrelated non-starters. There is one bill being proposed by Senators Lindsey Graham (Republican) and Richard Durbin (Democrat) that addresses the status of these young people as a stand alone measure. Their legislation is an updated version of the DREAM Act - an effort that has been proposed before but failed to pass both Houses of Congress in the same form. The DREAM Act and its companion in the House were introduced in July and are now facing the ticking clock imposed by Trump's cruel six month deadline.



NEW YORK: Immigrants' rights demonstrators march in protest of President Trump's decision on DACA in the Queens borough of New York City. — AFP

TRUMP'S TURN ON SOUTH KOREA RISKS ALLIANCE

By Hwang Sunghee

Donald Trump is playing into North Korea's hands by turning on the South, accusing it of appeasement, snubbing its leader and threatening to end their trade deal in moves that analysts say risk weakening a decades-long alliance. More than 24 hours after Pyongyang shook the ground and the world with what it said was a hydrogen bomb test, the US president had yet to speak to his South Korean counterpart Moon Jae-in.

But he already had a telephone conversation with Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, their second of the weekend. In a series of tweets posted hours after the test, Trump denounced the North but also criticized Seoul, saying: "South Korea is finding, as I have told them, that their talk of appeasement with North Korea will not work, they only understand one thing!"

That came after he said on Saturday he was considering pulling the United States out of its free trade pact with the South-an economic deal that analysts say underpins the breadth of the relationship between the two countries, which have been security allies for nearly 70 years. Trump's unexpected attack on the country took many by surprise, and analysts say his undisciplined tweets were worsening the situation at a crisis moment.

Moon backs engagement with the North as well as sanctions to bring it to the negotiating table, and called for stronger measures in response to the latest nuclear test. But John Delury of Yonsei University in Seoul said Trump was comparing Moon to Neville Chamberlain, the British prime minister who sought to satisfy Adolf Hitler's territorial demands in Europe before the Second World War. "What it indicates is that he puts so little value in that relationship right now that he is willing to publicly attack his partner in Seoul," he said. The US is security guarantor for the democratic and capitalist South, where 28,500 US troops are stationed to defend it from Pyongyang after the 1950-53 Korean War ended with a ceasefire instead of a peace treaty. The alliance with Seoul has been a key pillar of Washington's geopolitical strategy in Asia, where China is increasingly flexing its muscles and the North has made rapid advances in its weapons programs.

But as well as talking to Japan's Abe, Trump tweeted that

China was "trying to help but with little success". "The hierarchy is clear that South Korea is at the bottom of the pile," Delury said. Trump's approach could be "absolutely fatal for US NK policy" tweeted Adam Mount, senior fellow at the Center for American Progress, adding: "Alliance cohesion is the easiest and most important signal to send today." "Trump's views on trade, negotiations, policy inconsistency, threats, & other slights have ravaged the alliance," he said.

'Dumb and dangerous'

On the campaign trail, Trump accused South Korea of not paying enough for its defense and threatened to scrap

a "horrible" bilateral trade pact, triggering major concerns about the alliance. Those concerns have resurfaced in Seoul after Trump said that he would discuss the possible withdrawal from the five-year-old US-Korea free trade agreement (FTA), known as KORUS, with his aides this week. "It's very much on my mind," he said. The trade pact carries symbolic value as it had been billed as something that can "buttress the alliance", said Delury. Scrapping it would be the economic equivalent of "pulling the rug out" from underneath South Korea just when it is under threat from the North, Delury said. South Korean media also warned of the potential consequences. — AFP



PYONGYANG: Pyongyang residents celebrate the test of a hydrogen bomb for ICBM in Pyongyang. — AFP

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TRUMP HAILS KUWAIT MEDIATION EFFORTS

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Meanwhile, Saudi Arabia yesterday suspended any dialogue with Qatar, accusing it of distorting facts soon after a phone call between the rulers of both countries offered hope of a breakthrough in the three-month-old Gulf crisis. Qatar's Emir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani spoke to Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed Bin Salman to express interest in talks, state media from both sides said, in the first public engagement between the leaders after the US president offered to mediate in the crisis.

Saudi Arabia led the United Arab Emirates, Egypt and Bahrain in cutting ties with Qatar in June, accusing it of bankrolling Islamist extremist groups and of being too close to regional rival Iran. Doha denies the accusations. The crown prince "welcomed this desire," the Saudi Press Agency (SPA) initially reported, adding "details will be announced after Saudi Arabia reaches an agreement with UAE and Bahrain and Egypt".

But the prospect of a thaw quickly died down after SPA subsequently accused Qatar's state media of wrongly implying that Saudi Arabia had initiated the outreach. "The contact was at the request of Qatar and its request for dialogue," SPA said, citing a Saudi foreign ministry official. "Qatar is not serious in dialogue and continues its previous policies. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia declares that any dialogue with Qatar shall be suspended until a clear statement explaining its position is made in public."

Despite the deadlock, observers said the telephone call between the Qatari and Saudi rulers itself was a sign that tensions were dissipating. "The fact that the telephone call took place and the offer of dialogue was made is significant in itself," said Kristian Ulrichsen, a fellow at the Baker Institute for Public Policy at Rice University. "(It) signals a climb down from the brinkmanship that has characterized so much of the Gulf standoff since June," Ulrichsen said.

Qatar, which hosts a US military base critical to the effort to defeat the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria, has long denied funding extremists. It recently restored full diplomatic ties to Iran, with which it shares a massive offshore natural gas field that makes its citizens among the world's wealthiest. In his comments, Trump offered a pointed reminder that terrorism financing is at the heart of the crisis. At one point he

said the dispute "began because of that fact that there has been massive funding of terrorism by certain countries."

He did not identify those countries, but in June he had made reference to Saudi and other Arab complaints about Qatar. For his part, Kuwaiti leader said he remained hopeful that a resolution to the crisis could be reached. He noted that Qatar had been presented with a list of 13 demands by the other countries and was willing to discuss them. Although Qatar has rejected some of them out of hand, he said he believed negotiations were possible. "I am optimistic that the solution will come in the very near future," he said. "The hope has not ended yet."

That hope appeared in jeopardy early Friday with a statement by the boycotting countries saying "any dialogue on meeting their demands should not be preceded by any prior conditions." The statement, which said the countries "regret" several of the comments by Kuwait leader, represents an unusual rebuke in the clubby world of Gulf Arab nations.

The nations also said a military intervention "has not been and will not be considered" to end the crisis, something mentioned by Sheikh Sabah in his remarks as once a possibility. However, Qatari exiles whom analysts believe are backed by the boycotting countries have repeatedly called for a coup in Qatar, while Saudi columnists at state-backed newspapers have repeatedly suggested an invasion to overthrow Qatar's ruler, Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani.

In response to a reporter's question, Trump briefly spoke about his administration's efforts to restart long-stalled Israeli-Palestinian peace talks. Trump plans to meet both Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly later this month. "I think we have a chance of doing it," he said. "I think the Palestinians would like to see it happen, I think the Israelis would like to see it happen."

In Kuwait, media reports focused on the Amir's visit to Washington as a sign of the strong relationship the two countries have, including when a US-led coalition expelled occupying Iraqi forces from the small nation during the 1991 Gulf War. Today, Kuwait hosts some 13,500 American troops, many at Camp Arifjan south of Kuwait City, which also is home to the forward command of US Army Central. — Agencies



ST MARTIN: A man walks on a street covered in debris after hurricane Irma passed on the French island of St Martin, near Marigot. Officials on the island of Guadeloupe, where French aid efforts are being coordinated, suspended boat crossings to the hardest-hit territories of St Martin and St Barts where 11 people have died. — AFP

PREPARATIONS IN PLACE FOR NEW SCHOOL YEAR

KUWAIT: All security and safety precautions have been put in place as the new school year gets underway, Kuwait's Ministry of Interior (MoI) said yesterday. Speaking to the press, the MoI's director of the general department of public relations Adel Al-Hashash outlined a foolproof security plan that aims to ease traffic congestion nationwide. He pointed out that the ministry has launched numerous campaigns to raise awareness of road safety, which is crucial to ensure a successful school year. Meanwhile, Al-Hashash revealed that lessons on traffic safety would be incorporated into school curriculums year-round in efforts to keep road mishaps at bay.

The MoI official added that a close rapport between government bodies would prove beneficial to ensure an auspicious start to the new school year. — KUNA



KUWAIT AND US UNITE AGAINST TERROR, RENEW...

Continued from Page 1

"Both sides said they would further steps to prevent the financing of terrorism and halting the flow of foreign terrorists into the region, which is believed to have declined significantly. This emphasized the importance of further cooperation in rehabilitating and reintegrating them into their society," the statement reads. "More must be done. United States, Kuwait, and our other Global Coalition partners stand together in the shared fight against ISIS until it is defeated," according to the statement.

"Preventing the flow of foreign fighters has been a major part of our effort to defeat ISIS, and Kuwait is a co-lead of the Coalition Working Group on Foreign Fighters." US and Kuwaiti cyber policymakers also met to strategize long-term cooperation against cyberattacks. US assured its public and private sectors stand ready to support Kuwait as it implements its National Cyber Security Strategy. The US Chamber of Commerce hosted a US-Kuwait Economic Forum and a memorandum of understanding was signed between the Department of Commerce's Select USA and the Kuwait Direct Investment Promotion Authority, aimed at strengthening commerce and trade.

During talks, Kuwait stressed its priority to take steps that facilitate doing business in Kuwait, while both sides affirmed they would seek to alleviate any barriers to bilateral investment. In addition, the US Department of State and the Kuwait Ministry of Higher Education signed a memorandum of understanding that will encourage student exchanges and educational cooperation across institutions of higher learning and research centers.

More than 15,000 Kuwaitis are currently studying or preparing to study in the United States.

Additionally, officials signed a Customs Mutual Assistance Agreement to improve information sharing, training and enforcement of customs and immigration laws. Both sides reaffirmed commitment to protecting Kuwaiti and American nationals. "We will work to facilitate the secure travel of our nationals and further synchronize our border security partnerships." The next round of the Strategic Dialogue will be held in Kuwait in 2018.

Agreements signed

Meanwhile, Kuwaiti and US governments signed two joint agreements aimed at boosting their cooperation in the investment and higher education fields on Friday. The Kuwait Direct Promotion Authority (KDPA) signed a cooperation pact with the International Trade Administration and SelectUSA Program at the US Department of Commerce. The deal aims at exchanging data and expertise on the investment climate in both countries in order to encourage and attract direct foreign investments between them.

Also, Kuwait's Higher Education Ministry signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the US State Department to boost their cooperation in higher education and scientific research. The agreements were signed in the presence of First Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah. The cooperation investment pact was signed by KDPA's Director General Sheikh Dr Meshal Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah and Executive Director of SelectUSA Program Fred Volcansek. In another development, the education MoU was signed by Deputy Minister of Higher Education Dr Hamid Al-Azmi and Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Public Diplomacy in the Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs (NEA) Larry Schwartz. — KUNA

HIJAB, ABAYA DAZZLE NY RUNWAY

Continued from Page 1

Instead of the usual stick thin, white model types, the front row featured guests dressed to the nines in hijabs and Chanel bags, black women dressed to accentuate every curve, Latinas, and guests from across Asia and the Middle East. Pelangi's elegant collection was a riot of colorful Indonesian materials, Batik print and tie dye - covering women from head to toe in full skirts, wide pants, loose fitting jackets and rich brocade.

Covering the models' hair were statement scarfs wrapped over and under raised head pieces as aristocratic as a noble woman's in Medieval or Renaissance Europe. Pelangi said inspiration came from the best-selling book "Humans of New York" by US photographer Brandon Stanton who documents the diversity of the 8.5 million people who live in the city.

Zubedi's look was more conservative still - her signature abaya - the loose flowing head to toe black garment obligatory in Saudi Arabia and adopted by some of the most strictly observant Muslim women elsewhere. Sewn onto the back of her colorful gowns were "Makkah, Madinah, Jannah" - two sites of Muslim pilgrimage and the Arabic word for paradise - and the phrase "all colors matter."

"I love the US every much and I have a lot of clients here," Zubedi said. "Hijab is beautiful, we are all still human no matter what religion you are. We are still the same." Diversity is a buzz word this season as the fashion establishment makes known its disgust with the Trump administration. Models of all sizes and colors are more prominent and social media is challenging the monopoly once set by editors. The show comes a year after Indonesia's Anniesa Hasibuan broke new ground by staging the first New York runway show featuring models all wearing the hijab. — AFP

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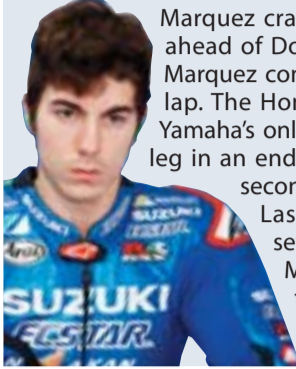
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VINALES TAKES POLE AT SAN MARINO AFTER MARQUEZ CRASHES

MISANO ADRIATICO: Yamaha rider Maverick Vinales edged championship leader Andrea Dovizioso to claim pole position for the San Marino and Rimini Riviera Grand Prix after defending champion Marc Marquez crashed yesterday. Vinales finished 0.162 seconds ahead of Dovizioso to take his fourth career MotoGP pole. Marquez completes the front row after crashing on his final lap. The Honda rider managed to escape injury. Vinales is Yamaha's only rider after teammate Valentino Rossi broke his leg in an enduro training accident. Cal Crutchlow heads the second row ahead of Jorge Lorenzo and Johann Zarco. Last year's Misano winner Dani Pedrosa qualified seventh. In the MotoGP standings, Dovizioso leads Marquez by nine points, with Vinales four points further back. There are six races remaining, including today's. —AP



GOLF

MCCARRON TAKES PGA TOUR CHAMPIONS LEAD IN JAPAN

CHIBA: Scott McCarron was in a familiar spot at the top of a PGA Tour Champions leaderboard in his first trip to Japan. California childhood rival Kevin Sutherland was close behind - again.

Coming off his third victory in the last six tournaments, the 52-year-old McCarron shot his second straight 6-under 66 yesterday at Narita Golf Club to take a one-stroke lead over Sutherland in the Japan Airlines Championship - the senior tour's first event in Japan.

"I've been in this position a lot of late," McCarron said. "I really enjoy being in this position. I get to play with Kevin Sutherland again. We've been making a habit out of it this last month, I think we've been in the final group three out of the last four weeks. We've been battling it out and I'm sure it will be a good battle tomorrow."

Sutherland, tied for the first-round lead with Glen Day at 65, had a 68. Also visiting Japan for the first time, Sutherland made a 30-foot putt on the par-4 18th for his third birdie on the last four holes.

"I stayed really patient today," Sutherland said. "I didn't get frustrated at all. I wasn't making any birdies and then all of a sudden you birdie three of the last four. But I think a lot of it was just early in the round I just didn't let any sort of frustration creep in."

The long-hitting McCarron birdied all four par 5s after birdieing three of them Friday. He saved par on 18 with a 6-footer to keep the outright lead.

"These greens are absolutely perfect," McCarron said. "The golf course is in great shape, so we're just having a lot of fun here." McCarron won the Shaw Charity Classic last week in Calgary, Alberta, to tie Bernhard Langer for the tour victory lead with four. The three-time PGA Tour winner won the Allianz Championship in February in Florida, the major Senior Players Championship in July in Maryland and the Dick's Sporting Goods Open three weeks ago in upstate New York. He has six victories in the last two seasons on the 50-and-over tour.

"I prepared very hard to get ready for

this PGA Tour Champions," McCarron said. "I knew how good these guys were and I wanted to get my game in the best shape that I could possibly be in. I'm starting to reap some of those rewards from all that hard work. But it's just been a lot of fun for me. That's the biggest thing I think why I'm playing well, I'm really enjoying it out here."

VERY GOOD HOSTS

The 53-year-old Sutherland has five straight top-10 finishes. He was second in the Dick's Sporting Goods Open and tied for third in Calgary to remain winless on the tour. His lone PGA Tour victory came at McCarron's expense in 2002 at La Costa in the Accenture Match Play Championship, when he beat the fellow Sacramento, California-area player 1 up in the 36-hole final. "I felt like I drove the ball a lot better today, which is a good sign for tomorrow," said Sutherland, the only player to shoot 59 in tour history.

Todd Hamilton, the 2004 British Open champion and an 11-time winner on the Japan Golf Tour, was three strokes back at 9 under along with Colin Montgomerie and Carlos Franco. Hamilton birdied the last two holes and five of the last seven for a 65.

"I figured I would see some people I hadn't seen for a while, which I have," Hamilton said. "The Japanese people are very good hosts and I think we've been treated to a very good week."

Montgomerie had a 66, and Franco shot 68. "The greens were most difficult today," Montgomerie said. "They were quicker and the pins were on more slopes than they were yesterday, so it was harder."

Jeff Sluman birdied the last four holes for 66 to match Paul Goydos (69), Stephen Ames (67) and Wes Short Jr. (69) at 8 under. Goydos won the 3M Championship last month in Minnesota.

Day was another stroke back after a 72.

Massy Kuramoto topped the six Japanese players in the field at 5 under after a 72. Fan favorite John Daly closed with a double bogey for a 73 that left him 2 under. Tom Watson, at 68 the oldest player in the field, was 1 under after a 73. — AP



TOKYO: Senior member of the Professional Golfers' Association Scott McCarron presents a golf cap and a shirt to Japan's Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, right, during their courtesy call at Abe's official residence in Tokyo. — AP

WORLD CUP TROPHY STARTS WORLDWIDE TOUR IN MOSCOW

MOSCOW: The World Cup trophy tour began a worldwide tour in Moscow yesterday at a ceremony attended by Russian President Vladimir Putin and FIFA chief Gianni Infantino. Ten months before the 2018 World Cup kicks off there, the ceremony took place at Luzhniki stadium, which has been fully renovated and will also host the final and five other matches. The event was also attended by football stars of the past — Bebeto of Brazil and former French striker David Trezeguet. Putin has promised that his country will complete the preparations for hosting the tournament on time. "Everything is going according to schedule, everything is supported by the financial backing," Putin said. Infantino said he was confident Russia would put on a tournament to remember. "The World Cup is the most famous sports symbol, it's unique," he said. "We will tell Russia and the entire world what a competition will take place here in 2018. I'm confident that it will be a remarkable tournament." —AFP

KIRYU, FIRST JAPANESE TO BREAK 10-SEC 100M

TOKYO: Yoshihide Kiryu yesterday smashed a national 100-metre record in a time of 9.98 seconds to become the first Japanese to break the 10-second barrier. The 21-year-old, a member of Japan's silver medal-winning men's 4x100 relay team at the Rio Olympics, shattered the previous record by 0.02 secs at an intercollegiate meet in Fukui, central Japan. The Toyo University student started moderately in the final but raced past his rivals in top gear and finished first with a 1.8-metre tailwind. Kiryu screamed with joy after crossing the line and pointed to a display clock showing his time. "I'm thrilled to have done it in my last 100 race of the season," said Kiryu, according to Kyodo News. "I'd been stuck for four years and I managed to rewrite my own record at last," he said. "I'm on the starting block of the world now that I've run a nine," he added. — AFP



FOXBOROUGH: New England Patriots safety Devin McCourty (32) upends Kansas City Chiefs tight end Travis Kelce (87) after Kelce caught a pass during the second half of an NFL football game, in Foxborough, Mass. — AP

NFL

RULES, HABITS, PASSION KEEP NFL AGING QUARTERBACKS AROUND

NEW YORK: Tom Brady didn't get things started on a strong note for the growing group of gray-beard quarterbacks when the Chiefs spoiled the Patriots' latest Super Bowl celebration with a big comeback of their own Thursday night in the NFL opener.

Few doubt Brady will bounce back from that stunning 42-27 loss with another stellar season, however. At 40, Brady says he's more efficient in his training than when he was in his 20s. "I think it's a lot easier for me now than it's ever been," he said. "I feel like my routine's better than it's ever been. When you're younger you don't know what to do, and after 17 years, going on my 18th year I know what to do. I know how to prepare."

Brady is the elder statesman of starting QBs, seven of whom are 35 or older for the first time ever. Brady is joined by Drew Brees (38), Josh McCown (38), Carson Palmer (37), Eli Manning (36), Ben Roethlisberger (35) and Philip Rivers (35) in the club of QBs who have circled the sun 35 times or more.

Quarterbacks are delaying retirement while making more money, eating better, working out year-round and benefiting from rule changes that have resulted in fewer hits and less wear and tear on their bodies. Bolstering veterans' value is the paucity of QBs running the pro-style system in college.

"It starts with better conditioning and nutrition," said Hall of Famer and ex-general manager Bill Polian. "As a people we're living longer and being more productive." The spate of rule changes over the last two decades that fed the offensive explosion is bearing fruit now that

quarterbacks are elongating their peak performance years and prolonging their careers.

"Back in the day, those quarterbacks, you could just come down on their shoulders, you could do all those types of things," said coach-turned-broadcaster Rex Ryan. "And you know I think the league has nipped that and taken away some of those unnecessary shots that guys have taken and that probably shortened careers quite a bit."

Rivers is preparing to face the Denver Broncos on Monday night for the 24th time as he begins his 14th NFL season. "First, I'm very thankful. I feel like I've been blessed to be healthy enough to continue to go out there each and every year as long as I have," Rivers said. "I think certainly the rules set up to help you a little bit, no question as far as where that target area is, it's not as vast as it used to be as far as the hits you used to take."

PRO STYLE SCHEMES

"And I'm still excited about doing it. I'm still fired up to come in here and prepare for the Broncos and prepare for a season, to go to training camp and all those things."

That's what drives all QBs, that internal fire, whatever its fuel. "The seven that we could name, they all love it and have a great passion for it," Rivers said. "Not that the guys in the past didn't. I don't mean that. But, shoot, some guys are ready to be done at 35, 36, and some just enjoy it so much they don't want to put it down." On the other end are the greenhorn quarterbacks coming out of college and having to adjust on the fly to the pro style schemes

after operating in the spread going back to high school, or even Pop Warner. Broncos general manager John Elway moved up in the draft last year to select Paxton Lynch out of Memphis. But he's been beaten out two summers in a row by 2015 seventh-rounder Trevor Siemian, a heady Northwestern grad who benefited from his year under Peyton Manning's tutelage and made a quicker transition from the spread.

"There's always been a dearth of quarterbacks," Polian said. "And we survived the wishbone era, which couldn't have been more disparate compared to what was done in the NFL. So, we'll survive the spread - and at least they're throwing the ball, so they develop stronger arms and, ostensibly, a little bit better accuracy than wishbone guys did."

Elements of the spread dot the NFL landscape, but as a whole, it's unsustainable against the bigger, stronger, faster defenders in the pros. "I think there's always some of it that comes in anytime you're involved in the passing game," said Polian. "Whether or not the play-calling via cards would make any sense, I have no opinion on. The no-huddle predated the spread, so that's not an issue. But the one thing I'm sure of is that there are no old running quarterbacks in the National Football League."

"So, the idea of the read-option, once a guy sustains his first injury, i.e. RG3," Polian added about Robert Griffin III, "that sort of goes by the board. I don't think that's coming into professional football as a steady diet anytime soon." The ones that do adjust and can thrive have an ever-increasing lifetime expectancy in the NFL. Just ask them. — AP

LYDIA KO REGAINS FORM, TIES WITH LEXI THOMPSON

INDIANAPOLIS: Lydia Ko delivered a clear message to her LPGA Tour rivals Friday. She's having fun again - and she's ready to start winning again. The 20-year-old New Zealander shot an 8-under 64 and grabbed a share of the lead with Lexi Thompson at 15-under 129 with a round left in the Indy Women in Tech Championship. If Ko puts together one more solid round Saturday, she could finally pick up her first win since July 2016.

"I know I've still got a whole, full 18 holes tomorrow to go, but I think really the key was that I've just kind of enjoyed being in this position and being able to hit some good shots and give myself some good looks at birdie," Ko said. "When you start doing that, it builds your confidence and you're not dwelling on, 'Hey, am I going to hit a good shot or a bad shot.' I think that's kind of the mindset that I've kind of gotten into the last few months."

After a summer full of frustration, the 14-time tour winner has shifted gears at Indianapolis Motor Speedway's golf course. Ko started the season with four top-10 finishes in seven events, but hasn't finished higher than 10th since. She even missed the cuts in two of her last three tournaments. Somehow, amid the intermittent sounds of chirping birds, jet engines, sirens and car horns

while playing in the shadows of the racetrack's grandstands, Ko found some serenity.

While playing partners Anna Nordqvist and Stacy Lewis, the winner last week in Portland, Oregon, struggled, Ko took advantage of the wide fairways and receptive greens and started playing like the world's No. 1 player - a title she held for more than 80 consecutive weeks.

Now No. 8 in the world, Ko started on the back nine and opened with consecutive birdies to tie Thompson at 9 under. Ko finally broke the tie with a birdie at No. 15, then took charge with five straight birdies on the front side to reach 16 under. The only glitch came on No. 8 when Ko missed the green to the left and slid her par putt to the right for a bogey.

"It was a little disappointing to finish off with a bogey on my 17th hole, but I felt like I played the toughest hole out there," she said while Thompson prepared to tee off nearby. "Sometimes you have those mistakes but you need to move on from that. To me, it's just nice to play some solid golf and put myself in a good position." Ko also understood her score might not hold up for the outright lead. Thompson made sure of it, following her opening 63 with a 66. The 22-year-old Florida player closed out the front nine with three birdies on

the final four holes then adding birdies at Nos. 13 and 14 to tie Ko. But Thompson's birdie putt at No. 16 missed just to the left of the hole and she wound up scrambling for par on the final two holes when her approaches went through the greens. "Actually, I didn't hit one bad golf shot today," Thompson said. "I feel great about it, I'll never complain about a 6-under round." The final threesome today might not need to do much scoreboard watching. Candie Kung made nine birdies and shot a 64 to reach 14 under.

"Luckily, I was able to hit some really close ones and have some 3-footers and 5-footers for birdies and I pretty much made all of them except the last one," Kung said. Ashleigh Buhai was fourth at 11 under after a 66, and Cristie Kerr (67) and Amy Olson (68) were 10 under.

Kerr has more than golf on her mind. "We live in Scottsdale, Arizona, right now, but my whole family is there (in Florida) and tons of friends and I'm just really, really worried for everybody," Kerr said as her home state braces for Hurricane Irma. Sandra Gal was tied with Kung at 14 under, then bogeyed the par-3 15th and hit two drives into the water on the par-4 16th en route to a 10. She finished with a 73 to drop eight strokes behind the leaders. — AP



INDIANAPOLIS: Lydia Ko, of New Zealand, chips to the eighth green of the Indy Women in Tech Championship golf tournament, Friday, in Indianapolis. — AP

SAMMY: TOURING PAKISTAN 'PART OF GREATER CAUSE' FOR WORLD XI

DUBAI: Darren Sammy says he and his World XI cricket teammates believe they "are part of something more important than just themselves" in agreeing to tour Pakistan. No major teams have visited Pakistan since gunmen attacked the Sri Lanka team convoy in 2009 in Lahore. The World XI will be the first, followed by Sri Lanka, which has agreed to play a Twenty20 in Lahore on Oct. 29 "subject to security," according to the Pakistan Cricket Board.

Sammy, the former West Indies cap-

tain, said the three-match T20 series between the World XI and Pakistan next week was a step in the right direction towards reviving international cricket in the country. He's one of the few internationals to have played in Pakistan in recent times, having captained Peshawar Zalmi to victory in the Pakistan Super League, the final of which was at Gaddafi Stadium in Lahore on March 5.

Sammy is part of a 14-man team captained by South Africa test skipper Faf

du Plessis, which will play Pakistan three times in Lahore on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday. Others in the side include Hashim Amla, George Bailey, Paul Collingwood, Tamim Iqbal, Morne Morkel, and Imran Tahir.

"Everyone is here and they realize that they are part of a greater cause, and they have accepted they are part of something more important than just themselves," Sammy said on Saturday. "I think each one of us is happy to be a part of this process."

"It is important that the passionate Pakistan fans get to experience international cricket in their country," Sammy added in Dubai, where the World XI was having a two-day camp. "The PSL final was an important step in that process. I really enjoyed my time in Pakistan during that match. Hopefully, this short series featuring international stars and sanctioned by the ICC, will be a big success." I spoke to some of the players this morning about my experience of playing the PSL final in Lahore. We have the

best security team, and they have also briefed the players. "I believe Sri Lanka and the West Indies are also planning to travel to Pakistan, and if the government, the security agencies and cricket authorities there can keep the momentum going, it won't be long before we have full-fledged tours there."

Despite having to play most of their "home" series in the United Arab Emirates, Pakistan rose to the No. 1 Test ranking last year, and won the Champions Trophy this year. — AP

RUGBY

ALL BLACKS UNLEASH 'THE BEAST' TO DOWN ARGENTINA

NEW PLYMOUTH: The All Blacks unleashed "the beast" as they came from behind to beat a fired-up Argentina 39-22 in a Rugby Championship Test in New Plymouth yesterday. Blindsided flanker Vaea Fifita turned the game 10 minutes in to the second half when he outspurred Argentinian flyer Santiago Cordero over 50 metres to score a crucial try when the All Blacks were down by seven points.

It opened the way for a finishing burst in which they scored 24 unanswered points to remain unbeaten after three matches in the championship. Coach Steve Hansen had billed Fifita as a "real physical beast" before the game and the 25 year-old did not disappoint using his 1.96 (6ft 5in) metre, 113 kilogramme (249 lb) frame to crash his way through Los Pumas.

It was only Fifita's second Test and Hansen said afterwards he can only get better. "I don't think he's finished product. He's got a long way to go. But it's a tank that's got plenty in it and our job now is to bring that out and his job is to work on his game and get better and better and reach his potential."

It was a Test the All Blacks were never expected to lose and they won the try count six to one. But they were made to struggle for long periods by an Argentinian side determined to prove they still belong among the leading rugby nations. Los Pumas coach Daniel Hourcade rated it his side's best performance of the year after back-to-back losses against South Africa.

But they lost their way when they had a one-man advantage with All Blacks fly-half Beauden Barrett in the sin-bin. "It was really a tough game and perhaps our best, but the All Blacks showed the best of what they have when they have a player in the sin bin, they played really well."

In the first half, as the All Blacks continued to suffer from the indecision and handling errors that plagued them in their last Test against Australia, Argentina were quick to cash in. They led 16-15 at half-time and stretched the lead to 22-15 with two quick penalties at the start of the second half before Fifita's try brought the All Blacks back into the game.

On a cold wet night, once the All Blacks had weathered Los Pumas's initial onslaught, they put the first points on the board when Damian McKenzie scythed through the Argentine backline to put Nehe Milner-Skudder over for the try.

When Nicolas Sanchez replied with a close-range penalty, the All Blacks were immediately back on the attack with Anton Lienert-Brown winning the race for the ball to score off a Beauden Barrett chip kick.

Los Pumas picked up another three points with a long-range penalty by left wing Emiliano Boffelli from a metre inside his own half and closed within one point at 10-9 with a second Sanchez penalty. After Israel Dagg scored the All Blacks third try, Argentina came back to take the lead on the stroke of half-time, and from an All Blacks error when they lost a defensive lineout and Tomas Cubelli, a key player in the Argentinian attack, sent Sanchez over for the try.

Boffelli and Sanchez landed further penalties at the start of the second half before Fifita's try which, with Lima Sopoaga's conversion, levelled the score at 22-22. Sopoaga had taken over the kicking after Barrett had a woeful night in front of his home crowd, missing three conversions and being yellow-carded. Damian McKenzie stretched the lead with the All Blacks fifth try and after a Sopoaga penalty, Barrett atoned for his errors with a late try. — AFP



LONDON: The champagne sprays England's captain Joe Root (C) lifting the Test Series trophy as England's players celebrate their victory on the third day of the third international Test match between England and West Indies at Lord's cricket ground in London yesterday.—AFP

CRICKET

TEST-BEST ANDERSON BOWLS ENGLAND TO SERIES VICTORY

LONDON: James Anderson took the best innings figures of his Test career as England completed a nine-wicket and series-clinching victory against West Indies at Lord's yesterday. Anderson followed up his Friday feat of becoming the first England bowler and only sixth in history to take 500 Test wickets by finishing with a return of seven for 42 in 20.1 overs as West Indies were dismissed for 177 in their second innings on the third day of the third Test. That left England with a meagre target of 107 and they finished on 107 for one off 28 overs as they took the three-match series 2-1. It was the second time this series England had won inside three days they won the opener, the inaugural day/night Test in Britain, by an innings and 209 runs at Edgbaston last month.

Much of this match was a day/nighter in all but name and it was no surprise that batsmen on both sides struggled in overcast conditions against the red ball. Mark Stoneman was 40 not out and Tom Westley 44 not out in an unbroken stand of 72. "I'm very pleased. It's been a great week. It was a challenging wicket," England captain Joe Root told BBC Radio.

"The ball seemed to hoop around," added Root, whose first season as Test skipper ended with two series wins after South Africa were beaten 3-1 in a preceding four-match campaign. "In the second innings Jimmy (Anderson) was outstanding—he mastered it. "I don't know how he managed to get seven wickets with it." Anderson's return just surpassed his previous best in 129 career Tests of seven for 43 against New Zealand at Trent Bridge in 2008.

'LIVE IN THE MEMORY'

"Playing a Test match here is always special but this week will live in my memory," said the 35-year-old Anderson, who made his Test debut at Lord's in 2003. "I didn't think I'd play anywhere near as much for England," added the Lancashire swing bowler.

But it was England all-rounder Ben Stokes who was named man-of-the-match after taking a Test-best six for 22 in West Indies' first innings 123 and then top-scoring with 60 when the hosts made 194 in reply. Shai Hope, whose twin hundreds were the backbone of West Indies' series-levelling win at Headingley, top-scored for the tourists on Saturday with 62.

But Hope's fourth ball after lunch saw him caught behind undone off a superb Anderson leg-cutter. West Indies' tail folded cheaply with Anderson, fittingly, ending the innings when he bowled Kumar Roach. For the second time in the match, Anderson walked off to a standing ovation from a capacity Lord's crowd.

Leg-spinner Devendra Bishoo struck with his first ball to have Alastair Cook (17) lbw but that merely denied England a 10-wicket victory. Play started Saturday in bright sunshine but despite the improved batting conditions, it only needed four balls for Anderson to take another wicket. Bowling from the Nursery End, where the eight-foot slope across the ground naturally takes the ball away from a right-handed batsman's off stump, Anderson found Roston Chase's edge and wicket-keeper Jonny Bairstow held a simple catch. Chase was out for his overnight three and West Indies were 94 for four. Jermaine Blackwood, dropped on two and relieved from

lbw on four, fell for five when caught behind off Anderson.

Hope, 35 not out overnight, took 54 balls to score his first boundary yesterday but a cover-drive off Stokes was worth the wait. A four off his legs against Toby Roland-Jones, bowling on his Middlesex home ground, then saw West Indies man-of-the-series Hope to a 127-ball fifty including eight boundaries as the 23-year-old Barbados batsman produced another significant

contribution.

"It's a tough place to play cricket, it's good to get some runs under my belt," said Hope. Meanwhile West Indies captain Jason Holder was encouraged by the progress of his side. "I'm really proud of the guys," he said. "I've seen a lot of fight which I haven't seen for a long time."

"In recent series, we've won games away from home and we've really competed. We're not too far away from clinching a series win." — AFP

SCOREBOARD

LONDON: Completed scoreboard on the third day of the third Test between England and West Indies at Lord's yesterday:

West Indies 1st Innings 123 (B Stokes 6-22)

Holder 4-54
England 1st Innings 194 (B Stokes 60; K Roach 5-72, J Holder 4-54)

West Indies 2nd Innings (overnight: 93-3)

K. Brathwaite b Anderson 4
K. Powell b Anderson 45
K. Hope lbw b Broad 1
S. Hope c Bairstow b Anderson 62
R. Chase c Bairstow b Anderson 3
J. Blackwood c Bairstow b Anderson 5
S. Dowrich c Broad b Roland-Jones 14
J. Holder c Anderson b Broad 23
D. Bishoo b Anderson 0
K. Roach b Anderson 3
S. Gabriel not out 0
Extras (lb17) 17
Total (all out, 65.1 overs, 311 mins) 177
Fall of wickets: 1-6 (Brathwaite), 2-21 (K Hope), 3-69

(Powell), 4-94 (Chase), 5-100 (Blackwood), 6-123 (Dowrich), 7-155 (S Hope), 8-155 (Bishoo), 9-177 (Holder), 10-177 (Roach)
Bowling: Anderson 20.1-5-42-7; Broad 19-9-35-2; Roland-Jones 11-4-31-1; Stokes 12-3-41-0; Ali 2-0-6-0; Root 1-0-5-0

England 2nd Innings (target: 107)

A. Cook lbw b Bishoo 17
M. Stoneman not out 40
T. Westley not out 44
Extras (b4, lb1, w1) 6
Total (1 wkt, 28 overs, 100 mins) 107
Did not bat: J. Root, D. Malan, B. Stokes, J. Bairstow, M. Ali, T. Roland-Jones, S. Broad, J. Anderson
Fall of wickets: 1-35 (Cook)
Bowling: Gabriel 5-0-22-0; Roach 1-0-4-0; Holder 6-1-16-0 (1w); Bishoo 11-2-35-1; Chase 5-1-25-0
Result: England won by nine wickets.



NEW PLYMOUTH: New Zealand's Nehe Milner-Skudder (C) is tackled by Argentina's Matias Moroni (L) and Joaquin Tuculet during the Rugby Championship match between the New Zealand All Blacks and Argentina in New Plymouth yesterday.—AFP

SOUTH AFRICA FIGHT BACK TO GRAB DRAW WITH AUSTRALIA

PERTH: Australia squandered a 10-point lead as South Africa stormed back to claim a 23-23 draw in their Rugby Championship Test in Perth yesterday. The Springboks clawed back from 20-10 down early in the second half to hit the front 23-20 before Bernard Foley kicked a levelling penalty goal for the Wallabies 10 minutes from time. The draw left South Africa unbeaten in six internationals this year, while the Wallabies now have three points in the Rugby Championship after two defeats to New Zealand. It was the second draw in the 84 Test matches between the two teams, and the first since a 14-14 stalemate also in Perth in 2001. The Wallabies looked on target to push on to victory when they extended their 13-10 half-time advantage to lead 20-10 seven minutes after the resumption.

It was the Springboks set-piece that turned the game in the second half, winning key lineouts and disrupting the Wallabies scrum. The draw meant the Springboks have not beaten the Wallabies in Australia since their 38-12 romp in Brisbane in 2013. "It was an awesome effort in the second half," Springboks skipper Eben Etzebeth said. "We said at half-time that we had to work on a couple of things and we almost pulled it through."

"The scrums went really well for us and we also got rewards from the maul." Asked how he felt about the draw Etzebeth said: "It's difficult, you always want to win these games and would have loved it to be us but unfortunately (it was) a draw." Wallabies coach Michael Cheika said he was disappointed his team did not close out the match. "We wanted to have a win tonight no doubt, but it's a young team learning

about how to deal with those situations and we need to get better because with 10 points up we should have gone on with it," Cheika said. Skipper Michael Hooper added: "Missed opportunity there. Set-piece didn't allow us to get momentum in the second half. "Restarts weren't up to scratch but a lot to like there. Credit to the South Africans, they managed to grind and put the pressure on us." Elton Jantjies and Bernard Foley exchanged penalties before the Springboks struck first in the 25th minute off a turnover.

Ross Cronje pinched the ball and Jesse Kriel kicked ahead with winger Raymond Rhule and Hooper jostling for the ball. Rhule shouldered Hooper off the ball and Kriel picked it and scored in the right corner for Jantjies to convert. But the Wallabies hit back quickly with inside-centre Kurtley Beale spearing through a gap to score, and Foley converted to level the scores. Foley kicked a penalty goal on the siren to give the Wallabies a 13-10 half-time advantage.

The Wallabies extended their lead to 20-10 seven minutes after the resumption with hooker Tatafu Polota-Nau on the end of a push-over try from a lineout win. Jantjies kicked a penalty for the Springboks to trail by seven points before hooker Malcolm Marx scored off a pushover try from a lineout win midway through the half to level the scores. Jantjies kicked South Africa to the front when the Springbok scrum forced a penalty inside the Australians' quarter. Foley levelled the scores with 10 minutes left and South Africa had the chance to snatch victory after the full-time siren but Jantjies' drop goal attempt was charged down by Hooper.—AFP

PAKISTAN ANNOUNCES SRI LANKA SERIES SCHEDULE

KARACHI: Pakistan yesterday announced the itinerary for a full series against Sri Lanka that will be played mainly in neutral venues but features a planned finale in Lahore. The series will comprise two Tests—the second a day-night affair—five one-day and three Twenty20 internationals.

Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) hopes to host the last Twenty20 in Lahore, depending on whether a three-match series against a World XI team next week passes off without incident. PCB director Haroon Rasheed said he hoped the match would be held as planned.

"We have scheduled the last Twenty20 in Lahore with high hopes and it will follow our series with World XI," Rasheed told AFP. Pakistan have been forced to play their home international games in the UAE since a 2009 terrorist attack on the Sri Lankan team bus in Lahore suspended all international matches in the country.

Rasheed said the second Test will be a day-night affair in Dubai. "Day-night Tests are an innovation worldwide and it is aimed at attracting spectators to the ground after their office timings," said Rasheed, a former Pakistan batsman. Australia hosted the first day-night Test against New Zealand in

Adelaide in 2015. Pakistan also hosted a day-night Test against the West Indies in Dubai last year.

PCB said the Test series commences in Abu Dhabi on September 28 and will be followed by a day-night Test in Dubai beginning October 6. The five-match one-day series will be played in Dubai (October 13), Abu Dhabi (October 16 and 18) and Sharjah (October 20 and 23).

Abu Dhabi will host the first two Twenty20 internationals on October 26 and 27 while the last T20 will be in Lahore on October 29.

Itinerary:

September 28-October 2 1st Test Abu Dhabi
October 6-10 Second Test (day-night) Dubai
October 13 1st ODI Dubai
October 16 Second ODI Abu Dhabi
October 18 Third ODI Abu Dhabi
October 20 Fourth ODI Sharjah
October 23 Fifth ODI Sharjah
October 26 First Twenty20 international Abu Dhabi
October 27 Second Twenty20 international Abu Dhabi
October 29 Third Twenty20 international Lahore.—AFP

TENNIS

NADAL DOWNS DEL POTRO, FACES ANDERSON FOR US OPEN TITLE

NEW YORK: Rafael Nadal moved one win away from a third US Open title and 16th Grand Slam crown Friday when he defeated weary Juan Martin del Potro 4-6, 6-0, 6-3, 6-2. The 31-year-old Spaniard, the 2010 and 2013 champion in New York, will be playing in his 23rd Slam final and third this year, looking to add the US title to his record 10th French Open. In today's final, the world number one will face 32nd-ranked Kevin Anderson, the first South African in the championship match in 52 years.

Anderson reached his maiden final at the majors by beating 12th-seeded Pablo Carreno Busta of Spain 4-6, 7-5, 6-3, 6-4. For 2009 champion Del Potro, Friday's match was one too many as the physical and emotional toll of seeing off Roger Federer in four sets in the previous round left him spent.

"I have had an amazing season after some tough moments with injuries in

recent years," said Nadal, who started 2017 by finishing runner-up to Federer in Australia. "It's a very emotional year for me. I am in the final again and get the chance to fight for another title which is very important."

Nadal said the key to Friday's win was a change of tactics after the first set.

"I played too much to his backhand and I felt he was waiting for me there," said Nadal after his 15th successive Grand Slam semi-final win. "I changed it and it worked very well. I made him move more and make it all more unpredictable." Nadal finished with 45 winners and 20 unforced errors to Del Potro's 23 and 40. Despite a 4-0 winning record over Anderson, Nadal said he will not underestimate his opponent on Sunday.

"He is a very dangerous player with a big serve and plays very well on this surface. I have known him since we were 12. He's had many injuries but the way

he has come back is a great example to the kids." Del Potro, who saved two match points against Dominic Thiem in a last-16 tie from which he almost retired with illness, gained the only break of the first set in the fifth game off a fortunate net cord.

'BEEN LONG ROAD'

However, few would begrudge Del Potro a little luck after he was pushed to the brink of retirement by four wrist surgeries that saw his ranking slip as low as 1,045 and forced him to miss 10 Grand Slam tournaments.

Nadal hit back with venom, gathering three breaks to take the second set in just 26 minutes as the Argentine suffered a power cut of staggering proportions. The Spaniard, watched by Tiger Woods in his player's box, then raced into a 3-0 lead in the third before Del Potro stopped the rot, having lost nine

games in succession.

The Argentine saved two set points in the eighth game but Nadal soon wrapped it up at the next time of asking, pushing his opponent into desperate defense before the delivering the killer blow into an open court. Nadal, beaten by Del Potro at the same stage in 2009, tightened the noose with two breaks for 4-1 and easy hold for 5-1.

It was all over in the eighth game when Nadal buried unleashed a backhand winner. "I'm angry to lose a chance like this, but maybe tomorrow I will be calm and see how big the tournament was for me," said Del Potro. Anderson, 31, will attempt to become his country's first Slam champion since Johan Kriek at the 1981 Australian Open.

Cliff Drysdale was the last South African man in the US final in 1965 but he was defeated by Manuel Santana. "It has been a long road. This means the

world to me," said Anderson, whose career was at a crossroads in January when hip problems forced him out of the Australian Open and his ranking slumped to 80.

"This is why we work so hard. I was pretty nervous with it being the first time on the sport's most famous stage." Carreno Busta, also playing in his first semi-final at the Slams, had not dropped a set at the tournament, helped by playing four qualifiers, and he was a set to the good on Friday, breaking in the seventh game.

The Spaniard had pocketed the opener hitting just two winners and only one unforced error. But 6ft 8in (2.03m) Anderson eventually imposed himself much to the approval of watching Hollywood star Robert Redford and Microsoft founder Bill Gates. Anderson finished the tie with a power-packed 22 aces and 58 winners. —AFP



OAKLAND: Houston Astros' George Springer, left, slides to score past Oakland Athletics' Bruce Maxwell during the ninth inning of a baseball game Friday, in Oakland, Calif. — AP

BASEBALL

ENCARNACION HOMERS AS INDIANS WIN 16TH STRAIGHT GAME

CLEVELAND: Edwin Encarnacion and the Cleveland Indians won their 16th straight game, extending the best streak in franchise history by beating the Baltimore Orioles 5-0 Friday night. Encarnacion hit a three-run homer in the first inning into some trees next to Heritage Park, the team's hallowed area where past Cleveland stars and teams are immortalized. Mike Clevinger (9-5) improved his chances to pitch in the postseason with six strong innings as AL Central leaders became just the third team in the expansion era - since 1961 - to win 16 straight in a season. Cleveland's string is the longest in the majors since Oakland won 20 straight in 2002. The longest winning streak in major league history is 21 by the 1935 Chicago Cubs. The 1916 New York Giants had a string of 26 wins and one tie. Encarnacion hit his 34th home run, connecting off Wade Miley (8-12).

PADRES 10, DIAMONDBACKS 6

The Arizona Diamondbacks' team-record 13-game winning streak ended when Manuel Margot drove in four runs that led San Diego. Down 8-0, the Diamondbacks scored twice in the fifth and then added four more runs in the sixth. Padres reliever Craig Stammen retired two batters with the bases loaded to preserve an 8-6 lead. Jordan Lyles (1-2), in his second start for the Padres, pitched into the sixth. The Padres rocked Patrick Corbin (13-12) for eight runs on 11 hits, seven for extra bases, in 4 1-3 innings.

ROCKIES 5, DODGERS 4

DJ LeMahieu doubled home the go-ahead

run and Colorado sent NL West-leading Los Angeles to its eighth straight loss. The Dodgers blew a 4-1 lead in the first behind Yu Darvish (2-3), who was chased after giving up four runs in the fifth. Los Angeles still owns the best record in baseball at 92-49, but has equaled its longest skid since May 2013. The majors' best team at home this season has lost seven straight at Chavez Ravine for the first time since August 1999. The Dodgers have dropped 13 of 14 overall. Chris Rusin (5-0) won in relief and Greg Holland got his 38th save.

ATHLETICS 9, ASTROS 8

Jed Lowrie singled home the winning run in the ninth inning after Boog Powell's tying home run, and Oakland snapped Houston's seven-game winning streak. Marcus Semien hit a grand slam for the Athletics. Josh Reddick homered, doubled twice and drove in four runs for the AL West-leading Astros. Jose Altuve and Yuli Gurriel added two-run homers. Blake Treinen (2-4) got the win. Ken Giles (1-3) took the loss. Houston starter Collin McHugh exited after just three innings because of a fingernail injury. The Astros had won 10 in a row at the Coliseum.

MARINERS 4, ANGELS 3

Ben Gamel hit a three-run homer to give Seattle an early lead, Mike Leake overcame first-inning problems to pitch six solid innings, and the Mariners snapped a three-game losing streak. Leake (2-0) allowed two earned runs and struck out five, as Seattle got a needed victory to continue hanging around the

edges of the AL wild-card race. Los Angeles starter Ricky Nolasco (6-13) was unable to make it out of the fourth.

NATIONALS 11, PHILLIES 10

Michael A. Taylor raced for an inside-the-park grand slam when center fielder Odubel Herrera misplayed his line drive, and Washington eliminated Philadelphia from postseason contention. Herrera misread Taylor's hit off Jake Thompson (1-2) in the third inning, taking a few steps in before leaping as the ball soared over his head. Herrera chased it down on the warning track and threw to the infield, but shortstop J.P. Crawford missed up the third-base line with his relay, allowing Taylor to slide home safely. Taylor set a career high with five RBIs and matched a personal best with four hits. Trea Turner homered and drove in three, and Max Scherzer (14-5) allowed four runs over six innings. Washington has won five straight and reduced its magic number for winning the division to three. Philadelphia is the first team in the majors eliminated from playoff contention. Herrera extended his hitting streak to 21 games, longest in the majors this year.

RED SOX 9, RAYS 3

Drew Pomeranz did not allow a hit until the fifth inning and gave up two runs over six and Mookie Betts hit a three-run homer for the Red Sox. It was the third straight victory for the Red Sox, who lead the second-place New York Yankees by 4 1/2 games atop the AL East. Pomeranz (15-5) struck out seven, allowed two hits and walked two en route to tying Chris Sale for the team lead in victories. Jesus Sucre hit a two-run homer for the Rays, who have homered in a season franchise record 18 straight games. Chris Archer (9-9) was roughed up for a season-high eight runs, six earned, and nine hits in three-plus innings. Betts changed his homer off Pesky's Pole in right field in the first inning.

BREWERS 2, CUBS 0

Ryan Braun hit his 300th homer and Jimmy Nelson combined with three relievers on a five-hitter as Milwaukee beat Chicago in the first regular-season Friday night game at Wrigley Field. Milwaukee pulled within four games of Chicago for the NL Central lead. Braun hit a two-run drive in the first inning against John Lackey. Nelson pitched four-hit ball over five innings before leaving with a sore right arm, and the Brewers opened the weekend series on a winning note after dropping four of five. Nelson (12-6) struck out seven and walked two while winning his third straight start. Corey Knebel worked the ninth for his 33rd save in 38 chances. Lackey (11-11) settled down after Braun connected, holding

the Brewers to two runs and four hits over seven innings. He struck out nine and walked two.

RANGERS 11, YANKEES 5

Martin Perez won his seventh straight start after playoff-hopeful Texas rallied from an early four-run deficit and beat the AL wild card-leading Yankees. Elvis Andrus had three hits, including the tiebreaking two-run single in the fifth that put the Rangers up 7-5. Perez (12-10) became the first Rangers pitcher to win seven straight starts since Kenny Rogers set the club record in 2005 with eight in a row. The left-hander allowed five runs, only two earned, while giving up eight hits over 5 2/3 innings. Nomar Mazara homered for Texas, which stayed within 2 1/2 games of Minnesota for the AL's second wild card. Andrus, hitting .400 (28 of 70) over his last 16 games, also had two doubles. Masahiro Tanaka (11-11) had won his last three starts.

TIGERS 5, BLUE JAYS 4

Third baseman Jeimer Candelario started Detroit's first triple play in 16 years, Nicholas Castellanos slugged his third career grand slam and the Tigers beat Toronto. With runners at first and second, Candelario backhanded Kevin Pillar's grounder and stepped on the bag. Second baseman Ian Kinsler took his feed and made a quick turn for the second out, and his throw to first narrowly beat Pillar for the Tigers' first triple play since Aug. 1, 2001. It was the first time Detroit had a triple play and a grand slam in the same game. Castellanos hit his slam off Marcus Stroman (11-7) in the third inning, and Kinsler added a solo shot in the seventh. Buck Farmer (4-2) allowed two runs, one earned, in five innings. Shane Greene got his seventh save.

TWINS 8, ROYALS 5

Eddie Rosario homered and drove in four runs, helping Minnesota beat Kansas City. Rosario had a sacrifice fly in the first inning, hit his 21st home run in the third inning off Ian Kennedy (4-11) and knocked a two-out, bases-loaded single in the fourth. Rosario has 10 home runs and 28 RBIs in his past 30 games. Ervin Santana (15-7) gave up four runs and five hits over five innings for the victory. He is 4-0 in nine starts since a July 21 loss. His 15 victories are tied for the AL lead. Matt Belisle pitched the ninth for his seventh save.

CARDINALS 4, PIRATES 1

Luke Weaver pitched shutout ball into the sixth inning and also drove in a run, helping St Louis improve its postseason hopes. The Cardinals have won seven of nine, pulling within four games of the NL Central-leading Cubs. St Louis is even closer in the chase for the second wild-card spot. Pittsburgh has lost

three in a row. Waver (5-1) has won four straight decisions. He gave up seven hits, walked none and struck out seven in 5 2/3 innings. Juan Nicasio made his St. Louis debut and got four outs for his third save. Trevor Williams (6-8) allowed four runs in 4 2/3 innings.

METS 5, REDS 1

Jose Reyes homered twice, Seth Lugo pitched six shutout innings and New York beat Cincinnati for its third straight win. Travis Taijeron got the Mets started when the 28-year-old rookie led off the second with his first major league home run. New York, which leads the National League in homers, has won 17 of its last 19 games against the Reds - including eight straight at Citi Field. Reyes went deep off Amir Garrett (3-7) in the fifth, scoring Lugo and giving New York a 4-0 lead. Reyes also clubbed a solo shot in the third, becoming the 13th player to hit 100 homers in a Mets uniform. Lugo (6-4) allowed four hits and walked one in his first win since July 25. A.J. Ramos got two outs for his 27th save.

GIANTS 9, WHITE SOX 2

Pablo Sandoval snapped his 0-for-39 skid with a three-run homer, and Matt Moore pitched San Francisco past Chicago in an inter-league game between last-place teams. Denard Span also homered and Brandon Crawford had three hits with an RBI for the Giants, who have won back-to-back games after losing seven of eight. Sandoval went 1 for 3 with four RBIs. His previous hit was a single on Aug. 25 at Arizona. Avisail Garcia homered for the White Sox, who have dropped five straight. Moore (5-13) allowed two runs and five hits in 6 2/3 innings. He won for just the second time in eight decisions. Lucas Giolito (2-2) gave up five runs, three earned, and three hits in 5 1/3 innings. He was ejected by plate umpire Gabe Morales after he was lifted. White Sox manager Rick Renteria also was tossed, by crew chief Eric Cooper.

MARLINS 7, BRAVES 1

Jose Urena allowed only three hits in 6 1/3 innings and added his first career RBI to stop Miami's five-game skid. Urena (13-6) gave up a fourth-inning homer to Freddie Freeman but little else. Atlanta's only other hits off Urena were a second-inning single by Tyler Flowers in the second and a bunt single by Ozzie Albies in the sixth. Miguel Rojas and Urena had back-to-back RBI singles off Mike Folytynewicz (10-12) in the second. Urena took a .077 batting average into the game and had not driven in a run in 69 career at-bats. Encarnacion homers as Indians win 16th straight game. — AP

MLB Results/Standings

Oakland 9, Houston 8; San Diego 10, Arizona 6; Minnesota 8, Kansas City 5; St. Louis 4, Pittsburgh 1; San Francisco 9, Chicago White Sox 2; Texas 11, NY Yankees 5; Milwaukee 2, Chicago Cubs 0; Miami 7, Atlanta 1; Cleveland 5, Baltimore 0; NY Mets 5, Cincinnati 1; Boston 9, Tampa Bay 3; Detroit 5, Toronto 4; Washington 11, Philadelphia 10.

American League Eastern Division				National League Eastern Division				
	W	L	PCT	GB				
Boston	80	61	.567	-	Washington	87	54	.617
NY Yankees	75	65	.536	4.5	Miami	68	73	.482
Baltimore	71	70	.504	9	Atlanta	62	78	.443
Tampa Bay	70	72	.493	10.5	NY Mets	62	79	.440
Toronto	64	77	.454	16	Philadelphia	53	88	.376
Central Division				Central Division				
Cleveland	85	56	.603	-	Chicago Cubs	77	64	.546
Minnesota	74	67	.525	11	St. Louis	73	68	.518
Kansas City	69	71	.493	15.5	Milwaukee	73	68	.518
Detroit	60	80	.429	24.5	Pittsburgh	67	75	.472
Chicago White Sox	54	86	.386	30.5	Cincinnati	61	81	.430
Western Division				Western Division				
Houston	86	54	.614	-	LA Dodgers	92	49	.652
LA Angels	72	69	.511	14.5	Arizona	82	59	.582
Texas	71	69	.507	15	Colorado	76	65	.539
Seattle	70	71	.496	16.5	San Diego	64	78	.451
Oakland	60	80	.429	26	San Francisco	56	87	.392

GROSS ENDS BRIGHTON'S 34-YEAR WAIT FOR TOP-FLIGHT WIN

	Brighton	3
	West Bromwich	1

BRIGHTON: Pascal Gross was Brighton's hero as the Seagulls clinched their first top-flight win since 1983 with a 3-1 success against West Bromwich Albion at the Amex Stadium yesterday. German midfielder Gross bagged a brace and laid on the third for Tomer Hemed to give the Premier League new boys their maiden three points since last season's promotion.

Chris Hughton's side had failed to find the net in their first three league outings, taking only one point in the process, but they deservedly brought West Brom's unbeaten start to the campaign to a halt. Shane Duffy had the ball in the net inside 15 minutes but was flagged offside, following up Solly March's shot that was spilled by Albion goalkeeper Ben Foster.

Just when Brighton feared a dominant first half would go unrewarded, up popped Gross with his club's first top-tier goal for 34 years. Bruno's raking cross-field ball let March chip to the far post, where Allan Nyom was caught out.

The ball dropped over the veteran West Brom full-back, allowing Gross to control, cut inside, and squeeze the ball past Foster. There was even greater elation when Gross drilled his second of the day just moments after the break. Hemed trapped well into his feet, fending off Ahmed Hegazi with his back to goal, before turning a smart ball round the corner to split the West Brom defence.

Gross cantered through the centre, drilling home to double the lead. Pullis threw on all his three substitutes in a bid to reverse his side's fortunes, but Brighton kept their cool and pounced again. Hemed reached Gross' teasing near-post delivery first, and nodded past the outstretched Foster. West Brom clutched at respectability thanks to James Morrison's late goal, Kieran Gibbs crossing in and Oliver Burke heading back for the opening. — AFP



MADRID: Real Madrid's Karim Benzema, top, is tackled by Levante's Jefferson Lerma during the Spanish La Liga soccer match between Real Madrid and Levante at the Santiago Bernabeu stadium in Madrid, yesterday. — AP

SOCCER

REAL HELD BY LEVANTE AS MARCELO SEES RED

MADRID: Real Madrid paid for the absence of Cristiano Ronaldo and a series of missed chances by Gareth Bale as they were held 1-1 at home by Levante yesterday. A slow start by a much-changed Real team was punished when Ivi Lopez fired newly-promoted Levante into a shock lead after just 12 minutes. Real responded thanks to Lucas Vazquez's equaliser before half-time, but failed to break Levante's resistance despite incessant pressure as Bale, Marcelo and Toni Kroos came close in the second-half. And their frustration boiled over when Marcelo was shown a straight red card for kicking out at Jefferson Lerma as the game entered stoppage time. "We can't be happy with our performance, above all in the first-half," said Real boss Zinedine Zidane.

Madrid have now dropped points in their opening two home league games of the season, handing the early initiative in the title race to Barcelona. Barca could move four points clear of Real with victory at home to Espanyol later. "We don't need to go crazy. We need to have patience and think about the next game, which is just around the corner," added Zidane. With an

unusually early 1300 (1100GMT) kick-off time for Real on the back of an international break, Zidane left many of those who had been away with their national teams in reserve.

Despite Ronaldo's continued absence through suspension, Bale and Isco were left on the bench, whilst Luka Modric and goalkeeper Keylor Navas were left out of the squad completely. However, Zidane defended criticism of his rotation policy. "I am not going to revolutionise what I want to do with this team due to one bad game," said the Frenchman.

"I believe in this team and we need to play better, nothing more than that." The European champions were caught cold by a sluggish start as Levante went in front thanks to some awful Real defending.

Madrid ramped up the tempo as the half wore on, but had to rely on a set-piece to level nine minutes before half-time. Sergio Ramos's towering header was parried by Raul Fernandez, but Vazquez bundled home the rebound into an empty net.

Bale then had a huge chance to turn the game around, but was denied by a smart stop from the Levante 'keeper as he tried to curl the ball home with the outside of his left foot.

The Welshman continued to be the focal point of the Madrid attack after the break, but even after the introduction of Isco, Madrid still tossed Ronaldo's cutting edge in the final third. A frantic finish saw Bale head inches wide from Isco's cross at the back post four minutes from time. Marcelo then saw a fierce effort from the edge of the box turned behind by Fernandez, but the Brazilian appeared to kick out at Lerma as he hit the ground and was shown a straight red card.

Despite their numerical disadvantage, Madrid still nearly grabbed all three points as Toni Kroos's effort from the edge of the area clipped the outside of the post. —AFP

KANTE RETURNS TO HAUNT LEICESTER

	Leicester City	1
	Chelsea	2

LEICESTER: A rare N'Golo Kante goal on his return to Leicester gave Premier League champions Chelsea a 2-1 victory at the King Power Stadium yesterday. Kante struck five minutes after half-time with a low shot that appeared to take City keeper Kasper Schmeichel by surprise as it came through a crowd of players to find the bottom corner.

It was only the French midfielder's third Premier League goal, doubling Chelsea's lead after Alvaro Morata's first-half header had opened the scoring for Chelsea. Jamie Vardy's penalty pulled one back for Leicester but the Foxes fell to their third defeat of the season, while Chelsea celebrated a third successive win.

Belgian playmaker Eden Hazard was on the bench after missing the start of Chelsea's season after breaking his ankle while training with his national team in June. Chelsea midfielder Danny Drinkwater was also among the substitutes following his move from Leicester on transfer deadline day. The Blues started brightly with Morata forcing Schmeichel into a save in the second minute.

Behind the Spanish striker, Cesc Fabregas was linking well with Tiemoue Bakayoko and Victor Moses while Marcos Alonso was making inroads on the left flank. The Spanish wing back almost picked out Morata with a cross from a tight angle, but Leicester captain Wes Morgan intervened at full stretch to clear the danger.

It was midway through the first half before the home side got a clear sight of goal, Vardy racing onto Riyad Mahrez's through ball and dragging his shot past the far post. At the other end Morgan was again called into action as Kante won the ball and set Morata away.

The Jamaica international slid in to send the Spaniard's shot out for a corner. An uncharacteristic mistake from Kante, who gave the ball away from a short corner, almost cost his side as Mahrez broke.

SWATTED AWAY

The Algerian charged towards the Chelsea goal ignoring the run of Vardy to pick out Islam Slimani, but his weak shot was swatted away by Thibaut Courtois. And a minute later Leicester were made to pay as Cesar Azpilicueta's looping cross was met by Morata, who guided a powerful, downward header past Schmeichel and into the bottom corner in the 41st minute. Leicester tried to hit straight back with a flurry of half chances from a corner but ran into some committed Chelsea defending. Craig Shakespeare reacted by bringing on Andy King and Demarai Gray at the break with Marc Albrighton and Slimani making way. Within five minutes of the restart the home side had fallen further behind, Kante

firing home from 25 yards.

The two-goal lead lasted for quarter of an hour when a penalty offered the hosts a route back into the match. Vardy seized on Azpilicueta's weak back pass and was brought down by Courtois, who gave referee Lee Mason no choice but to point to the spot. The England forward converted the chance with a viciously struck penalty straight down the middle of the goal.

Shakespeare brought on Kelechi Iheanacho off the bench as his side searched desperately for an equaliser. But it was Chelsea who went closest to another goal as Hazard picked out Willian whose shot rolled inches wide. — AFP

Live Matches on TV
(Local Timings)

ENGLISH PREMIER LEAGUE		
Burnley FC v Crystal Palace	15:30	beIN SPORTS HD 2
beIN SPORTS HD 11 EN		
Swansea City v Newcastle United	18:00	beIN SPORTS HD 2
beIN SPORTS HD 11 EN		
SPANISH LEAGUE		
Deportivo La Coruna v Real Sociedad	13:00	beIN SPORTS HD 3
Athletic de Bilbao v Girona	17:15	beIN SPORTS HD 3
Celta de Vigo v Deportivo Alaves	19:30	beIN SPORTS HD 3
Villarreal CF v Real Betis	21:45	beIN SPORTS HD 3
ITALIAN CALCIO LEAGUE		
Internazionale Milano v Spal	13:30	beIN SPORTS HD 4
Atalanta v US Sassuolo Calcio	16:00	beIN SPORTS HD 9
SS Lazio v AC Milan	16:00	beIN SPORTS HD 4
Udinese Calcio v Genoa CFC	16:00	beIN SPORTS
Hellas Verona v AC Fiorentina	16:00	beIN SPORTS HD 10
Cagliari Calcio v Crotone	16:00	beIN SPORTS
Benevento v Torino FC	19:00	beIN SPORTS HD 4
Bologna FC v SSC Napoli	21:45	beIN SPORTS HD 4
GERMAN BUNDESLIGA		
Hertha Berlin v Werder Bremen	16:30	beIN SPORTS HD 5
Schalke 04 v VfB Stuttgart	19:00	beIN SPORTS HD 5
FRENCH LEAGUE		
Saint Etienne v SCO Angers	16:00	beIN SPORTS HD 6
Olympique Lyonnais v Guingamp	18:00	beIN SPORTS HD 6
Marseille v Stade Rennais	22:00	beIN SPORTS HD 6



LEICESTER: Leicester City's Austrian defender Christian Fuchs wins a header from Chelsea's Brazilian midfielder Willian during the English Premier League football match between Leicester City and Chelsea at King Power Stadium in Leicester yesterday. — AFP

KANE'S DOUBLE NAILS EVERTON

	Everton	0
	Tottenham	3

LIVERPOOL: Harry Kane placed his by-now customary August problems firmly behind him, scoring twice as Tottenham's emphatic 3-0 victory against Everton at Goodison Park announced a return to form for Mauricio Pochettino's side.

Christian Eriksen scored in between Kane's two goals as Spurs maintained a run, dating back to last season, which has seen them win four consecutive away league games while scoring 18 goals. While Pochettino will be relieved to get the win his Everton counterpart Ronald Koeman—who gave Wayne Rooney a start despite his displeasure at the former England star's arrest for drink driving—may begin to feel the pressure with their second successive defeat.

Kane struck on 28 minutes in bizarre fashion after Kieran Trippier's mis-hit left-wing corner had reached him at a wide angle on the right. The England forward, who since he became a Spurs regular has failed to score in August, spied Jordan Pickford off his line and what appeared to be an attempted cross drifted over the goalkeeper into the top corner.

It was Kane's 100th goal for the club and continued his remarkable pattern of barren Augusts being followed by almost relentless productivity. Eriksen scored an equally scrappy effort after 41 minutes that put the visitors firmly in control after Cuco Martina failed badly to clear Dele Alli's far-post cross.

Full-back Ben Davies saw his initial shot saved by Pickford but Eriksen responded first to pounce on the rebound and convert into the gaping net. Koeman made two half-time substitutions but any hope of a comeback was removed after just 47 seconds when Kane scored his second.

There was again a distinct lack of quality defending as Davies was allowed the space to curl in a cross which Kane met with an emphatic side-footed finish from no more than six yards. Strangely, the game had started brightly for Everton and Rooney.

After six minutes, he linked excellently with full-back Martina who ran onto Rooney's return pass and his driven, near-post cross was turned just wide by Spanish striker Sandro. But as the half wore on, Tottenham began to carve out the better chances with Alli setting up a shot for Eriksen, who drove it just wide, and Moussa Sissoko, starting just his fourth game of the calendar year for Spurs, having an effort blocked.

Matters got worse for Everton with the second goal and, before the interval, Alli almost connected with a Kane cross from six yards and the latter shot narrowly wide from the edge of the area as the home crowd responded by booing off their team. —AFP



LONDON: Arsenal's Chilean striker Alexis Sanchez shoots wide during the English Premier League football match between Arsenal and Bournemouth at the Emirates Stadium in London yesterday. — AFP

WELBECK BRACE LIFTS ARSENE WENGER'S MOOD

	Arsenal	3
	Bournemouth	0

LONDON: Danny Welbeck's double fired Arsenal to a 3-0 victory over Bournemouth that lifted the pressure on Arsene Wenger yesterday. England forward Welbeck struck in either half and also played his part in an Alexandre Lacazette goal at the Emirates Stadium as Arsenal recovered from their thrashing at Liverpool before the international break.

Bournemouth offered very little in the way of their own attacking threat as Wenger relieved some of the early-season tension that had been building around the under-fire Frenchman.

Having clung on to Alexis Sanchez during the closing hours of the transfer window, Wenger opted to start the Chilean on the bench while recalling new signings Lacazette and Sead Kolasinac.

Both were impressive as Eddie Howe's Bournemouth rarely challenged, with only a Jermain Defoe header coming off the post in the way of clear goalscoring chances for the visitors. Wenger could not have wished for a more straightforward return to action following the 4-0 defeat at Anfield and unrest among some supporters as no new signings

came in before the deadline. Kolasinac was heavily involved in the opening goal, bursting down the left flank before crossing in to Welbeck. He got just about enough on the ball to send it past Asmir Begovic and give Arsenal a sixth-minute lead as the hosts took control.

Kolasinac was enjoying his deployment down the left and another strong run from the Bosnia international led to Granit Xhaka rifling in a shot which Begovic had to deal with. The Bournemouth goalkeeper was in for a busy afternoon and he had to push away a Mesut Ozil free-kick as the game was being played almost exclusively in the visitors' half.

FREE-FLOWING

The second goal duly followed as Ozil's raking pass was touched on from Lacazette to Welbeck, who instantly gave it back for the Frenchman to finish well from the edge of the box.

Begovic nearly gifted Arsenal their third, dallying in possession and seeing his clearance chased down by Welbeck. The former Chelsea goalkeeper showed just enough speed to get across and block the resulting shot from the boot of the busy Lacazette.

Kolasinac then wanted a penalty after his volley at the end of a free-flowing Arsenal move appeared to cannon behind off the arm of Adam Smith.

Howe introduced defender Simon Francis off the bench at the interval but it was Defoe who almost gave the south-coast side the perfect start to the second half. —AFP

Sports

Lydia Ko regains form, ties with Lexi Thompson



Test-best Anderson bowls England to series victory



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REAL HELD BY LEVANTE AS MARCELO SEES RED

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STOKE-ON-TRENT: Manchester United's English striker Marcus Rashford takes a shot which was saved during the English Premier League football match between Stoke City and Manchester United at the Bet365 Stadium in Stoke-on-Trent, central England yesterday. — AFP

MAN UNITED HELD AS CHOUPO-MOTING FIRES STOKE

	Stoke	2
	Man United	2

STOKE-ON-TRENT: Eric Maxim Choupo-Moting ended Manchester United's perfect start to the Premier League season as his first two goals for Stoke secured a 2-2 draw against Jose Mourinho's side yesterday. Choupo-Moting gave Stoke the lead before grabbing the crucial equaliser after Marcus Rashford and Romelu Lukaku had put United ahead. The Cameroon forward's goals were the first United had conceded in four league fixtures this

season and Stoke became the first opponents to deny them victory. A draw was enough to keep United on top of the table, ahead of Manchester City on goal difference, but the careless nature of the goals they conceded either side of half-time will be a concern for Mourinho.

Stoke's summer signing scored on 43 and 63 minutes with Rashford equalising with a lucky, involuntary header on the stroke of half-time before Lukaku's fourth goal in as many United appearances gave them a lead that lasted for just six minutes.

Stoke threatened first as Choupo-Moting chased a chip over the United back four and Eric Bailly had to race back to make an important challenge to concede a corner. And United looked sluggish again moments later as they failed to defend a punt down the middle by Jack Butland which was

collected by the darting Jese Rodriguez.

He found himself in the clear but had to shoot from a tight angle and fired past the far post. United took the sting out of Stoke's early attacks and had some promising possession of their own but they had a further scare in the 18th minute.

Xherdan Shaqiri hit a shot from distance for Stoke on 27 minutes and United goalkeeper David De Gea did well not just to save it but hold onto the ball. Butland made a smart save at the other end from Rashford with Lukaku flagged offside as he chased the rebound.

After a largely scrappy first half in which Stoke more than held their own, they claimed the lead two minutes before the break.

UNFOUNDED

The goal was made by two former United play-

ers with Darren Fletcher angling a pass to the right and Mame Diouf delivering a dangerous cross for Choupo-Moting to sneak ahead of Bailly and tap home. But the lead lasted for just three minutes with United pulling level in first-half stoppage time. Henrikh Mkhitaryan's corner from the left was headed towards goal by Paul Pogba before striking Rashford on the head and beating Butland. Stoke appealed for offside but replays proved their complaints were unfounded.

Early in the second half, Shaqiri twisted his way past two United defenders wide on the right but his angled cross drifted beyond the far post. And 12 minutes into the half United were ahead as Stoke became architects of their own downfall.

Joe Allen squandered possession to Matteo Darmian, he found Mkhitaryan and the Armenian's fine pass picked out Lukaku, who was played

inside by Erik Pieters. Butland made a smart save from the Belgian's initial shot but could not stop him pouncing on the rebound to score.

Stoke were denied an equaliser on 62 minutes by a fabulous save from De Gea, who reacted brilliantly to tip Jese's header over the crossbar. But from the resulting corner the hosts would not be denied as Phil Jones lost his footing at the far post, giving Choupo-Moting a free header that he buried from a Shaqiri corner.

With nine minutes remaining, United missed a glorious chance to restore their lead as Lukaku met a cross from substitute Anthony Martial but lifted his shot from six yards over the crossbar. And in stoppage-time Butland pulled off an important save to spare team-mate Kurt Zouma the embarrassment of an own-goal after he got his head to a United corner.—AFP

MANE OFF AS FIVE-STAR CITY CRUSH LIVERPOOL

	Man City	5
	Liverpool	0

MANCHESTER: Liverpool's Sadio Mane was dismissed for a challenge that saw goalkeeper Ederson stretched off as Manchester City destroyed their Premier League title rivals 5-0 yesterday. Brazilian Ederson was carried off in a neck brace after being caught in the face by Mane's foot as he raced out to head the ball away late in the first half and the Liverpool forward was shown a straight red card.

City already led 1-0 through Sergio Aguero's opener at that point and braces from Gabriel Jesus and substitute Leroy Sane completed City's biggest win over Liverpool since March 1937.

"After 10 v 11 it was a little bit easier for us and we played the second half the way we wanted to," said City manager Pep Guardiola. "The game was open until the sending-off. I don't know if it was a red card." With Liverpool having avoided defeat against their top-six rivals last season, it was the first time Jurgen Klopp's side had lost to one of their principal adversaries since a 1-0 loss at home to Manchester United in January 2016.

It meant Alex-Oxlade-Chamberlain had a deja vu debut after coming on at half-time for Liverpool, having succumbed to a 4-0 defeat against his new club on his last appearance for Arsenal before the international break. "We had all we needed at 11 v 11," Liverpool manager Klopp told Sky Sports.

"But the decisive decision in the whole game was the red card. I don't think it was a red card. Sadio

didn't see the goalkeeper. "I hope people see it for what it is." While Mane's dismissal was a key factor in the game's outcome, the emphatic nature of City's win suggests Guardiola's second season as manager will yield a serious title challenge. City are unbeaten in 12 league games, their best run under Guardiola, while Argentina striker Aguero is now the outright leading non-European goal-scorer in English top-flight history with 124 goals.

UNINTENTIONAL BUT RECKLESS

It took City 24 minutes to unpick the visitors' back four as Kevin De Bruyne's delicately weighted through-ball freed Aguero to skip past Simon Mignolet and score for the sixth successive home game against Liverpool.

Guardiola had reverted to a 3-5-2 system and left-sided centre-back Nicolas Otamendi immediately looked vulnerable against Liverpool's speedy right-winger Mohamed Salah. Otamendi was booked for clattering Salah in the sixth minute and after City's opener, the Argentinian's poor positioning allowed Mane to release Salah, only for Ederson to come to the rescue with a smart save.

City continued to carry the greater threat and tested Mignolet twice in quick succession, the Belgian blocking a shot from Jesus, who had robbed Ragnar Klavan, and jutting out a foot to thwart John Stones from the ensuing corner.

Two minutes later the game's pivotal moment occurred. Joel Matip's lofted pass sent Mane scampering clear and as Ederson rushed from his line to head the ball clear, the Senegal forward leapt and caught him in the face with his outstretched right boot. It was unintentional but reckless and referee Jon Moss immediately flashed a red card. Flattened by the collision with Mane, Ederson spent eight minutes receiving treatment on the pitch before Claudio Bravo came on in his place. Ederson underwent tests for a

suspected fractured jaw and cheekbone, but City's medical team found no serious damage. The added time enabled City to swell their lead. De Bruyne crossing from the left for Jesus to head home moments after a goal issuing from the same combination had been ruled out for offside.—AFP



MANCHESTER: Manchester City's English defender John Stones (R) vies with Liverpool's Brazilian midfielder Roberto Firmino during the English Premier League football match between Manchester City and Liverpool at the Etihad Stadium in Manchester, north west England, yesterday. —AFP

DORTMUND FRUSTRATED BY 10-MAN FREIBURG

BERLIN: Ten-man Freiburg halted Borussia Dortmund's promising start to the season yesterday in a 0-0 Bundesliga draw and also added to the team's injury list.

Dortmund defenders Marc Bartra and Marcel Schmelzer went off in the first half and are doubtful for the Champions League opener at Tottenham on Wednesday. Tim Kleindienst had the best early chance for Freiburg but failed in a one-on-one with Dortmund goalkeeper Roman Buerki. Dortmund dominated possession afterward but lost Bartra and then Schmelzer as the home side pulled no punches.

French midfielder Yoric Ravet was sent off on his Bundesliga debut for a cynical challenge on Schmelzer after referee Benjamin Cortus consulted with his video assistant. Cortus at first showed a yellow card but TV replays showed Ravet stamped on Schmelzer's right ankle. Freiburg coach Christian Streich applauded sarcastically, but Schmelzer was unable to continue. He was replaced by new signing Dan-Axel Zagadou.

Down to 10 men, the hosts sat back, stayed compact and defended with every man they had.

Dortmund is yet to concede a goal after three games but dropped points for the first time. "I'm disappointed," Dortmund coach Peter Bosz said. "When you play for an hour with an extra man you have to win."

BOATENG IS BACK

Kevin-Prince Boateng earned Eintracht Frankfurt a hard-fought 1-0 win at Borussia Moenchengladbach, but couldn't finish the game due to injury.

Boateng fired home from close range in the 13th minute for his first Bundesliga goal since his return after spells at Milan and Las Palmas. He celebrated with a tribute to Ajax midfielder Abdelhak Nouri, who suffered severe brain damage after collapsing during a friendly match against Werder Bremen in July. "I don't know him but the story really moved me," Boateng said. The Ghana midfielder had to go off early in the second half. He received treatment toward the end of the first after receiving a blow from Jannik Vestergaard's elbow.

MORE INJURIES

Germany striker Mario Gomez injured himself in Wolfsburg while going for goal after missing the ball and colliding with Hannover goalkeeper Philipp Tschauner in the teams' 1-1 draw.

Wolfsburg's Daniel Didavi scored with a free kick early in the second half, but Martin Harnik equalized by back-healing the ball through the legs of Wolfsburg keeper Koen Casteels. Mainz came from behind to beat visiting Bayer Leverkusen 3-1, and Augsburg defeated Cologne 3-0 thanks to a hat trick from Iceland striker Alfred Finnbogason.—AP

KUWAIT TIMES ⁵⁵ YEARS BUSINESS

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Boursa Kuwait remains bullish in 2017

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Apple embarks on Emmy quest with big bet on video streaming

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Al-Mazaya adds 1,260 units to its diverse project portfolio

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KUWAIT INFLATION STEADIES AT 1.3%, A MULTI-YEAR LOW

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TOKYO: People cross a street in Tokyo on Friday. The Japanese economy grew at a slower pace in the April-June quarter, not the surprisingly strong spurt indicated by an earlier estimate, according to revised government data. —AP

ARAMCO MAY SURPRISE INVESTORS WITH RECORD IPO PROFIT IPO AIMS TO RAISE CASH FOR KINGDOM'S INVESTMENT PLANS

LONDON: When oil giant Saudi Aramco discloses its financials for the first time next year, it must either surprise investors with world record profits or reduce its aspirations for a \$2 trillion valuation in its initial public offering (IPO).

Investors have long debated whether Aramco could be valued anywhere close to \$2 trillion, the figure suggested by Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, who wants to raise cash through the IPO to finance investments aimed at helping wean the world's biggest oil exporting nation off dependency on crude. Based on Aramco's oil reserves of 261 billion barrels and a valuation of \$7 to \$8 per barrel in line with recent industry acquisitions - such as Total's purchase of Maersk's oil assets - Aramco warrants close to the \$2 trillion valuation.

But that is not the only metric for an energy firm's worth. By other measures, Aramco's target valuation may be challenging. Most other metrics for the world's largest oil producing company are simply not known and will not be disclosed until Aramco publishes financial results before the planned IPO in 2018.

Yet a simple calculation using globally accepted ratios for Aramco's peers - enterprise value versus core earnings (EV/EBITDA) - shows the Saudi firm has to report EBITDA in the region of \$130 billion to achieve a \$2 trillion valuation.

Such an EBITDA figure would be a global first. No firm in

any industry has reported earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortization (EBITDA) above \$100 billion.

By comparison, Apple, the technology giant and the world's most valuable listed firm that is worth more than \$830 billion, reported EBITDA of \$82 billion in 2015, according to Thomson Reuters Eikon data.

Awaiting book-building

Exxon Mobil, the world's largest listed energy firm with a market capitalization of \$365 billion in 2016, reported EBITDA of \$23 billion last year, according to Thomson Reuters Eikon data. In 2012, it reported EBITDA of \$65 billion - but that was when oil traded well above \$100 a barrel. Benchmark Brent crude is now around \$54.

Last year, Exxon traded at EV/EBITDA of more than 15 times, which is high by energy industry standards. If Aramco matched that same high ratio, its core earnings would need to be around \$130 billion to achieve its target valuation. Aramco would not be drawn when asked to comment on how it would achieve the \$2 trillion figure.

"This is highly speculative. We do not comment on speculation or rumor," the company told Reuters in a statement. A Saudi Arabia-based industry source said Aramco's value could not be calculated until the completion of book-building to assess investor appetite.

The source said it was misleading to compare Aramco with Exxon, which has less than half the Saudi firm's oil output and not even a 10th of its reserves. EBITDA should not be the only measure, the source added. Nevertheless, Aramco would do well to secure Exxon's high ratios. Investors tend to like Exxon more than other oil firms, handing it ratios that are sometimes more generous than popular technology firms such as Google and Apple.

For example, Exxon's rivals Shell, BP and Total trade at EV/EBITDA of around six times. If Aramco was assessed at that level, it would need to show core earnings at an astonishing \$330 billion a year to achieve a valuation of \$2 trillion. "One thing you never do ahead of an IPO is to tell the market how much the company will be worth as you immediately become hostage to a number or a timetable," said a Western investment banker, who was involved in listing another state energy firm.

Drawing conclusions

Yet Aramco could prove hugely profitable, given its oil output of about 10 million barrels per day (bpd) and some of the world's cheapest crude recovery rates, alongside its global refinery network that adds further value. Exxon by comparison has less than half Aramco's output - with oil-equivalent production of 4 million bpd in 2016, while the

US firm's reserves are a fraction of Aramco's - with proved oil-equivalent reserves of about 20 billion barrels.

Aramco has never published results, but conclusions about its earnings can be drawn from Saudi Arabia's accounts, given oil constitutes the lion's share of the nation's revenues, said Fared Mohamedi, chief economist at US-based Rapidan Group. "Based on the Saudi current-account balance, Aramco had revenues of \$160 billion last year from just oil and refined products exports when the average price of oil was \$43 a barrel," Mohamedi said.

"So if the price of oil goes to \$70 per barrel, it is not impossible for Aramco to make a top line of \$250 billion a year. Given that operational costs of Aramco are one of the lowest in the world, it is not impossible to see them reporting the bottom line or earnings on a huge scale - of \$100 billion a year and above," he said. Financials aside, investors will also assess country risk when working out Aramco's valuation. Exxon benefits from having its headquarters in the United States, even if some of its operations and production are in politically unstable nations. Aramco's head office is in Saudi Arabia, a nation in a volatile region with a war in Yemen on its doorstep. "Aramco is definitely a fantastic, modern and high-quality company," said the Western banker. "But unfortunately, no one can say that Saudi Arabia is a fantastic country from the geopolitical prospect." —Reuters

INFLATION TARGETS STILL PROVING ELUSIVE: BOE

LONDON: Bank of England rate setters won't shock markets with any policy moves when they meet next week as a struggling economy and Brexit fears offset any concerns over inflation sailing well above target. Britain's economy initially withstood the shock of last year's decision to quit the European Union but slowed sharply in early 2017 and is expected to grow by just 0.3 percent this quarter, half the rate of the eurozone.

That poses a challenge for the central bank as, rather than targeting growth, its main remit is to keep inflation - currently running at 2.6 percent - at 2 percent. "We expect the Bank of England to leave monetary policy unchanged, given the subdued growth story and ongoing Brexit uncertainty," said James Knightley at ING.

"Nonetheless, there are going to be members who continue to vote for a rate hike, given that consumer price inflation is likely to move higher once again."

At the last meeting two members of the Monetary Policy Committee voted to increase rock-bottom interest rates, but none of their seven colleagues are expected to join them on Thursday in calling for higher borrowing costs. "Our own view is that rates won't rise this year or next. But that doesn't mean the roller-coaster ride for expectations is over," said Liz Martins at HSBC.

"An unexpectedly hawkish tilt from the MPC in September could mean a kneejerk reaction which pushes sterling and rates higher - if only temporarily."

The risk of a "bumpy Brexit" does not mean the Bank should keep interest rates at their record low, MPC member Michael Saunders said last week, as the central bank risked being rushed into sharper rate hikes in future, potentially hurting growth.

Inflation broke through target earlier this year, largely because sterling's plunge in value since Britons voted to leave the European Union in June 2016 has pushed up import prices. Policymakers at the European Central Bank are facing the opposite problem - they are struggling to get inflation up to their 2 percent target ceiling as a strengthening euro has kept price rises in check.

They left their own ultra-easy monetary policy alone on Thursday but will decide next month how to proceed with the Bank's massive stimulus program in 2018. ECB President Mario Draghi said the euro's exchange rate is "very important" and needs careful monitoring. His cautious comments raise the chances the ECB will opt to phase out its 2.3 trillion euro bond buying scheme only very slowly next year, despite solid economic growth. — Reuters

CHINA PRODUCER INFLATION JUMPS TO 4-MONTH HIGH

BEIJING: China's producer price inflation accelerated more than expected to a four-month high in August, fueled by strong gains in raw materials prices and pointing to strong, sustained growth for both factory profits and the economy. Consumer inflation also quickened more than forecast to a seven-month high, amid signs that upstream price gains are trickling through, but analysts said price gains remain modest and there is little pressure on the central bank to tighten policy further.

"The unexpected rise in both CPI and PPI suggests that there is little hope China's monetary policy could see some relaxation before the end of this year," Zhou Hao, a Singapore-based analyst at Commerzbank. "We believe that the market has underestimated the inflationary pressure facing China's economy, although inflation is unlikely to surge in the foreseeable future. That said, onshore rates are still on the rise," he said, referring to higher financing costs.

China's producer price index (PPI) rose 6.3 percent in August from a year earlier, from 5.5 percent in July, the National Bureau of Statistics said today.

Analysts polled by Reuters had expected producer inflation would edge up to 5.6 percent, its first pickup in six months. On a month-on-month basis, the PPI rose 0.9 percent.

The price data added to a long list of upside surprises for the world's second-largest economy this year, which has so far defied analysts' expectations of a slowdown.

A year-long, government-led construction boom, a resilient property market and a recovery in exports have offset the expected drag from a regulatory crackdown on riskier types of financing, which is slowly driving up borrowing costs.

"The pickup in PPI shows that demand remains steady, and we expect third-quarter economic growth to remain steady from the first half," said Zhang Yiping, an economist at

Merchants Securities in Shenzhen. With the industrial sector in high gear, the economy grew by a faster-than-expected 6.9 percent in the first six months of the year.

If activity remains relatively solid in coming months, China's economic growth could accelerate for the first time in seven years in 2017. Last year's pace of 6.7 percent was the slowest in 26 years. — Reuters



QINGDAO: Port workers wait to work on a container ship as it docks at a port in Qingdao in eastern China's Shandong Province. China's export growth weakened in August as global demand softened while imports showed unexpected strength despite expectations of a slowdown in the world's second-largest economy. — AP

STRATEGIES AND TOOLS: FINDING A JOB AS A SENIOR CANDIDATE

Bayt.com weekly report

If you are a senior executive or a manager, finding a new job might differ from junior employees or fresh graduates. While the basic elements, such as your CV, interview skills, cover letter, are the same, your seniority adds extra pressure and another layer of extensive experience that hiring managers will be looking for. Your vast experience needs to reflect your constant growth and development as well as a proven track record of achievements that directly contribute to your employer's bottom line. How do you showcase that and successfully land a job?

Here are some of the most effective ways you can expand your network, find jobs, and actually get hired as a senior candidate:

Networking

Networking is an ongoing, organic outreach to your personal and professional network of career, market, and business leaders. It isn't about sending mass emails to everyone you know and asking for a job. When done correctly, networking can be a powerful job search tool!

Online platforms, such as Bayt.com Specialties, make it very easy for you to connect with like-minded people. These connections will not only expand your key contacts, but these are the people that have

the intelligence about their respective fields and can help you get ahead in the game.

The Online Magic

Searching, finding, and applying for jobs using leading job sites, such as Bayt.com, is a very effective process. The ability to find 10,000+ jobs in one place, seeing your rank among other applicants, reading specific job descriptions and requirements, as well as the possibility to be found and contacted via employers without even applying make Bayt.com an incredibly useful tool for senior job seekers.

Among those who have specified their career level on their Bayt.com CV, one out of three job seekers have more than 10 years of experience. The Bayt.com job seeker database is diverse in career levels as well as career interests: It includes hundreds of thousands of niche job roles that are as diverse as Oracle and Python Developers, Financial Analysts, Designers, Instrumentation Engineers, Product Managers, and Legal and Compliance Advisors.

Company Targeting

This is the process of finding a company you're interested in even if it doesn't have open positions at the moment. Reasons for doing this could range

from geographical commitments, to your industry preferences, or your special set of expertise. Successful company targeting is very similar to successful networking. You need to sow seeds with companies that may or may not be looking, proving that you bring a positive wind of change, and that you're their savior (even if they don't need saving).

Be sure you talk to the right people: the ultimate decision makers. When you do talk to them, focus on tangible results that can be measured in financial terms. This way you can demonstrate why your high salary, if you are hired, is worth it.

Thought Leadership

Becoming a thought leader might sound like someone who effortlessly shares articles on Twitter, but it is not that. If done properly, becoming a thought leader affords you the chance to highlight your unique insights, perspectives, opinions, and original content with people within your target industries. This is a strategic effort to attract recruiters and hiring executives to your candidacy. When you're a senior employee, you've probably accumulated a great deal of information that can help many others get ahead in their own careers. Use the network you built over the years to speak at company events, seminars, pod-

casts, and webinars. In addition, create your own original content and share it online, advertise it even. Position yourself as the go-to person in your industry.

Executive Recruiters

Companies often hire professional recruiters or recruiting services that help them headhunt the desired candidate for the senior position they're looking to fill. With this method, you need to make sure that the recruiters approaching you (or you're approaching) are legitimate. Real recruiters won't charge you money. They charge the hiring company for their services. Many companies might opt for services like Source2Hire, so make sure your profile on Bayt.com is constantly updated and has all the relevant information that you want employers to see.

In addition to these methods, senior employees need to capitalize on their interpersonal skills, networking, and influence in their industry to find a new job. But remember, knowing your skills, abilities, strengths, weaknesses, added value, network size, and expertise may not be enough. It is how you apply these elements in the workplace that will make a difference for you among other candidates. So, be sure to always tie things back to the company's goals and their bottom line.

KUWAIT INFLATION STEADIES AT 1.3%, A MULTI-YEAR LOW

NBK ECONOMIC REPORT

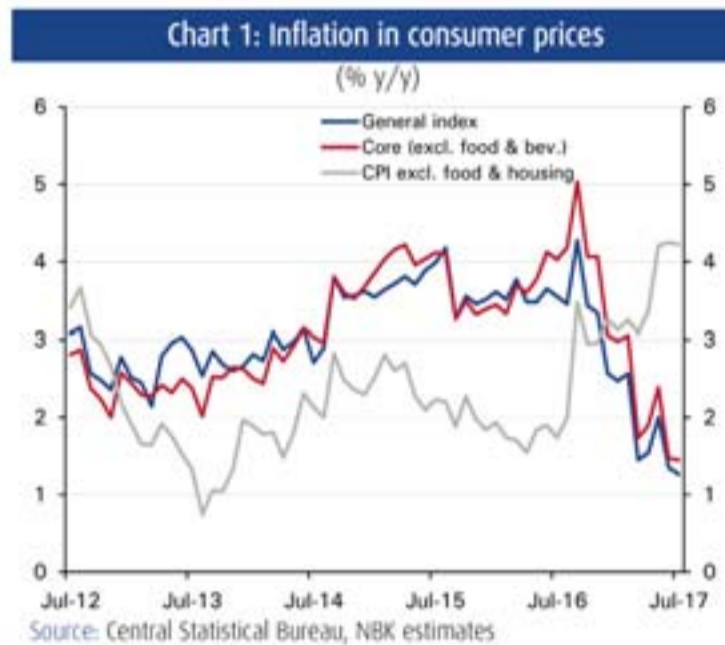
Inflation in consumer prices was largely steady in July, as inflation in most components came in unchanged from June. At 1.3 percent year-on-year (y/y), inflation remains at multi-year lows, mainly due to deflationary housing rent and weak food inflation. Revised consumer price index (CPI) statistics last month pointed to significantly lower housing inflation in recent months, which in turn dragged the overall inflation rate noticeably lower. Inflation excluding housing rent and food costs has remained higher at 4.2 percent y/y predominantly due to the direct and indirect effects of the fuel price hikes introduced in September of 2016. If transportation costs are also excluded, inflation appears to be somewhat milder at 2.3 percent y/y.

Inflation is now likely to average below 2 percent in 2017, down from 3.5 percent in 2016. While hikes in electricity and water tariffs on the apartment sector, which took effect in August, are expected to apply some upward pressures on inflation, these pressures will likely be partly offset by the deflationary rates in housing rent and weak food inflation.

Prices in housing services remained in deflationary territory in July. Inflation in housing services - which is mostly comprised of housing rents and is updated quarterly - has been trending lower since the second half of 2016, in line with softer activity in the housing market. According to the new inflation series, costs in this segment declined by -2.3 percent y/y in 2017.

Local food price inflation remained soft despite a rebound in inflation in global food prices. Local food prices were flat at 0.3 percent y/y in July. In contrast, according to the Commodity Research Bureau, international prices of commodity foods rose by an almost three-year high of 4.4 percent y/y. If the strong rebound in international food prices holds, we may see local food price inflation begin to gather some momentum.

Inflation in the retail sector remained firm thanks in part to improvements in consumer demand as well as a weaker dinar. Inflation in clothing & footwear and "other goods & services" held fairly steady at a relatively solid 2.1 percent y/y and 2.2 percent y/y, respectively in July. Both segments witnessed relatively strong upward revisions following the CPI statistics revamp last month, reflecting some of the improvements in consumer demand as well as a weaker dinar. The weaker dollar has led to a depreciation in the



dinar's trade weighted index, which is currently down -2.5 percent year-to-date. Given that a bulk of the goods in the retail sector is imported, the weaker currency has led to an increase in costs in the sector. Inflation in services excluding housing has been largely steady so far in 2017. In July it still remained at a relatively elevated 3.3 percent y/y. Inflation in this component has been propped up mainly by higher transportation costs, as transport services continue to readjust their fees to account for the higher fuel charges that were introduced in September of 2016. In July, inflation in transportation services came in at 15.5 percent y/y.

Table: Consumer price inflation

(% change)	Year-on-year		Annual average	
	Jun-17	Jul-17	2015	2016
Food & beverages	0.8	0.3	3.0	1.7
Tobacco & cigarettes	1.8	1.7	5.6	0.3
Clothing & footwear	2.2	2.1	0.3	0.8
Housing services*	-2.3	-2.3	6.1	6.1
Furnishings & household maintenance	3.1	3.4	3.7	2.3
Healthcare	-0.4	-0.7	1.7	1.2
Transportation	15.9	15.5	0.9	4.1
Communication	-1.5	-1.1	0.6	2.0
Recreation & culture	3.2	3.4	-0.3	-1.8
Education	3.6	3.6	4.8	3.6
Restaurants & hotels	2.6	2.6	6.3	6.9
Other goods & services	2.4	2.2	2.4	0.8
Core**	1.5	1.5	3.8	3.9
Durable goods	4.8	4.5	2.4	2.5
Semi-durable goods	2.0	1.9	1.4	1.1
Non-durable goods	2.7	2.7	0.0	0.4
Services	-0.3	-0.5	5.4	4.9
Services ex-housing	2.5	2.1	3.9	2.4
General index	1.4	1.3	3.7	3.5

Source: Central Statistical Bureau, NBK estimates

IRMA DAMAGE TO ST BARTS, ST MARTIN HITS \$1.4BN

MIAMI: Hurricane Irma has wreaked an estimated 1.2 billion euros (\$1.4 billion) worth of damage in the Caribbean territories of St Martin and St Barts, French state-owned reinsurer CCR said yesterday.

"This amount covers damages to homes, vehicles and businesses" insured for natural disasters, CCR said in a statement. The disaster is "one of the worst experienced by France in 35 years," it said.

CCR chief Bertrand Labilloy said Friday that the reinsurer had "sufficient reserves to cover the disaster whatever

the cost." The overall damage across the Caribbean has been estimated at more than \$10 billion.

Sint Maarten, the Dutch part of St Martin, has suffered \$2.5 billion in damage, according to the Center for Disaster Management and Risk Reduction Technology (CEDIM) in Germany.

Irma is projected to hit Florida late today, and according to data modelling firm Enki Research the total bill for loss and damage could hit \$120 billion once the United States is included. —AP



KFH HOLDS SPECIAL TRAINING COURSE

KUWAIT: In collaboration with Al-Maseelah Trading Co (Al-Mulla Motors), Kuwait Finance House (KFH) recently organized a special training course for its automobile lease employees on the

latest technologies available on Japanese vehicles. The course aimed at improving KFH staff knowledge, skills and potential in pre and post-sale customer care services. On concluding the

training course, participants were awarded with special certificates of appreciation on a special ceremony held in the presence of officials from both sides.

EXCHANGE RATES

AL-MUZAINI EXCHANGE CO.

ASIAN COUNTRIES	
Japanese Yen	2.759
Indian Rupees	4.746
Pakistani Rupees	2.870
Sri Lankan Rupees	1.971
Nepali Rupees	2.981
Singapore Dollar	223.020
Hongkong Dollar	38.695
Bangladesh Taka	3.737
Philippine Peso	5.988
Thai Baht	9.127

GCC COUNTRIES	
Saudi Riyal	80.787
Qatari Riyal	83.207
Omani Riyal	786.772
Bahraini Dinar	804.440
UAE Dirham	82.482

ARAB COUNTRIES	
Egyptian Pound - Cash	21.200
Egyptian Pound - Transfer	16.972
Yemen Riyal/for 1000	1.216
Tunisian Dinar	127.210
Jordanian Dinar	427.490
Lebanese Lira/for 1000	2.018
Syrian Lira	2.159
Morocco Dirham	32.414

EUROPEAN & AMERICAN COUNTRIES	
US Dollar Transfer	302.750
Euro	356.940
Sterling Pound	395.540
Canadian dollar	239.710
Turkish lira	85.890

Swiss Franc	316.020
Australian Dollar	240.230
US Dollar Buying	301.550

GOLD	
20 Gram	249.070
10 Gram	127.450
5 Gram	64.570

DOLLARCO EXCHANGE CO. LTD

Rate for Transfr	Selling Rate
US Dollar	301.850
Canadian Dollar	242.005
Sterling Pound	391.785
Euro	362.965
Swiss Frank	290.125
Bahrain Dinar	801.135
UAE Dirhams	82.575
Qatari Riyals	83.395
Saudi Riyals	81.350
Jordanian Dinar	427.020
Egyptian Pound	17.104
Sri Lankan Rupees	1.975
Indian Rupees	4.723
Pakistani Rupees	2.870
Bangladesh Taka	3.736
Philippines Peso	5.901
Cyprus pound	17.963
Japanese Yen	3.745
Syrian Pound	1.585
Nepalese Rupees	2.957
Malaysian Ringgit	71.600
Chinese Yuan Renminbi	46.315

Thai Bhat	10.075
Turkish Lira	87.880
Turkish Lira	87.880

BAHRAIN EXCHANGE COMPANY WLL

CURRENCY	BUY	SELL
British Pound	0.392951	0.402951
Czech Korune	0.005966	0.017966
Danish Krone	0.045014	0.050014
Euro	0.358820	0.367820
Georgian Lari	0.134621	0.134621
Norwegian Krone	0.035164	0.040364
Romanian Leu	0.081500	0.081500
Russian ruble	0.005214	0.005314
Slovakia	0.009000	0.019000
Swedish Krona	0.034235	0.039235
Swiss Franc	0.313947	0.324947

Australasia	BUY	SELL
Australian Dollar	0.235652	0.247652
New Zealand Dollar	0.213679	0.223179

America	BUY	SELL
Canadian Dollar	0.243496	0.252496
US Dollars	0.298150	0.302570
US Dollars Mint	0.298650	0.302570

Asia	BUY	SELL
Bangladesh Taka	0.003239	0.003823
Chinese Yuan	0.045143	0.048643

Hong Kong Dollar	0.036760	0.039510
Indian Rupee	0.004228	0.004916
Indonesian Rupiah	0.000018	0.000024
Japanese Yen	0.002730	0.002910
Korean Won	0.000257	0.000272
Malaysian Ringgit	0.068488	0.074488
Nepalese Rupee	0.003016	0.003186
Pakistan Rupee	0.002718	0.003008
Philippine Peso	0.005861	0.006161
Singapore Dollar	0.221016	0.231016
Sri Lankan Rupee	0.001624	0.002204
Taiwan	0.009985	0.010165
Thai Baht	0.008805	0.009355

Arab	BUY	SELL
Bahraini Dinar	0.794837	0.803337
Egyptian Pound	0.014629	0.020537
Iranian Riyal	0.000084	0.000085
Iraqi Dinar	0.000193	0.000253
Jordanian Dinar	0.421693	0.430693
Kuwaiti Dinar	1.000000	1.000000
Lebanese Pound	0.000155	0.000255
Moroccan Dirhams	0.020950	0.044956
Omani Riyal	0.778645	0.784325
Qatar Riyal	0.078731	0.083671
Saudi Riyal	0.079513	0.080813
Syrian Pound	0.001281	0.001501
Tunisian Dinar	0.121702	0.129702
Turkish Lira	0.083681	0.093981
UAE Dirhams	0.080866	0.082566
Yemeni Riyal	0.000982	0.001062

BOURSA KUWAIT REMAINS BULLISH IN 2017

AL-SHALL WEEKLY ECONOMIC REPORT

KUWAIT: Boursa Kuwait performance in the first eight months of the current year came second vis-à-vis the most important global stock markets and the entire Gulf markets. Boursa weighted index has gained 13.3 percent since the beginning of the year until the end of August (19.9 percent for the price index). Most gains occurred in the 1st Q of this year. It is noticeable however that the Boursa weighted index gained 4.2 percent in one month. In addition, 55 listed companies achieved higher performance than the markets, ie rose by more than 4.2 percent.

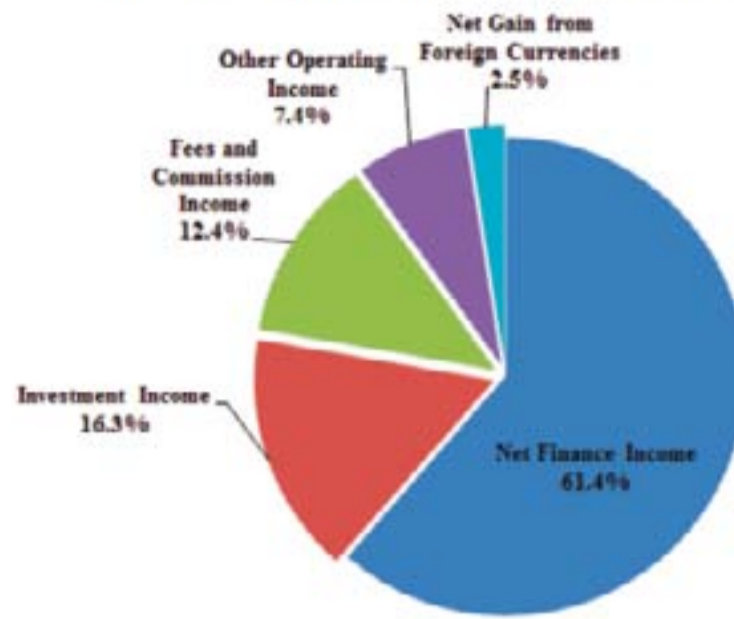
This means gains were comprehensive; more than one-third of listed companies achieved higher gains than the market's performance. The capitalization value of these active companies scored KD 15 billion, about 51 percent of all Boursa companies' value; hence, it is healthy rise which increases the value of investors' wealth at the Boursa. 14 large companies whose capitalization value is more than KD 100 million each and their total capitalization value is about KD 13.83 billion, or by 91.6 percent of the active companies' value, achieved the best performance. Their contribution to the value of all listed companies is about 46.7 percent and their liquidity formed around 57.3 percent of Boursa Kuwait's liquidity in August, which clarifies that they are the cause of the significant rise in the weighted index value.

9 companies of these 14 large companies achieved 2-digit gains, i.e. 10 percent or more. Gulf Insurance Company took the lead and achieved 50 percent rise in its value in one

month. However, they included giant companies which achieved less gains though with bigger impact on the Boursa value rise, such as ZAIN Co. whose prices grew by 12.4 percent after the deal of selling treasury stocks to Oman Tel. Likewise, value of NBK, the largest Boursa company, increased by 6.3 percent and Boubyan Bank by 9.2 percent. The second largest Boursa company, KFH, gained 10.5 percent perhaps due to rumors of adopting a new strategy including a probable merger or acquisition. There are other big and active companies within the 14 large ones which have different goals and they achieved gains: the Commercial Real Estate Co. gained 18.5 percent, the Gulf Cable and Electrical Industries Co. grew by 17.3 percent, the United Real Estate Co., Al-Jazeera Airways, the Commercial Bank of Kuwait, and Boubyan Petrochemical Co. which grew by 14.9 percent, 14 percent, 13.7 percent, and 11.2 percent respectively.

Though the rise is comprehensive and its companies have diverse purposes and are of big scale, there is doubt that the rise is for a short term and should not be pursued without prudence to avoid repetition of what happened in the first quarter of the current year. Liquidity, which is the more important variable, is still weak. Daily average trading value in August scored about KD 14.566 million vis-à-vis KD 42.939 million daily average value for the first quarter. The positive impact for a deal here or exceptional performance there has short-lived impacts. They are discounted in the short term and their impact disappears and is

Total Operating Income in the First Half 2017



supported by sustained rise in the Boursa liquidity. This may not happen under ordinary conditions.

However, Boursa Kuwait performance during the past part of the year was good but the danger remains latent in its deviation towards harmful speculation depriving it of its rationalism and renders its active cycle short-lived.

Trading Features at Boursa Kuwait

Kuwait Clearing Company issued its report titled "Trading Volume According to Nationality and Category" from 01/01/2017 to 31/08/2017 published on Boursa Kuwait official website. The report indicated that individuals are still the largest group, their share started to increase and they captured 49.8 percent of total value of sold shares (47.4 percent for the first eight months of 2016) and 49.5 percent of total value of purchased shares (42.3 percent for the first eight months of 2016). Individual investors sold shares worth KD 2.237 billion and purchased shares worth KD 2.227 billion with a net trading, selling, by KD 10.499 million.

The second largest contributor to market liquidity is the clients' accounts (portfolios) which captured 22.8 percent of total value of sold shares (17.2 percent for the same period of 2016) and 21.3 percent of total value of purchased shares (15.3 percent for the same period of 2016). The sector sold shares worth KD 1.025 billion and purchased shares worth KD 955.648 million, thus making its net trading, more selling, by KD 68.942 million.

The third contributor, is the corporations and companies sector which captured 20.6 percent of total value of purchased shares (32.6 percent for the same period of 2016) and 20.4 percent of total value of sold shares (26.7 percent for the same period of 2016). The sector purchased shares worth KD 924.603 million and sold shares worth KD 915.646 million with a net trading, purchasing, by KD 8.956 million. The last contributor to liquidity is the investment funds sector which captured 8.6 percent of total value of purchased shares (9.7 percent for the same period of 2016) and 7.1 percent of total value of sold shares (8.7 percent for the same period of 2016). This sector purchased shares worth KD 387.467 million and sold shares worth KD 316.982 million, with a net trading, more purchasing, by KD 70.485 million.

Boursa Kuwait continues to be a domestic Boursa with the Kuwaiti investors forming the biggest trading group and sold shares worth KD 3.996 billion capturing 88.9 percent of total value of sold shares (85.9 percent for the same period of 2016) and purchased shares worth KD 3.909 billion, capturing 87 percent of total value of purchased shares (86.2 percent for the same period of 2016). Thus, their net trading, the only one selling, scored KD 86.649 million, which is an indicator of a receding confidence of local traders.

Other investors' share, out of total value of purchased shares, scored 8.8 percent (9.9 percent for the same period of 2016), and purchased shares worth KD 396.311 million, while their value of sold shares worth KD 340.772 million, 7.6 percent of total value of sold shares (11 percent for the same period of 2016). As a result, their net trading, more purchasing, scored KD 55.539 million. Share of GCC investors, out of total value of purchased shares, formed 4.2 percent (3.8 percent for the same period of 2016), worth KD 188.661 million, while value of sold shares formed 3.5 percent (3.1 percent for the same period of 2016), worth KD 157.551 million, their net trading, purchasing, by about KD 31.111 million.

Relative distribution among nationalities changed from its previous one and became as follows: 87.9 percent for Kuwaitis, 8.2 percent for traders from other nationalities, and 3.9 percent for GCC traders vis-à-vis 86.1 percent, 10.5 percent and 3.5 percent for Kuwaitis, other nationalities and GCC traders respectively for the same period of 2016. This means that Boursa Kuwait remained a local one with the rise in the share of its investors from local traders. However, the turnout is still higher from investors mainly outside the GCC region than from the inside of the GCC region in which an overtrading of individuals is a dominant factor, who also increased their share with the increasing activity of the Boursa. Number of active accounts between the end of December 2016 and the end of August 2017 rose by 23.1 percent (compared to a decrease by -32.2 percent between the end of December 2015 and the end of August 2016). Number of active accounts in the end of August 2017 scored 19,200 accounts, 5.1 percent of total accounts, versus 19,290 accounts in the end of July 2017, 5.1 percent of total accounts for the same month, with a decrease of -0.5 percent during August 2017.

Weekly performance of Boursa Kuwait

The performance of Boursa Kuwait for the last week (3 working days due to the Eid Al-Adha holiday) was mixed compared to the previous one, the traded volume index and number of transactions index showed a decrease, while the traded value index and the general index showed an increase and AlShall Index (value weighted) closed at 423.5 points at the closing of last Thursday, showing an increase of about 5.9 points or about 1.4 percent compared with its level last week and it increased by 60.5 points or about 16.7 percent compared with the end of 2016.

	30/06/2017	30/06/2016	Change		
	(Thousand KD)	(Thousand KD)	Value	%	
Total Assets	17,165,407	17,029,624	135,783	0.8%	↑
Total Liabilities	15,133,468	14,983,859	149,609	1.0%	↑
Total Equity Attributable to the Equity Holders of the Bank	1,795,502	1,769,419	26,083	1.5%	↑
Total Operating Revenues	343,178	314,472	28,706	9.1%	↑
Total Operating Expenses	142,905	150,410	(7,505)	-5.0%	↓
Provision	83,155	52,955	30,200	57.0%	↑
Taxation	18,001	11,615	6,386	55.0%	↑
Loss After Taxation From Discontinuing Operations	6,400	28,503	(22,103)	-77.5%	↓
Net Income	92,717	70,989	21,728	30.6%	↑
Ratios					
**Return on Average Assets (ROA)	1.1%	0.8%			↑
**Return on Average Equity Relevant to the Bank Shareholder (ROE)	9.1%	8.0%			↑
**Return on Average Capital (ROC)	33.7%	28.4%			↑
*Earnings Per Share (EPS) - (Fils)	14.4	12.5	1.9	15.1%	↑
Closing Price - (Fils)	483	455	28	6.2%	↑
*Price to the Basic and Diluted Earnings Per Share Attributable to the Shareholder of the Bank (P/E)	16.8	18.2			
Price to Book Value Multiples (P/B)	1.4	1.2			

* Indicators Ended June 30, 2017 on an annual basis
** Calculated based on the average rate of the financial data at the end of December 2016 and 30 June 2017.

US STOCKS WAVER AGAIN AS ENERGY COMPANIES FALL

NEW YORK: Technology and energy companies skidded Friday while banks and insurers recovered some of their recent losses, leaving major US indexes little changed on the day and moderately lower for the week. Credit monitoring company Equifax plunged after it disclosed a data breach that affects 143 million Americans. Competitors TransUnion and Experian also fell, while data security companies like Symantec jumped as investors expected they will get more business.

Grocery stores and food companies slumped as Kroger said stiff competition forced it to cut prices. Target also said it is lowering prices. Technology companies including Apple, Facebook, Intel and chipmakers weakened. Hurricane Irma continued to devastate islands in the Caribbean. The enormous storm killed at least 21 people, a total that is expected to rise as rescuers continue to search. It also left thousands of people homeless, and more than a million people in Florida and Georgia have been ordered to evacuate. Irma is expected to hit Florida over the weekend with winds surpassing 130 miles per hour.

Experts think the storms will slow down US economic growth in the third quarter. While that's likely to be temporary, David Chalupnik,

head of equities at Nuveen Asset Management, said the effect on the stock market could linger because it will be hard for investors to tell how much of any individual company's problems are caused by the weather.

"The next couple of months are going to be pretty cloudy," Chalupnik said. He said insurance companies, cruise lines, and oil refiners based in the Gulf Coast or Southeast could take losses and bad debt at credit card companies will increase, and since the storm will push the Federal Reserve to keep interest rates lower for a bit longer, that will hurt banks by keeping interest rates low on loans.

The Standard & Poor's 500 index lost 3.67 points, or 0.1 percent, to 2,461.43. The Dow Jones industrial average gained 13.01 points, or 0.1 percent, to 21,797.79. The Nasdaq composite dropped 37.68 points, or 0.6 percent, to 6,360.19. The Russell 2000 index of smaller-company stocks rose 0.76 points, or 0.1 percent, to 1,399.43. More stocks fell than rose on the New York Stock Exchange.

Equifax, which hit all-time highs last month, took its biggest one-day loss since 1999 after it said a cyber intrusion exposed Social Security numbers and other information from 143 million Americans between mid-May and late July.

Equifax tumbled \$19.49, or 13.7 percent, to \$123.23. TransUnion fell \$1.89, or 3.8 percent, to \$47.50 and Experian fell 0.7 percent in London.

Security software company Symantec jumped \$1.03, or 3.4 percent, to \$31.63 and competitor FireEye rose 24 cents, or 1.5 percent, to \$16.01. Insurer Chubb rose \$5.97, or 4.4 percent, to \$140.85 and XL Group regained \$2.13, or 5.8 percent, to \$38.61. Still, investors expect the industry to take steep losses from Irma and Hurricane Harvey. Reinsurance companies, which sell policies that cover catastrophic losses like those caused by storms and floods, are down about 10 percent since early August. Property and casualty insurers have also stumbled.

Grocery store chain Kroger said intense competition with Target and Wal-Mart forced it to cut prices in the second quarter, which hurt its profits. Making matters worse, after the quarter ended Amazon.com completed its purchase of Whole Foods and immediately cut prices on many items. Kroger didn't change its annual forecast, but that projection doesn't account for the hurricanes, which may hurt its sales. Kroger dropped \$1.71, or 7.5 percent, to \$21.06. Supervalu fell \$1.43, or 6.8 percent, to \$19.66. Target shed \$1.15, or 2 percent, to \$57.27 and Wal-Mart gave up \$1.25, or 1.5 percent, to \$78.88. — AP

ITALY'S DUAL CURRENCY SCHEMES MAY BE LONG ROAD TO EURO EXIT

ROME: Italy's main opposition parties are replacing their calls to leave the euro with apparently less radical proposals to flank it with a new currency they say can boost growth and jobs. Yet if any of their schemes are adopted with success they may convince many Italians that the economy can function without the euro, and make an eventual euro exit more likely.

It is a big if: previous such plans have been tried around the world with mixed results and it would take a political shift for new ones to be introduced in Italy, but not everyone is ruling it out.

"It can be done, technically and politically it is perfectly possible," said Roberto Perotti, economics professor at Milan's Bocconi University. Three of Italy's four largest parties - the anti-establishment 5-Star Movement, the right-wing Northern League and Silvio Berlusconi's Forza Italia - propose introducing a parallel currency after an election due early next year.

They have settled on the dual currency proposal as a way of continuing to tap into widespread anti-euro sentiment in Italy while avoiding - at least for now - the huge upheaval and market turmoil that outright euro exit may trigger. Opinion polls currently point to a hung parliament in which they could get a majority of seats but would be unlikely to form a government due to divisions on other issues.

Some Northern League and 5-Star lawmakers say their primary goal is to persuade Brussels and Italy's partners to change European fiscal rules to allow them to spend more and cut taxes. The threat of a parallel currency, which is opposed by the European Commission, can help them achieve this, they say.

However, many of the strongest supporters of the scheme are anti-euro and they admit one of its main aims would be to prepare the ground for a euro exit when the time comes.

"With a parallel currency in place, if we want to leave the euro our economy will still be able to operate even if the European Central Bank tries to

crush us by shutting off liquidity in euros," said the Northern League's economics spokesman Claudio Borghi.

Italians were strongly pro-euro when the single currency was launched in 1999, but since then Italy has been the most sluggish eurozone economy and many blame the euro for their falling living standards and high unemployment.

A poll by the Winpoll agency in March showed only around half of Italians back the euro and an EU-wide survey in July by the German Bertelsmann Stiftung think tank showed just 17 percent of Italians said they were satisfied with the direction the EU, half the EU-average. — Reuters

ABK ANNOUNCES WINNERS OF ITS 69TH 'DOUBLE YOUR SALARY' WEEKLY DRAWS

KUWAIT: Al-Ahli Bank of Kuwait (ABK) held its 69th 'Double Your Salary' weekly draw on 29th August, 2017 at the Bank's Head Office in the presence of a representative from the Ministry of Commerce, announcing the names of the winners. The promotion includes weekly draws for existing and new ABK customers. The campaign will run until 30th September, 2017.

The winners are:

- Hashim Hamzah Abbas AlBouloushi, Qurain Branch
- May Ibrahim Sameen AlFadhli, South Sabahiya Branch

New customers who transfer their salary to ABK receive KD 300 and will automatically be entered into the weekly draws to double their salaries. Existing customers who are already transferring their salary to ABK are entered into a separate draw.

THESSALONIKI: Greek Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras (C) cuts the ribbon during the ceremony of the opening of China's stand, this year's country of honour, at 82nd Thessaloniki International Fair (TIF) yesterday. Tsipras inaugurated the TIF with a keynote speech before representatives of local chambers, unions and administration officials. — AFP

For Rent

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Duplex & Triplex Villas

- 3/4 Bedrooms + 3/4 Bathrooms
- +Big Salon + Separate pool
- All Master Bathrooms is Marble

Volleyball Court / Basketball Court / Hotel Lobby

Pools + Jacuzzi / Billiard / 213 Car Parking Areas

Special Promotion Ask about your offer

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Chevrolet Alghanim Service Center: The Largest and Most Modern in the World

Fully designed around our customers' needs and expectations

Inaugurated in 2008 in one of the largest ceremonies held under the patronage of the then Prime Minister, His Highness Sheikh Nasser Al-Mohammad, the Chevrolet Alghanim Service Center remains the largest and most advanced service center in the world, having achieved a new milestone that would influence the course of the industry and set even higher standards for competitors.

Designed to excel in ownership experience by providing world class and unique after-sales support to owners of Chevrolet vehicles, the Chevrolet Alghanim Service Center extends over an area exceeding

73,000 M²



Capability of servicing 1,000 vehicles every day

with over **380 workspaces** that can service more than **1,000 vehicles** each day

Continuously investing in the latest technology, the service center delivers an unprecedented scale and level of automotive after-sales care, providing friendly, fast and cost-effective service at all times.

Advanced Center

Chevrolet Alghanim Service Center provides a hassle-free and easy experience to customers. Professionally-trained Service Advisors start by checking the vehicle to provide requirements, time and cost estimates for needed services.

The service center was designed and built after detailed studies and research for best practices in car servicing, implementing the best standards of advanced technology, services and equipment needed to ensure vehicles are taken care to ensure longevity, safety and customer satisfaction.

Quality customer experience

A key to customer satisfaction as well is the spacious, fully-equipped and comfortable lounges, where



Spacious and comfortable lounges with several facilities

outlets for KromOzone, while children can enjoy a play area with a corner for Sony PlayStations.

customers can wait while their vehicle is being detailed and serviced.

These lounges enable customers to enjoy coffee, a variety of TV channels, free Wi-Fi, ready-to-use Internet stations, a stock ticker for the Kuwait Stock Exchange, as well as prayer areas for men and women. Customers can even watch the technicians work on their vehicle through the gallery window or on CCTV.

In addition to these facilities, Chevrolet Alghanim has added service offices allowing customers to renew their insurance policy easily or rent a car should their vehicle require overnight servicing. Moreover, Alghanim has provided customers with shopping



Qualified service agents to exceed customers' expectations

Qualified technicians and quality service

Advanced technology is used to provide customers with high-quality and efficient service throughout the facility. Our team of technicians is highly-trained in modern technology by General Motors to provide Chevrolet vehicles with fast and accurate servicing.

Chevrolet Alghanim Service Center provides fast service to all General Motors vehicles, done within **60 minutes**. Customers are notified about the status of their vehicle, while a customer service representative goes through the work carried out.



Hospitality befitting our customers during their visit

A strong partnership

Part of a long-standing partnership with General Motors, Chevrolet Alghanim Service Center is proof of Alghanim Industries' commitment to providing superior services that meet expectations and satisfy all customers, achieving the highest level of customer satisfaction and making it one of the most prominent General Motors dealers in the Gulf area.



Entertainment for all age groups

BRITISH AIRWAYS LAUNCHES NEW PREMIUM TRANSFER DRIVE SERVICE AT HEATHROW

KUWAIT: British Airways is introducing a new service called Premium Transfer Drive at Heathrow to ensure that customers who are at risk of missing their connection are able to catch their onward flight.

The new scheme applies to customers travelling on a UK domestic flight, who are connecting on to either a short-haul flight in Club Europe, a long-haul service in Club World (long haul business class) or First, or who are Silver or Gold Executive Club members. British Airways' team at Heathrow will track these customers, and where there's a risk they will miss their connection, will provide an 'airside' car transfer between one flight and the next.

They will also send a message to the inbound aircraft, so the cabin crew can inform the customer that a car will be waiting to transfer them, thereby alleviating any stress or worry.

Carolina Martinoli, British Airways' new director of brand and customer experience, said: "Missing a connection is one of the most stressful situations a customer can experience, so helping them through that journey and keeping them informed is critical. The new premium transfer service will enable us to identify customers who are at risk of missing their onward flight, and proactively arrange to collect them by car, whisking them directly to their next flight."

"We're already receiving great customer

feedback from customers who have benefited from the new service and as WiFi is introduced on our aircraft, we'll also be able to use that to communicate directly with customers about their onward flight." British Airways is investing £400 million in Club World with an emphasis on improved catering and sleep. At Heathrow a First Wing check-in area with direct security and lounge access has opened, and lounges around the airline's network are being revamped and improved.

The Club Europe cabin has been introduced on UK domestic services and recent catering improvements have been introduced in Club Europe as well as across all long haul cabins. British Airways customers can look forward to the latest generation Wi-Fi across British Airways' long-haul and short-haul fleets over the next two years.

Four hundred million pounds will be spent on Club World with an emphasis on improved catering and sleep, and a new seat in the future. At Heathrow a First Wing check-in area with direct security and lounge access has launched, and lounges around the airline's network are to be revamped and improved. The Club Europe cabin has also been introduced on UK domestic services and all customers can look forward to the latest generation Wi-Fi across British Airways' long-haul and short-haul fleets over the next two years. British Airways flies to more than 200 destinations around the world.



AL-MAZAYA ADDS 1,260 UNITS TO ITS DIVERSE PROJECT PORTFOLIO

COMPANY TO PARTICIPATE IN CITYSCAPE GLOBAL 2017

DUBAI: Al-Mazaya Holding has announced it will participate in the Cityscape Global in Dubai, which is scheduled on September 11-13, as part of the company's strategy to have a distinctive presence at local and regional property exhibitions in consolidation of its ranking as one of the region's pioneering real estate developers.

Al-Mazaya Holding's participation in this year's edition of the international property exhibition comes to reaffirm the company's solid financial status and robust operational performance which are backed by a diverse portfolio of projects in different parts of the region.

Commenting on the company's participation, Al-Mazaya Holding Group CEO Engineer Ibrahim Al-Saq'abi said, "Like every year, Al-Mazaya is pleased to participate in this year's edition of Cityscape Global, which is the leading industry event in the region. However, our participation every year comes up with a new value to our clientele, providing them with new promising investment opportunities and projects which will be showcased through our distinguished stand in the event."

"Al-Mazaya pursues a well thought-out strategy that reflects our vision for the future. This well-calculated strategy, Thank God Almighty, has paved the way for us to achieve multiple successes in all the markets we operate. Now we have become one of the major real estate players in the Gulf real estate market with total assets of KD 242.13 billion (AED 2,956 billion) by the end of H1 2017. We are now about to usher the company into a new phase of distinguished global presence," he said.

"Our participation this year will be distinguished with a new array of projects for sale and investment that cater to the needs of large segments of clients who are looking for investment and homeownership opportunities at reasonable prices, especially in Dubai and Muscat."

During the Cityscape Global, the company intends to promote the residential units of Phase III of its largest development "Q-Point" in Dubai. Up to 95 per cent of the project's residential units have been sold and the company has fully completed the construction work of the project's 3,131 apartments which boast different design techniques and spaces.

Al-Mazaya will also offer for sale, during the exhibition, the Phase II of its 253-apartment of Q-Line Project in Dubailand. The dual-building project is still under construction and expected to be completed during the first quarter of 2018. The project's 229-apartment first phase has been successfully completed and handed over to their owners in 18 months.

Al-Mazaya will showcase its new project Q-Zone where architectural designs have recently been completed and the main contractor has also been hired. The project consists of 505 apartments and it is expected to be completed in 2019.

Talking about the company's focus on projects targeting middle-income housing segment in Dubailand, Al-Saq'abi said, "The Liwan area in



Ibrahim Al-Saq'abi

Dubai boasts several advantages, a atop of which comes its strategic location as it lies at the intersection of Sheikh Mohamed Bin Zayed Road and Al-Ain Road with close proximity to major facilities and destinations, including Dubai International airport, Downtown Dubai, and BurjKhalifa as well as many other hotspots leading to Expo 2020 Dubai site. In addition, we always seek to identify market needs and provide affordable prices in the Emirate of Dubai."

Al-Mazaya will bring its other projects from Sultanate of Oman and Turkey to the property exhibition as the company has recently completed the foundation work of its residential project in Oman - Al-Mazaya Residence, which is due to

be fully completed and handed over to its owners during 2018. Around 25 per cent of the work on this project has already been finished. Al-Mazaya Residence provides integrated services and its first phase consists of 120 apartments and 28 shops. Up to 4 per cent of the project has been sold following a large-scale marketing campaign organized by the company in the Omani capital.

In Turkey, the company has launched its Ritim Istanbul Development which consists of 6 residential towers and a shopping mall. Up to 80 per cent of the project's residential units has been sold and the mall now boasts a 50 per cent occupancy. Efforts are also being made to increase the project's sales as well as the mall's occupancy.

In the meantime, Al-Mazaya seeks to achieve other objectives during Cityscape Global, including identifying latest real estate developments at the regional and international levels and exploring new opportunities on fresh markets as part of its global market research policy which is aimed at seizing the best possible and feasible opportunities available in the industry.



AHLI UNITED BANK WINS 'DIGITAL BANK OF DISTINCTION' AWARD FROM GLOBAL FINANCE

KUWAIT: Ahli United Bank KSCP (AUB) announced that it has won the best Digital Bank 2017 Award (amongst Corporate/Institutional banks in the Middle East) from the internationally recognized, Global Finance magazine. AUB's latest accolade is a testament to the Bank's innovative digital capabilities and ability to provide the best solutions for its customers. The awards ceremony will take place on the 2nd November in London.

Commenting on the award Hisham Zaghloul, AUB's Senior General Manager Corporate Banking & Financial Institutions stated, "As one of the leading banks that continuously strives to provide advanced banking solutions to enhance our offerings to the Bank's expanding client base, AUB's latest award is indicative of AUB's pedigree in banking innovativeness and technological solutions that offer customers secure and seamless business dealings."

Richard Groves, AUB's Chief Executive Officer added "Technical innovations are the cornerstone of our operations' continued success. There is no doubt that our latest award from Global Finance is a testament to our efforts in further enhancing our digital channels to cater to our corporate banking activities. This will open more avenues for us as we continue aligning our digital banking



services with our customers' evolving expectations". Groves highlighted that the Bank's ongoing commitment is to provide an extensive range of banking products and services that are convenient, Sharia-compliant and in line with best international practices.

KFH BRANCHES ACROSS KUWAIT FOR SPECIAL NEEDS CUSTOMERS

KUWAIT: Group DGM - Retail Banking at Kuwait Finance House reiterated KFH full abidance by CBK instructions and regulations. Such instructions demand that at least one branch is allocated in each governorate to provide banking services to special needs customers in addition to the normal work of the branch. The branch shall provide minimum one ATM machine provided with key board (Braille). The branch shall train its employees on the sign language or appoint a sign language specialist at the allocated branch.

Al-Subai'e indicated in a press release that CBK instructions support KFH strategy in providing banking services to all tiers of customer. He emphasized that KFH provides its services to special needs customers in several branches spread in all Kuwait 6 governorates e.g. Dhaher in Ahmadi governorate, Rawda in Capital governorate, Rehab in Farwania governorate, Zahraa at Hawally governorate, Saad Al-Abdullah in Jahraa governorate and Mubarak Al-Kabeer branch in Mubarak Al-Kabeer governorate.

Al-Subai'e said "KFH was one of the first banks to welcome CBK instructions in this respect, thus providing a solid strength in relation between KFH and its customers in accordance with global standards and best banking practices. KFH has enhanced and developed its performance and maintained its leading position locally and globally. He reiterated that KFH provides special attention and care to special needs customers and provides banking services in addition to social responsibility services. He said that KFH provides the largest network of ATM machines to blind customers in addition to other easy facilities as per the highest security standards. It

was ensured that machines are distributed among governorates for this category of customers.

The machines comprise a highly sophisticated facility which enables the blind to use the ATM via vocal instructions. Machines provide services e.g. opening investment deposits, cash withdrawal, balance inquiries, summary statement of account at any time and instantly, request cheque book, cheque deposit and cash deposit for individuals and companies in addition to several other services. ATM machine are distinguished for their high tech. specifications to provide round the clock services.

Al-Subai'e emphasized that KFH has completed several training Kuwaiti sign language programs. KFH employees are able now to deal with the deaf and dumb customers without any barriers in accordance with CBK and regulatory authorities' instructions and standards. Priority is always given to special needs customers inside branches and commercial shops. All facilities and aid are provided to them by employees who have received a training on the sign language and the skills to deal with special needs customers. CBK instructions aimed to provide help and ensure equality of treatment for special needs customers compared to other customers. Customers on wheel chairs are provided with all facilities to enable them reach the ATM machines at all branches without any hindrance.



Khaled Al-Subai'e

HUAWEI LAUNCHES 4TH EDITION 'SEEDS FOR THE FUTURE' PROGRAM IN KUWAIT

KUWAIT: In strategic partnership with the Ministry of State for Youth Affairs in Kuwait, Huawei Technologies, a leading global ICT solutions provider, recently launched its groundbreaking national educational program 'Seeds for the Future' for the fourth year in a row. The program, in alignment with the government's ambitious vision and latest developments in the global ICT industry, is aimed at enhancing local skills of the youth within the domain of information technology and equip each to lead the future of this growing sector.

The program will enable creative thinkers from universities across Kuwait to participate in a professional ICT training and educational trip to China to receive cutting-edge technology training in a cross-cultural environment. The program plans to develop ICT skills among Kuwaitis and empower them to be at the forefront of innovation by bridging the gap between academic knowledge and hands-on experience acquired at Huawei's own state of the art technology labs, R&D centre and practical training facilities at Huawei Headquarters in Shenzhen, China. They will benefit from interactions with Huawei staff and live demonstrations of the latest technologies such as 5G, big data and cloud computing and other technical solutions

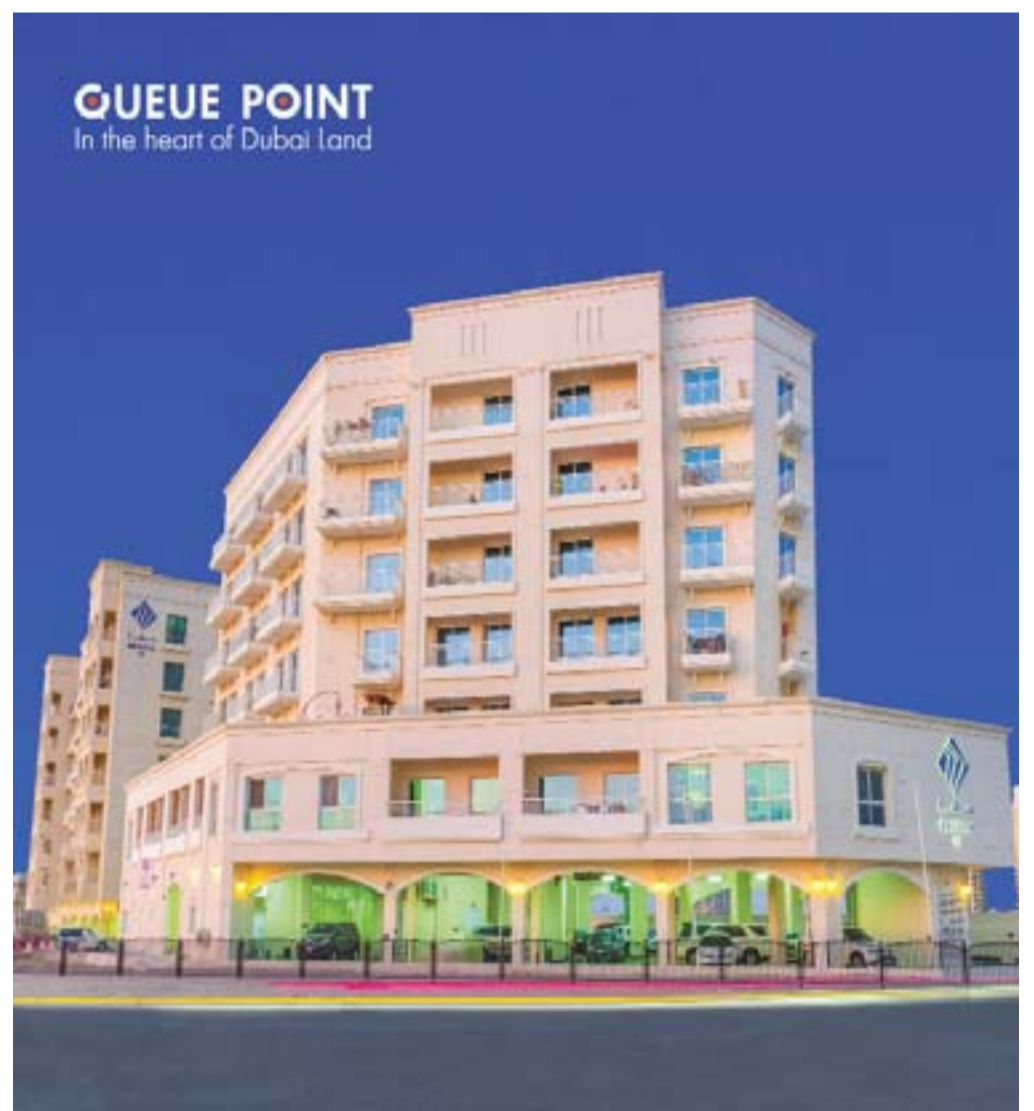
presently required which demands working on multiple sectors to aid Kuwait's transition towards the age of digitization.

The program is open to recently graduated high achievers or senior Kuwaiti students with a background in Engineering, Business, Finance, Accounting and Economics who have a GPA score of 3.0 or above. The selection process will be conducted through a Toss of 'Random Selection' through the Ministry of State for Youth Affairs website between 3 to 28 September 2017. The shortlisted candidates will be interviewed by the Huawei team of judges who will then select the brightest minds to represent tomorrow's leaders of innovation and contribute to transforming Kuwait into a digital country.

Trevor Liu, Huawei Technologies Kuwait CEO stated: "Seeds for the Future' has been a tremendous success regionally and globally and we are very pleased to see the results achieved by the program, which is a clear reflection of our long-term commitment to support the development of our communities and nurture local talent in Kuwait. Through a close collaboration with public authorities and academic institutions, this new platform seeks to empower the young generation of Kuwaitis to leverage technology as an enabler for sustainable growth and prosperity, in

alignment with the Kuwaiti government's strategic vision. Selected students will kick off their ICT training experience on the 15th of October 2017 at Huawei Innovation and Training Center in Kuwait, launched in March 2017, followed by a trip to Beijing from 30 October to 10 November 2017 to immerse each into the Chinese language and culture and visit world renowned tourist attractions such as the Great Wall of China and the Forbidden City, before heading off to Huawei's HQ in Shenzhen.

'Seeds for the Future' is Huawei's flagship global CSR program that aims at driving innovation and social impact through the empowerment of ICT skills. Since its inception in 2008, the program has offered training programs to nearly 10,000 students globally and has facilitated knowledge transfer, cultivated local ICT talent and increased digital engagement with different entities, with over 280 partnerships with universities in 96 countries across five continents. Huawei has also established 45 local ICT training centers and labs around the world and has worked with different countries for the implementation of various ICT-related projects, enabling them to join the digital community and partake in the global economy.



WHAT'S UP WITH YOUR MOBILE APPS? IDENTIFYING AND MITIGATING DIGITAL RISK

By Alastair Paterson

Ill venture to guess you're using a mobile device to read this. In a recent Ericsson Mobility Report, the total number of mobile subscriptions at the end of 2016 was approximately 7.5 billion and growing around 4 percent year-on-year. Greater speed, power and storage capabilities of mobile devices means they are used more frequently for activities previously reserved for laptops or PCs. In this increasingly mobile-first world, organizations are turning to mobile applications that enable them to better interact with their customers and provide new tools for employees. While mobile applications offer a host of new opportunities, they can also introduce risk.

At the end of last year, the US Federal Trade Commission warned of fake apps impersonating well-known retailers and stealing consumers' personal information. More recently, the UK's National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC) and the National Crime



Agency (NCA) released a joint paper on the cyber threats to UK businesses. The report included an examination of the emerging threat from malicious mobile applications. While at the time no cases of mobile malware being used in an attack to pivot into a corporate enterprise network had been reported, the threat is growing and overall attacks involving mobile malware have increased in volume and sophistication.

Mobile devices and applications are highly lucrative and viable targets to threat actors. Although the majority of individuals download apps from Apple App Store and Google Play, which mitigates risk, this is not the case for all users. There are many unofficial stores that allow your customers or employees to install mobile applications that are often not actively managed by their developers or rigorously reviewed prior to listing. In addition these stores often require that a user's device is "jailbroken" or "rooted," placing it at even greater risk of exploitation by malicious actors. There have also been instances where apps infected with malware have managed to infiltrate official stores - so even those stores aren't risk-free. For example, in January 2017 ransomware was identified bundled together with an information stealer masquerading as a battery saving app available for

download from the Google Play store. The app has since been removed from the store.

So what can you do to better protect yourself from such threats? First, all mobile users should benefit from knowing what threats are lurking. There are five aspects to mobile device risk that organizations and users need to be on the lookout for:

1. Your apps - Suspect behavior and code within your own apps, such as self-signed certificates or the presence of malware.
2. Modified apps - Versions of your own mobile applications that have been modified by a third party.
3. Copied apps - Copies of your own mobile applications on stores that you are not actively managing them on.
4. Impersonating apps - Mobile apps that spoof or mimic your branding or identity.
5. Affiliate links - Links to your own mobile applications that may mislead or confuse users.

Even if your organization doesn't use mobile apps or SMS communication, you still may be at risk of threat actors targeting your customers through malicious and illegitimate applications, or through SMS phishing (aka SMishing) attacks. SMishing attacks use the same techniques as traditional phishing attacks to persuade the user into disclosing personal

information, downloading a file or app, or visiting a malicious site.

With knowledge of these risks, now you can begin to mitigate them. A good starting point is to institute user education around mobile application risks. This includes the risk of purchasing from third-party stores, downloading cracked versions of applications, and granting requests for intrusive permissions and privileges. Organizations should also ensure that mobile device operating systems are up to date, helping to prevent against the exploitation of vulnerabilities by threat actors. Finally, companies should monitor not just third-party apps but internal company mobile apps, and take appropriate remediation measures including: blocking the use of older versions, resetting passwords, blocking jailbroken devices from your services and white listing apps that are sanctioned.

We can expect bad actors will increasingly take advantage of the rise in mobile device and application use to steal customer data and intellectual property, divert revenue, and damage your brand and reputation. But by understanding what's up with your apps, you can mitigate the digital risk to your organization, employees and customers. — Alastair Paterson is CEO and Co-Founder, Digital Shadows

APPLE EMBARKS ON EMMY QUEST WITH VIDEO STREAMING SERVICE

TWO LONGTIME EXECUTIVES FROM SONY LURED AWAY

SAN FRANCISCO: Television is one of the few screens that has Apple hasn't conquered, but that may soon change. The world's richest company appears ready to aim for its own Emmy-worthy programming along the lines of HBO's "Game of Thrones" and Netflix's "Stranger Things."

Apple lured away two longtime TV executives Jaime Erlicht and Zack Van Amburg from Sony Corp in June and has given them \$1 billion to spend on original shows during the next year, according to a Wall Street Journal report quoting unnamed people.

The programming would only be available on a subscription channel, most likely bundled with the company's existing Apple Music streaming service. Apple declined to comment.

While \$1 billion is a lot of money, it's a drop

in the bucket for Apple and its \$262 billion cash hoard. But it's still enough to vault Apple into the top tier of tech-industry outsiders producing their own slates of television shows.

History not repeating

Hollywood has long shuddered at the thought of Apple training its sights on TV the way it once did on the music business. Almost 15 years ago, Apple's then-CEO Steve Jobs convinced record labels to let the company sell digital music on its iTunes store for 99 cents a single, a deal the music industry was happy to take in the face of growing music piracy enabled by Napster. Over time, though, Apple's dominance in digital music chafed music executives, who saw the company siphoning off a chunk of their profits.

Movies and television have proven much harder for Apple to crack. The company's interest in transforming television has been an open secret for years, but Hollywood has so far spurned Apple's efforts to make itself an indispensable digital middleman for video.

In a way, Netflix beat Apple to the punch with its ground-breaking video streaming service. Launched in 2007, that service pioneered "binge watching" of entire TV seasons on any device with an internet connection. That gave new life to existing shows such as "Breaking Bad," whose creator credits Netflix with its survival, and spawned the creation of other series tailor-made for bingeing.

Netflix also helped unleash a crescendo of creativity in Hollywood. Follow-on rivals Amazon and Hulu also boast popular video streaming services, and mainstream broadcasters such as CBS and Walt Disney Co. - the owner of ABC and ESPN, among other networks - are also jumping in.

Business necessity

All of that has increased the pressure on Apple to step up its game in TV - not least because the increasing popularity of streaming is hurting its business of renting and selling video from iTunes.

Apple "doesn't want to be left behind," said Debby Ruth, senior vice president of consumer research firm Magid. "This is a way for them to put a stake in the ground."

This year, the company released its first two original series - "Planet of the Apps" and "Carpool Karaoke" - on its Apple Music service, which has 27 million subscribers. But neither show has generated much buzz or critical acclaim. The recent hiring of Erlicht and Van Amburg signaled Apple's intent to make bigger splash. The executives have helped orchestrate several TV hits, including AMC's "Breaking Bad," and more recently branched out into video streaming with "The Crown," which landed on Netflix last year and is up for 13 Emmy nominations in the Sept. 17 ceremony.

Apple also has a not-so-secret weapon: hundreds of millions of iPhones and iPads already in the hands of faithful fans. It could easily transform those into a marketing platform to lure users to its TV service.

Making it in Hollywood

But the company has a steep hill to climb. Netflix has more than 100 million worldwide subscribers and a video library that will add 1,000 hours of original programming this year alone. And HBO has become the Emmys' pacesetter since branching into original programming 20 years ago.

Both companies vastly outspend Apple's reported \$1 billion production budget. HBO spends about \$2 billion annually on its programming, which garnered 111 nominations in this year's Emmy Awards - more than any other network. Netflix, which boasts the second most Emmy nominations with 91, expects to spend \$6 billion on programming this year. Apple is still experimenting in TV, said Gene Munster, a longtime Apple watcher and managing partner with the research and venture capital firm Loup Ventures. "In five years, I bet Apple will either be investing \$10 billion a year in content or zero," said Munster. "It's going to be one or the other."

Job's legacy

Jobs discussed his ambitions to shake up TV with his biographer Walter Isaacson shortly before his death in 2011. "He very much wanted to do for television sets what he had done for computers, music players, and phones: make them simple and elegant," Isaacson wrote.

But no Apple television ever materialized. Instead, Apple has periodically upgraded its Apple TV, which isn't a television - just a video streaming player that connects to TVs. That device has been losing market share to other streaming players made by Roku, Amazon and Google, according to the research firm Park Associates. Building a successful programming line-up could give Apple more leverage to license shows from other Hollywood production houses. It might even embolden the company to finally release its own streaming TV set.

Apple will presumably also want to emulate Netflix's ability to exploit usage data to determine what it thinks audiences want to watch. Netflix's data analysis has helped it attract 25.5 million more subscribers in the U.S. alone since the February 2013 debut of its first original series, "House of Cards."

But if Apple decides it needs a little more help in video streaming, Munster thinks there's in one-in-three chance that it will buy Netflix to instantly gain the cachet and expertise in TV pro-



NEW YORK: In this March 15, 2017, file photo, a sign marks a pick up point for the Uber car service at LaGuardia Airport in New York. — AP

FEDS INVESTIGATE UBER'S TRACKING OF LYFT DRIVERS

DETROIT: The Justice Department in Manhattan is investigating whether Uber illegally used software to track drivers for Lyft, its main ride-hailing competitor, to gain an advantage in attracting and recruiting drivers, according to two people familiar with the probe.

The FBI and the US Attorney's Office in New York's Southern District want to know if use of the software, which created fake customer accounts, broke any federal laws, said the people, who didn't want to be identified because they were not authorized to discuss the case publicly.

An Uber spokeswoman said Friday it is cooperating in the probe and that use of the software has been discontinued. The US Attorney's Office would not comment on the case.

The investigation adds to mounting legal problems for Uber, including allegations of corporate espionage involving autonomous vehicle technology and at least one other federal investigation into use of software to thwart local government efforts to monitor its operations. Earlier this year, Uber's board ousted co-founder and CEO Travis Kalanick in a move to fix cultural problems within the company. Last month it replaced him with former Expedia CEO Dara Khosrowshahi, who has inherited the legal troubles. The latest probe apparently centers on software known inside Uber as "Hell." A federal class-action lawsuit filed by a Lyft driver in San Francisco alleges that Uber developed the "spyware" that allowed it to pose as Lyft customers and gain access to its computer systems. The software let Uber access the location of up to eight Lyft drivers at one time and get their unique Lyft identification number. Uber then used that number to track the drivers' locations, the lawsuit alleged.

Internal records

Uber then matched the Lyft drivers'

WALKIE-TALKIE APP DOWNLOADS AS HURRICANE IRMA LOOMS

WASHINGTON: As Floridians flee the path of Hurricane Irma, one app is proving to be a hurricane season essential: Zello walkie-talkie. Allowing users to communicate even when a natural disaster affects phone signal, the app is the most-downloaded software this week.

What is the app?

Developed by tech start-up Zello, based in Austin, Texas, Zello walkie-talkie was launched in 2011. Transforming smartphones into modern-day walkie-talkies, it topped the download charts on Google Play and the Apple App Store Friday. Zello says it has 100 million users - although before the arrival of Hurricane Harvey, analysis by Sensor Tower showed it was only the 1400th most-downloaded app. But over a million people, mostly in Puerto Rico and Florida, installed it earlier this week as Hurricane Irma approached.

How does it work?

"It's voice-focused," explained CEO Bill Moore. "Voice is our natural form of communication. Talking for a few seconds can reveal so much information about your gender, your level of education, your place of origin or the emotions you're feeling." Users can join a channel and exchange short messages with others. It's as easy as recording a message with your phone and sending it to the group, as

with other applications such as Viber and WhatsApp. It's also possible to send pictures - but the app does use up a lot of battery.

Why is it so successful?

Contrary to some reports on social media, the app does require an internet connection. To send a message using Zello, a 2G cellular data connection is enough - making it practical in the case of a natural disaster, when networks can be disrupted.

Zello is also free to download, and does not feature in-app adverts. During Harvey, its users exchanged advice and organized rescue efforts, with several channels created to discuss the aftermath of the hurricane. On Friday, with Hurricane Irma looming, thousands of users in Florida took to the app to swap tips. "Thank you very much, that's very convenient!" said one Floridian to another who'd shared details of numerous shelters near a highway.

But the company warns the app is not intended as a replacement for coordinated rescue efforts, and urged users to follow official instructions. "While Zello has been helpful in Harvey relief efforts, it is not a hurricane rescue tool and is only as useful as the people who use it, and as reliable as the data network available," it said in a post on its Facebook page. — AFP



SAN FRANCISCO: In this Sept 9, 2015 file photo, a man walks past the Apple logo during a product display for Apple TV following an Apple event in San Francisco. — AP

INVESTORS PUNISH EQUIFAX FOR MASSIVE DATA BREACH

NEW YORK: Investors bailed out on Equifax Friday after the credit monitoring company said a data breach exposed the Social Security numbers and other personal data of 143 million Americans.

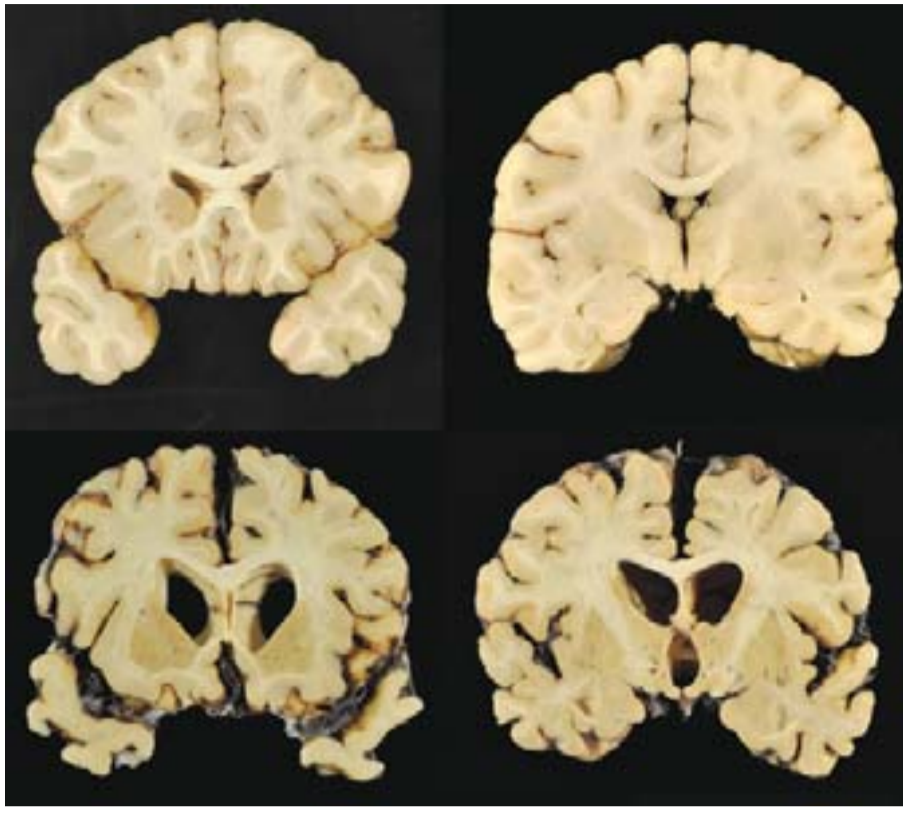
Equifax shares fell nearly 14 percent to \$123.23 in heavy trading. The decline equates to about \$2.35 billion in lost market value. The company is one of three major US credit

bureaus, the declines extended to its competitors. TransUnion fell 4 percent and Experian stock declined 1 percent in London.

Lenders rely on the information collected by the credit bureaus to help them decide whether to approve financing for homes, cars and credit cards. Credit checks are even sometimes done by employers when deciding whom to hire for a job. — AP



This July 21, 2012, photo shows Equifax Inc offices in Atlanta. — AP



This combination of photos provided by Boston University shows sections from a normal brain, top, and from the brain of former University of Texas football player Greg Plotetz, bottom, in stage IV of chronic traumatic encephalopathy. —AP

HOW REPEATED HEAD BLOWS AFFECT THE BRAIN

CHICAGO: Researchers are tackling fresh questions about a degenerative brain disease now that it has been detected in the brains of nearly 200 football players after death. The suspected cause is repeated head blows, an almost unavoidable part of contact sports. As a new NFL season gets underway, here's a look at what's known - and what still needs to be learned - about the condition:

What's new?

The largest report to date on chronic traumatic encephalopathy included 202 brains from football players at the youth, college and professional level, all donated post-mortem to a Boston brain bank. CTE was detected in all but one of the 111 NFL players studied, 90 percent of the college players and 20 percent of the high school players. It was absent in two younger players' brains. A previous report had described the disease in an 18-year-old football player, but finding additional cases at the high school level raises new questions about the game's safety for young players.

How common is CTE?

The high occurrence of CTE in donated brains surprised researchers at Boston University and the VA Boston Healthcare System, whose brain bank is billed as the world's largest focusing on traumatic brain injury and CTE. But whether CTE is truly common in sports or the general population isn't known. Most brains studied for CTE have been donated by family members because of concerns about mental symptoms that might be related to the disease - they don't come from a random population of people. Some experts think it isn't common since many athletes get repeated head blows and never develop symptoms.

What causes CTE?

Repeated knocks to the head are the most likely cause of CTE. Scientists believe genes probably play a role and may explain why some people with repeated head blows never develop the disease. Lifestyle habits including diet, alcohol and drugs may also somehow contribute.

How do head blows affect the brain?

Though the brain is jello-like in texture

and cushioned in cerebrospinal fluid, a powerful hit - from a hard tackle, a fist or bomb shock wave - can cause a concussion, forcing the brain to ricochet back and forth inside the skull. Besides bruising and swelling, researchers believe that force can cause the brain to elongate, stretching nerve cells and their axons - fiber-like parts that transmit messages between cells. With a mild blow, these cells may return to normal, but a forceful hit may cause them to die. Common symptoms after a concussion include dizziness, confusion, headaches, nausea and sometimes temporary loss of consciousness. CTE has been linked with repeated concussions and some scientists believe it may occur after repeated head blows that don't cause any obvious symptoms. But they still don't know how many head hits is too many.

What happens in CTE?

The disease involves progressive brain damage, particularly in the frontal region, which controls many functions including judgment, emotion, impulse control, social behavior and memory. A signature feature is abnormal deposits of tau protein that accumulate around small blood vessels in brain crevices. Tau occurs normally in brain cells, helping them maintain their shape and function. But researchers believe that multiple head blows may dislodge tau protein from the cell structure and cause it to form clumps inside nerve cells. These tau clumps can damage and ultimately kill nerve cells, and can spread as the disease progresses. At advanced stages, brain shrinkage may occur. Abnormal tau deposits in different shapes, patterns and locations have been implicated in other brain diseases, including Alzheimer's Parkinson's disease and amyotrophic lateral sclerosis or ALS.

What are the symptoms?

Research suggests early stages of CTE may cause no obvious symptoms. Many players whose autopsies showed more advanced disease had experienced personality changes, aggressive behavior, paranoia, poor memory, attention problems, dementia and depression. Some died by suicide. Whether the tau changes associated with CTE cause those symptoms is unclear. —AP

FIRE, FLOODS AND QUAKES: A NUTTY RUN OF NATURE

WASHINGTON: With four big hurricanes, a powerful earthquake and wildfires, it seems that nature recently has just gone nuts. Some of these disasters, like Friday's earthquake in Mexico, are natural. Others may end up having a mix of natural and man-made ingredients after scientists examine them.

We also always tend to look for patterns and order in chaos, even when they aren't there, psychologists say. "Nature's gone crazy," mused Jeff Masters, meteorology director at the private service Weather Underground. "Welcome to the future. Extreme weather like this is going to be occurring simultaneously more often because of global warming." A look at a rough few weeks in North America:

Hurricane quartet

Hurricane Harvey hadn't even fizzled and Houston hadn't even dried out from record flooding before Hurricane Irma formed and also grew into a powerful Category 4 storm. Right behind Irma, Jose has powered up to a Category 4 storm. It is highly unusual, but not unprecedented to have back-to-back storms of that strength, Masters said. And then there is Hurricane Katia, just a shade under major hurricane status, due to hit Mexico's Gulf coast.

The last couple of years were quiet for Atlantic hurricanes, which makes this year seem even worse, said Colorado State University meteorology professor Phil Klotzbach, a hurricane expert. He said calculations that measure strength and duration show the three current Atlantic storms set a one-day record for energy on Friday. In just three days, Irma, Jose and Katia have produced as much as energy as about half a normal six-month hurricane season.

Earthquake

As Mexico was bracing for Katia off the Gulf coast, one of the strongest earthquakes in the country's history hit late Thursday off its Pacific coast, near the Guatemala border. The magnitude 8.1 earthquake was felt for more than 650 miles (1,000 kilometers). The quake shook at a depth of 43 miles (69 kilometers) and a quake hitting at that depth with that strength is unusual, according to Cornell University geophysics professor Geoff Abers. It was one of the five largest for that deep in the past 40 years, he said.

Wildfires

On Friday, 82 wildfires were burning in the United States involving nearly 1.5 million acres in nine states in the West. So far this year, more than 8 million acres have burned, only behind 2015 and 2012. One fire at the Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest in Oregon has burned more than 175,000 acres and is only 5 percent contained as of Friday, according to the National Interagency Fire Center. Drought and a heat wave contributed. On Sept 1, in normally temperate San Francisco, the temperature hit 106 degrees and at least six deaths were reported from the heat wave.

What's going on here?

Sometimes there's a pattern in chaos. Sometimes there isn't. Looking for patterns gives us a sense of control, even if we don't really have it, said Scott Lilienfeld, a psychology professor at Emory University in Atlanta. "The human mind is a pattern-seeking organ," he said. "That's how our minds work." It can take weeks or months for scientists to determine whether an extreme weather event was worsened by man-made climate change. But scientists have long predicted that the strongest hurricanes will get stronger and wetter, fueled by warmer ocean water.

And some say the recent global increase in powerful hurricanes fits perfectly with global warming. While warming may play a small role, so does Twitter and Facebook in making things appear worse, said Klotzbach. "It just feels like, you know, it's the apocalyptic end times," he said. "But a lot of this stuff is getting attention because of social media." —AP



SPRING, Texas: In this Aug 28, 2017, file photo, a home is surrounded by floodwaters from Tropical Storm Harvey. — AP



BURBANK: In this Sept. 2, 2017, photo, a crew with California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (Cal Fire) battles "La Tuna" brushfire on the hillside. —AP photos

SPACE X LAUNCHES AIR FORCE'S SUPER-SECRET MINISHUTTLE

CAPE CANAVERAL: SpaceX launched the Air Force's super-secret space shuttle on Thursday, a technology tester capable of spending years in orbit. The unmanned Falcon rocket blasted off from Florida's Kennedy Space Center, as schools and businesses boarded up for Hurricane Irma. It's the fifth flight for one of these crewless minishuttles, known as the X-37B Orbital Test Vehicle.

The two Air Force space planes have already logged a combined 5 1/2 years in orbit. But officials won't say what the spacecraft are doing up there. The last mission lasted almost two years and ended with a May touchdown at the runway formerly used by NASA's space shuttles. The first one launched in 2010. As has become customary, SpaceX landed its leftover booster back at Cape Canaveral for eventual reuse.

This was the first time SpaceX has provided

a lift for the experimental minishuttle. The previous missions relied on United Launch Alliance's Atlas V rockets. Air Force officials said they want to use a variety of rockets for the X-37B program, to launch quickly if warranted. The Boeing-built minishuttle is 29 feet long, with a 14-foot wingspan. By comparison, NASA's retired space shuttles were 122 feet long, with a 78-foot wingspan.

SpaceX stopped providing details about the X-37B's climb to orbit, a few minutes after liftoff at the Air Force's request. The booster's return to SpaceX's landing zone at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, however, was broadcast live. "The Falcon has safely landed," a SpaceX launch controller announced. Cheers erupted at SpaceX headquarters in Hawthorne, California. It was SpaceX's 16th successful return of a first-stage booster. Booster rockets are normally discarded at sea. —AP



In this frame from video provided by SpaceX an unmanned Falcon rocket launches from Florida's Kennedy Space Center, Thursday, Sept 7, 2017. It's the fifth flight for one of these crewless mini shuttles, known as the X-37B Orbital Test Vehicle. —AP

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— Photos by Fouod Al- Shaikh

FLOW HOUSE KUWAIT ORGANIZES ACTIVITIES DURING EID AL-ADHA

Flow House Kuwait organized a number of recreational activities for its visitors during the Eid Al-Adha vacation, said Flow House CEO, Hamad Al-Khonaini noting that, he along with the board members received the visitors. Al-Khonaini added that Flow House Kuwait provides the best recreational facilities such as special swimming pools, water games, the Oxygen bar, wave surfing and special cabins.



Hamad Mohammed Al-Khonaini



ASSE ORGANIZES LEAD AUDITOR TRAINING PROGRAM

American Society of Safety Engineers, (ASSE) Kuwait Chapter organized ISO 14001:2015 Lead Auditor Training Program Batch-II on August 5 to 9, 2017, at Best Western hotel, Mahboula. Muhammad Alamgir, President of ASSE Kuwait chapter welcome speech shared that success is the result of perfection, hard work, learning from failure, loyalty, and persistence. ASSE is the platform and source for knowledge, skills, continuing education, recertification points and networking on the important emerging issues in the profession, he also wished success to all participants for their endeavour to become an IRCA EMS Lead Auditor.

Jahid Thakor, Ag. Secretary thanked the trainer and the participants for their interest towards HSE and briefed about chapter activities. Adnan Yousaf, Head of Training Committee ASSE, said that whether you're just starting the journey or are on the path of a successful HSE

career, ASSE certificates and training programs guide you towards greater success and adds value to professional approaches, he also introduced Martin, Trainer of TUV Middle East W.L.L from Dubai. He has conducted I Conduct Lead Auditor training on ISO 9001, ISO 14001, OHSAS 18001 and trainings in Middle East and Asian countries.

Amir Rasheed, Vice president of ASSE Kuwait Chapter in his closing speech shared that, ASSE KC has a long-standing reputation of delivering high-level, quality OSH sessions and trainings that gives the knowledge and skills one can utilize in your professional life. We will continue to serve the community with our best services via ASSE KC platform with full commitment. The session was held for five days and twenty ASSE members utilized this opportunity in Batch-II. ASSE Kuwait Chapter will continue to do their best for the progress of the society by organizing such trainings.

KANA KUWAIT DELEGATION CALLS ON INDIAN AMBASSADOR

The office-bearers of the Kerala Arts and Nataka Academy (KANA), Kuwait, called on Indian Ambassador Sunil Jain to officially invite him to inaugurate the upcoming theatre festival 'Thoppil Bhasi Natakolsavam 2017' as the chief guest on September 29, 2017. In addition to the theatre festival, the ambassador also held discussions with the visiting delegation on a variety of issues pertaining to the Indian community in Kuwait.

The delegation consisted of KANA Kuwait General Secretary Jiju Kalayil, 'Thoppil Bhasi Natakolsavam 2017' Program Convener Sajeev K Peter, Technical Advisor Idiculla Mathews, PRO Regi Mathews ladies wing coordinator Sindu Chakola, the well-known actor and director of the upcoming mega drama 'Abraham', Babu Chakola, assistant director Manju Mathew and executive member and actor Dr Abraham Thomas. Four amateur Malayalam theatre groups are participating in the drama competition titled 'Thoppil Bhasi Natakolsavam 2017' which will be held from 4.30 pm onwards at the Indian Community School, Khaitan on Sept 29, 2017.

The drama competition is the first major theatre event being organized by the Academy since its inception which has been formed by a group theatre-lovers to promote, practice and produce Malayalam dramas in Kuwait. The academy plans to produce at least one drama every year for the theatre-lovers in Kuwait. 'Thoppil Bhasi Theatre Festival' will be held

every year providing high quality performing arts opportunities for Malayalam theatre troupes in Kuwait. The entry to the theatre festival is free to all theatre enthusiasts.

The winning troupes will be presented trophies and cash awards. KANA will present this year's major drama titled 'Abraham' based on

the Bible. 'Abraham', written by Francis T Mavelikkara will be directed by Kalashri Babu Chakola. A team comprising top theatre artistes and actors are working on the production which will be staged Mid-November this year in Kuwait.



The Scientific Center, of Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Science, received 17,000 visitors during the Eid vacation, said the center's sales and PR coordinator, Mohammed Al-Sanoussi noting that visitors enjoyed the center's edutainment atmosphere and watched two I-Max movies.

AM MOVIES ACTION
02:10 Blackhat
04:25 Twister
06:20 Sherlock Holmes
08:30 Rise Of The Legend
10:40 Nick Of Time
12:10 Blackhat
14:25 Sherlock Holmes
16:35 Rise Of The Planet Of The Apes
18:20 The Man From U.N.C.L.E.
20:15 Blood Diamond
22:40 USS Indianapolis

ANIMAL PLANET HD
00:45 Gator Boys
01:40 Gator Boys
02:35 Gator Boys
03:25 Snake Sheila
03:50 Snake Sheila
04:15 Snake Sheila
04:39 Snake Sheila
05:02 Biggest And Baddest
05:49 Biggest And Baddest
06:36 Swamp Brothers
07:00 Going Ape
07:25 Whale Wars
08:15 Treehouse Masters
09:10 Treehouse Masters
10:05 Treehouse Masters
11:00 Treehouse Masters
11:55 Treehouse Masters
12:50 After The Attack
13:45 Wild Animal Rescue
14:40 The Vet Life
15:35 Snake Sheila
16:03 Snake Sheila
16:30 Snake Sheila
16:58 Snake Sheila
17:25 Gator Boys
18:20 Catching Monsters
19:15 Alien Sharks: Close Encounters
20:10 Project Grizzly
21:05 Wild Iberia
22:00 Wildest India
22:55 Untamed & Uncut
23:50 Untamed & Uncut

BBC FIRST
00:00 EastEnders
00:30 The Good Karma Hospital
01:20 The Good Karma Hospital
02:10 The Durrells
03:05 Doctor Foster
04:00 Doctors
04:30 EastEnders
05:00 Death In Paradise
06:00 Doctors
06:30 EastEnders
07:00 Death In Paradise
08:00 Doctor Who
08:45 Stella
09:35 Doctors
10:05 EastEnders
10:35 Death In Paradise
11:30 Doctor Who
12:20 Stella
13:10 New Tricks
14:05 EastEnders
14:35 Death In Paradise
15:30 Doctor Who
16:20 Stella
17:05 New Tricks
18:00 Doctors
18:30 EastEnders
19:05 Death In Paradise
20:00 The Level
20:45 SS-GB
21:50 Unforgotten
22:40 Unforgotten
23:25 Doctors
23:55 EastEnders

crime & investigation network
00:00 Paranormal State
00:30 Paranormal State
01:00 The Haunting Of...
02:00 American Murder
03:00 Escaping Polygamy
04:00 Paranormal State
04:30 Paranormal State
05:00 The Haunting Of...
06:00 The First 48
07:00 The First 48
08:00 Fred Dineage: Murder Casebook
09:00 Deadly Wives
10:00 Deadly Wives
11:00 Evil Up Close
12:00 Evil Up Close
13:00 Evil Up Close
14:00 Nightmare In Suburbia
15:00 Nightmare In Suburbia
16:00 Homicide Hunter
17:00 Homicide Hunter
18:00 Cold Case Files
19:00 Cold Case Files
20:00 The First 48
21:00 Homicide Hunter
22:00 I Didn't Do It
23:00 Killer Kids

COMEDY CENTRAL
00:05 The Half Hour
00:30 Idiotstiter
00:55 Tosh.0
01:20 Tosh.0
01:45 The Alternative Comedy Experience
02:10 Show Me The Funny
03:00 The Daily Show - Global Edition
03:25 Disorderly Conduct: Video On Patrol
04:15 Lip Sync Battle
04:40 Ridiculousness
05:05 Disaster Date
05:30 Catch A Contractor
06:20 Gym Rescue
07:15 Disorderly Conduct: Video On Patrol
08:05 Disaster Date
08:30 Impractical Jokers
08:55 Ridiculousness
09:20 Key And Peele
09:45 Lip Sync Battle
10:10 Ridiculousness
10:35 Disaster Date
11:00 Gym Rescue
11:50 Disaster Date
12:15 Catch A Contractor
13:05 Disorderly Conduct: Video On Patrol
13:55 Sweet Inc.
14:45 Lip Sync Battle
15:10 Lip Sync Battle
15:35 Ridiculousness Arabia
16:00 Impractical Jokers
16:30 Disaster Date
16:55 Ridiculousness
17:20 Ridiculousness
17:45 Ridiculousness
18:10 Impractical Jokers
18:35 Key And Peele
18:59 Lip Sync Battle
19:22 Lip Sync Battle
19:46 Ridiculousness Arabia
20:09 Ridiculousness
20:32 Comedy Central Presents Comedy

Discovery Family
21:00 The Daily Show With Trevor Noah
21:30 Ridiculousness Arabia
22:00 The Half Hour
22:25 Lip Sync Battle
22:50 Inside Amy Schumer
23:15 Inside Amy Schumer
23:40 The Daily Show With Trevor Noah

Discovery Family
00:30 Destroyed In Seconds
00:55 Destroyed In Seconds
01:20 Destroyed In Seconds
01:45 Destroyed In Seconds
02:10 Risking It All
03:00 Risking It All
03:50 Finding Bigfoot
04:40 Finding Bigfoot
05:30 Science Of The Movies
06:20 How It's Made
06:40 How It's Made
07:00 Dick 'n' Dom Go Wild
07:25 Dick 'n' Dom Go Wild
07:50 Kenny The Shark
08:15 Dick 'n' Dom Go Wild
08:40 How It's Made
09:05 How It's Made
09:30 How It's Made
09:55 How It's Made
10:20 How It's Made
10:45 How It's Made
11:10 How It's Made
11:35 How It's Made
12:00 How It's Made
12:25 How It's Made
12:50 Destroyed In Seconds
13:15 Destroyed In Seconds
13:40 Destroyed In Seconds
14:05 Destroyed In Seconds
14:30 Destroyed In Seconds
14:55 Destroyed In Seconds
15:20 Destroyed In Seconds
15:45 Destroyed In Seconds
16:10 Destroyed In Seconds
16:35 Destroyed In Seconds
17:00 Science Of The Movies
17:50 Science Of The Movies
18:40 Deception With Keith Barry
19:30 How We Invented The World
20:20 Space Dealers
21:10 Bionic Builders
22:00 Finding Bigfoot
22:50 Finding Bigfoot
23:40 Finding Bigfoot

ID
00:30 Behind Closed Doors: Shocking Secrets
01:20 Sexual Assault In College: Tamron Hall...
02:10 Evil Online
03:00 I Am Homicide
03:48 Forbidden: Dying For Love
04:36 Your Worst Nightmare
05:24 Disappeared
06:12 Suspicion
07:00 Disappeared
07:50 Disappeared
08:40 Disappeared
09:30 Disappeared
10:20 Disappeared
11:10 Grave Secrets
12:00 Swamp Murders
12:50 Swamp Murders
13:40 Swamp Murders
14:30 Swamp Murders
15:20 Swamp Murders
16:10 Suspicion
17:00 Blood Relatives
17:50 Blood Relatives
18:40 Blood Relatives
19:30 Blood Relatives
20:20 Blood Relatives
21:10 Betrayed
22:00 Disappeared
22:50 Shadow Of Doubt
23:40 Your Worst Nightmare

Disney HD
00:00 Hank Zipzer
00:25 Alex & Co.
00:45 The Hive
00:50 Evermoor Chronicles
01:15 Sabrina Secrets Of A Teenage Witch
01:40 Sabrina Secrets Of A Teenage Witch
02:05 Binny And The Ghost
02:30 Binny And The Ghost
02:55 Hank Zipzer
03:15 The Hive
03:20 Hank Zipzer
03:45 Alex & Co.
04:10 Alex & Co.
04:35 Sabrina Secrets Of A Teenage Witch
05:00 Sabrina Secrets Of A Teenage Witch
05:25 Binny And The Ghost
05:45 The Hive
05:50 Rolling With The Ronks
06:00 Jessie
06:25 Liv And Maddie
06:50 Austin & Ally
07:15 Tsum Tsum Shorts
07:20 The Zuzzus
07:45 Elena Of Avalor
08:10 Miraculous Tales Of Ladybug And Cat Noir
08:35 Girl Meets World
09:00 Bizaardvark
09:25 Stuck In The Middle
09:50 K.C. Undercover
10:15 Bunk'd
10:40 16 Wishes
12:05 Rolling With The Ronks
12:20 Liv And Maddie
12:45 Liv And Maddie
13:10 Liv And Maddie
13:35 Liv And Maddie
16:05 Descendants Wicked World
16:10 Liv And Maddie
16:35 Liv And Maddie
17:00 Liv And Maddie
17:25 Invisible Sister
18:40 K.C. Undercover
19:05 Best Friends Whenever
19:30 Liv And Maddie
19:55 Elena Of Avalor
20:20 Jessie
20:45 Bizaardvark
21:10 Austin & Ally
21:35 Stuck In The Middle
22:00 Miraculous Tales Of Ladybug And Cat Noir
22:25 Miraculous Tales Of Ladybug And Cat Noir
22:50 Liloalock
23:10 Sabrina Secrets Of A Teenage Witch
23:35 Binny And The Ghost

Disney Junior
00:00 Henry Hugglemonster
00:15 Calimero
00:30 Art Attack
00:55 Zou
01:05 Loopydoo
01:20 Henry Hugglemonster

Discovery Channel HD
01:35 Calimero
01:50 Zou
02:05 Art Attack
02:30 Henry Hugglemonster
02:40 Loopydoo
02:55 Henry Hugglemonster
03:10 Art Attack
03:35 Loopydoo
03:50 Calimero
04:05 Art Attack
04:30 Henry Hugglemonster
04:45 Zou
05:00 Art Attack
05:30 Henry Hugglemonster
05:45 Loopydoo
06:00 Zou
06:15 Calimero
06:30 Loopydoo
06:45 Henry Hugglemonster
07:00 My Friends Tigger & Pooh
07:30 Goldie & Bear
08:00 Mickey And The Roadster Racers
08:30 Doc McStuffins
09:00 The Adventures Of Disney Fairies
09:30 Sofia The First
10:00 The Lion Guard
10:30 Mickey And The Roadster Racers
11:00 Goldie & Bear
11:30 Goldie & Bear
12:00 Goldie & Bear
12:30 Goldie & Bear
13:00 The Lion Guard
13:30 The Lion Guard
14:00 The Lion Guard
14:30 Winnie The Pooh: Springtime With Roo
15:40 PJ Masks
16:00 Doc McStuffins
16:30 My Friends Tigger & Pooh
17:00 The Lion Guard
17:30 Sofia The First
18:00 Jake And The Never Land Pirates
18:30 Mickey Mouse Clubhouse
19:00 The Adventures Of Disney Fairies
19:35 The Lion Guard
20:05 Goldie & Bear
20:35 Mickey And The Roadster Racers
21:05 Doc McStuffins
21:35 Miles From Tomorrow
21:50 Jake And The Never Land Pirates
22:20 Sofia The First
22:50 PJ Masks
23:20 Henry Hugglemonster
23:40 Loopydoo

Discovery Channel HD
00:20 What On Earth?
01:05 Cooper's Treasure: The Hunt For A Secret Fortune
01:50 Cooper's Treasure: The Hunt For A Secret Fortune
02:35 Cooper's Treasure: The Hunt For A Secret Fortune
03:20 Cooper's Treasure: The Hunt For A Secret Fortune
04:05 Cooper's Treasure: The Hunt For A Secret Fortune
04:50 Cooper's Treasure: The Hunt For A Secret Fortune
05:35 How Do They Do It?
06:00 Deadliest Catch
06:45 Wheeler Dealers
07:30 Fast N' Loud
08:15 The Island With Bear Grylls
09:00 Storage Wars Canada
09:25 How Do They Do It?
09:47 How Do They Do It?
10:10 Edge Of Alaska
10:55 Legend Of Croc Gold
11:40 How Do They Do It?
12:02 How Do They Do It?
12:25 How Do They Do It?
12:47 Storage Wars Canada
13:10 Alaska: The Last Frontier
13:55 The Island With Bear Grylls
14:40 Deadliest Catch
15:25 Fast N' Loud
16:10 Wheeler Dealers
17:00 How Do They Do It?
17:25 How Do They Do It?
17:50 Storage Wars Canada
18:20 Storage Wars Canada
18:50 The Island With Bear Grylls
19:40 How Do They Do It?
20:10 How Do They Do It?
20:35 How Do They Do It?
21:00 Idris Elba: Fighter
21:50 Last Chance Hospital
23:30 Fast N' Loud

HD
06:00 Penn Zero: Part Time Hero
06:25 Supa Strikas
06:50 Marvel Ultimate Spider-Man Vs...
07:15 Right Now Kapow
07:40 Walk The Prank
08:05 Marvel's Rocket And Groot
08:10 K.C. Undercover
08:35 Milo Murphy's Law
09:00 Disney11
09:25 Disney11
09:50 Disney11
10:20 Disney11
10:45 Disney11
11:10 Lab Rats
11:35 Mech-X4
12:00 Walk The Prank
12:30 Star vs The Forces Of Evil
12:55 Kirby Buckets
13:20 Gamer's Guide To Pretty...
13:45 Kirby Buckets
14:10 Disney Mickey Mouse
14:15 Milo Murphy's Law
14:40 K.C. Undercover
15:05 Lab Rats: Bionic Island
15:30 Walk The Prank
15:55 Right Now Kapow
16:25 Supa Strikas
16:50 Supa Strikas
17:15 Mech-X4
17:40 Gravity Falls
18:05 Milo Murphy's Law
18:30 Marvel's Ant-Man
18:35 Lab Rats
19:00 Kirby Buckets
19:25 Walk The Prank
19:50 Marvel's Rocket And Groot
19:55 Right Now Kapow
20:20 Mech-X4
20:45 Mighty Med
21:10 K.C. Undercover
21:35 Marvel's Ant-Man
21:40 Disney Mickey Mouse
21:45 Lab Rats
22:10 Lab Rats
22:35 Phineas And Ferb
23:00 Programmes Start At 6:00am KSA

EHD
00:00 Famously Single
00:55 WAGs Miami
01:50 El News
02:50 Celebrity Style Story
03:20 Celebrity Style Story
03:50 Rob & Chyna
04:40 Rob & Chyna
05:30 Celebrity Style Story
06:00 Hollywood Medium With Tyler Henry

06:50 El News
07:20 Hollywood Medium With Tyler Henry
08:10 El News
09:05 Botched
09:55 Botched
10:45 Botched
11:35 Second Wives Club
12:25 Second Wives Club
13:15 Second Wives Club
14:15 Botched
15:10 Botched
16:05 WAGs Miami
17:05 WAGs Miami
18:05 WAGs Miami
19:00 El News
20:00 Life Of Kylie
20:30 Life Of Kylie
21:00 Life Of Kylie
21:30 El News
22:30 WAGs Miami
23:00 Life Of Kylie
23:30 El News

food
00:00 Man Fire Food
00:30 Man Fire Food
01:00 Restaurant Stakeout
02:00 Mystery Diners
02:30 Mystery Diners
03:00 Man Fire Food
03:30 Man Fire Food
04:00 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives
04:30 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives
05:00 Guy's Grocery Games
06:00 Roadtrip With G. Garvin
06:25 Roadtrip With G. Garvin
06:50 Man Fire Food
07:15 Chopped
08:05 Barefoot Contessa: Back To Basics
08:30 Barefoot Contessa: Back To Basics
08:55 The Pioneer Woman
09:20 The Pioneer Woman
09:50 Siba's Table: Fast Feasts
10:20 Siba's Table: Fast Feasts
10:50 Bake With Anna Olson
11:20 Chopped
12:10 Man Fire Food
12:35 Man Fire Food
13:05 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives
13:30 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives
14:00 Chopped
15:00 Barefoot Contessa
15:30 Barefoot Contessa
16:00 The Pioneer Woman
16:30 The Pioneer Woman
17:00 Siba's Table
17:30 Siba's Table
18:00 Bake With Anna Olson
18:30 Bake With Anna Olson
19:00 Man Fire Food
19:30 Man Fire Food
20:00 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives
20:30 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives
21:00 Siba's Table
21:30 Siba's Table
22:00 Jenny And Reza's Fabulous Food Academy
22:30 Jenny And Reza's Fabulous Food Academy
23:00 Chopped

itv CHOICE
00:40 Coronation Street
01:00 Don't Tell The Bride
02:00 Tracey Ullman's Show
02:30 Coronation Street
03:00 Coronation Street
03:55 The Chase
04:50 Tonight At The London Palladium
05:50 Don't Tell The Bride
06:50 Don't Tell The Bride
07:50 Endeavour
09:30 Victoria
10:25 Queen Victoria's Letters: A Monarch Unveiled
11:25 Tonight At The London Palladium
12:20 The Chase: Celebrity Specials
13:15 The Chase: Celebrity Specials
14:05 Tracey Ullman's Show
14:35 The Moorside
15:35 Victoria
16:30 The Jonathan Ross Show
17:25 Endeavour
18:55 Martin Clunes: Islands Of Australia
19:45 Queen Victoria's Letters: A Monarch Unveiled
20:40 Victoria
21:30 The Jonathan Ross Show
22:25 Endeavour

HD
00:00 Ancient Aliens
01:00 Ancient Aliens
02:00 Ancient Aliens
02:50 Ancient Aliens
03:40 Ancient Aliens
04:30 Ancient Aliens
05:20 Ancient Aliens
06:10 Ancient Aliens
07:00 Ancient Impossible
08:00 Ancient Impossible
09:00 Engineering Disasters
10:00 Engineering Disasters
11:00 Hangar 1: The UFO Files
12:00 Hangar 1: The UFO Files
13:00 Ancient Impossible
14:00 Ancient Impossible
15:00 Engineering Disasters
16:00 Engineering Disasters
17:00 Hangar 1: The UFO Files
18:00 Ancient Aliens
19:00 The Lost Evidence
20:00 United Stuff Of America
21:00 In Search Of Aliens
22:00 Brad Meltzer's Lost History
23:00 Warriors

nick HD
00:12 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
00:36 Rabbits Invasion
01:00 Rabbits Invasion
01:24 Sanjay And Craig
01:48 Sanjay And Craig
02:12 Winx Club
02:36 Winx Club
03:00 Harvey Beaks
03:24 Harvey Beaks
03:48 The Loud House
04:12 The Loud House
04:36 Breadwinners
05:00 Breadwinners
05:24 Get Blake
05:48 SpongeBob SquarePants
06:12 SpongeBob SquarePants
06:36 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
07:00 The Loud House
07:24 Rabbits Invasion
07:48 Get Blake
08:12 Harvey Beaks
08:36 Sanjay And Craig
09:00 Rank The Prank
09:24 Henry Danger
09:48 100 Things To Do Before High School
10:12 Game Shakers
10:36 Regal Academy
11:00 Winx Club
11:24 SpongeBob SquarePants
11:48 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
12:12 The Loud House
12:36 Rabbits Invasion
13:00 Breadwinners
13:24 Sanjay And Craig
13:48 100 Things To Do Before High School
14:12 School Of Rock
14:36 The Thundermans
15:00 Henry Danger
15:24 The Loud House

NAT GEO people HD
00:15 Fish Of The Day
00:45 My Restaurant In India
01:10 Street Food Around The World
01:40 Raw Travel
02:05 Raw Travel
02:35 Chef On The Road
03:30 Living Free With Kimi Werner
04:25 Street Food Around The World
04:50 David Rocco's Dolce India
05:20 Charlie Luxton's Homes By The Med
06:15 Delinquent Gourmet
06:40 Delinquent Gourmet
07:10 World's Greatest Food Markets
08:05 Rustic Adventures Italy
08:30 Rustic Adventures Italy
09:00 Cesar To The Rescue
09:55 Bad Trip
10:50 Places We Go
11:15 Route Awakening
11:45 Around The World In 80 Dishes
12:40 Raw Travel
13:05 Raw Travel
13:35 Dog Whisperer
14:30 World's Greatest Food Markets
15:25 Eat: The Story Of Food
16:20 Street Food Around The World
16:45 David Rocco's Dolce India
17:15 Charlie Luxton's Homes By The Med
18:10 One Man & His Campervan
18:35 One Man & His Campervan
19:05 Eat: The Story Of Food
20:00 Street Food Around The World
20:30 David Rocco's Dolce India
21:00 Charlie Luxton's Homes By The Med
22:00 One Man & His Campervan
22:25 One Man & His Campervan
22:55 Raw Travel
23:20 Raw Travel
23:50 Dog Whisperer

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC CHANNEL HD
00:10 Big Fix Alaska
01:00 King Fishers
02:00 Wicked Tuna
03:00 Rare
04:00 Big Fix Alaska
05:00 Mega Bridges
06:00 Seconds From Disaster
07:00 Seconds From Disaster
08:00 WWII's Greatest Raids
09:00 Airport Security: Colombia
09:00 Looked Up Abroad
10:00 Nazi Megastructures
11:00 Supercar Megabuild
12:00 Rare
13:00 Dog Whisperer
14:00 Dog Whisperer
15:00 Big Fish, Texas
16:00 Wicked Tuna
17:00 Year Million
18:00 How It Was: Voices Of 9/11
19:00 9/11 Firehouse
20:00 Wicked Tuna
20:50 Year Million
21:40 How It Was: Voices Of 9/11
22:30 9/11 Firehouse
23:20 Nazi Megastructures

NAT GEO WILD HD
00:20 1000 Days For The Planet
01:10 Wild Untamed Brazil
02:00 My Life Is A Zoo
02:50 Secret Life Of Predators
03:45 Natural Born Monsters
04:40 Wild Scotland: Highlands
05:35 Gangster Jackals (Aka Beach Jackals)
06:30 Monster Fish
07:25 Monster Fish
08:20 Man V. Animal (Cutdowns)
08:45 Man V. Animal (Cutdowns)
09:15 Animals Gone Wild
10:10 Wild Case Files
11:05 Dr. K's Exotic Animal ER 2.5
12:00 Incredible Spiders
12:55 Secret Life Of Predators
13:50 Survive The Wild
14:45 Search For King Cobra
15:40 Wild Scotland: Highlands
16:35 Unlikely Animal Friends: Bark-Tacular
17:30 Monster Fish
18:25 Paradise Islands
19:20 Search For King Cobra
20:10 Wild Scotland: Highlands
20:50 Unlikely Animal Friends: Bark-Tacular
21:50 Monster Fish
22:40 Paradise Islands

00:12 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
00:36 Rabbits Invasion
01:00 Rabbits Invasion
01:24 Sanjay And Craig
01:48 Sanjay And Craig
02:12 Winx Club
02:36 Winx Club
03:00 Harvey Beaks
03:24 Harvey Beaks
03:48 The Loud House
04:12 The Loud House
04:36 Breadwinners
05:00 Breadwinners
05:24 Get Blake
05:48 SpongeBob SquarePants
06:12 SpongeBob SquarePants
06:36 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
07:00 The Loud House
07:24 Rabbits Invasion
07:48 Get Blake
08:12 Harvey Beaks
08:36 Sanjay And Craig
09:00 Rank The Prank
09:24 Henry Danger
09:48 100 Things To Do Before High School
10:12 Game Shakers
10:36 Regal Academy
11:00 Winx Club
11:24 SpongeBob SquarePants
11:48 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
12:12 The Loud House
12:36 Rabbits Invasion
13:00 Breadwinners
13:24 Sanjay And Craig
13:48 100 Things To Do Before High School
14:12 School Of Rock
14:36 The Thundermans
15:00 Henry Danger
15:24 The Loud House

00:15 The Hot Chick
03:35 Taxi
05:15 Mr. Deeds
06:55 Love, Rosie
08:40 Taxi
10:20 Mr. Deeds
12:00 Love, Rosie
13:45 Camp Nowhere
15:25 Hope Springs
17:00 Father Of The Bride
18:50 The Grand Seduction
20:45 Surviving Christmas
22:15 Joshy
23:50 Are You Here

15:48 SpongeBob SquarePants
16:12 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
16:36 The Loud House
17:00 Regal Academy
17:24 Winx Club
17:48 Hunter Street
18:12 Henry Danger
18:36 Nicky, Ricky, Dicky & Dawn
19:00 School Of Rock
19:24 Game Shakers
19:48 The Thundermans
20:12 SpongeBob SquarePants
20:36 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
21:00 The Loud House
21:24 Sanjay And Craig
21:48 Rabbits Invasion
22:12 Breadwinners
22:36 Harvey Beaks
23:00 SpongeBob SquarePants
23:24 SpongeBob SquarePants
23:48 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles

nick jr
00:03 Max & Ruby
00:27 Ben & Holly's Little Kingdom
00:38 Ben & Holly's Little Kingdom
00:48 The Day Henry Met
00:53 The Day Henry Met
00:58 The Day Henry Met
01:03 Blaze And The Monster Machines
01:26 Blaze And The Monster Machines
01:47 Team Umizoomi
02:10 Team Umizoomi
02:32 Paw Patrol
02:56 Paw Patrol
03:19 Shimmer And Shine
03:43 Shimmer And Shine
04:05 Nella The Princess Knight
04:27 Nella The Princess Knight
04:50 Rusty Rivets
05:14 Rusty Rivets
05:38 Blaze And The Monster Machines
06:00 Blaze And The Monster Machines
06:23 Paw Patrol
06:37 Dora The Explorer
07:00 Zack & Quack
07:21 Bubble Guppies
07:45 Blaze And The Monster Machines
08:08 Dora The Explorer
08:53 Nella The Princess Knight
09:16 The Day Henry Met
09:22 Paw Patrol
09:44 Rusty Rivets
09:56 Bubble Guppies
10:20 Fresh Beat Band Of Spies
10:42 Zack & Quack
10:53 Team Umizoomi
11:16 Shimmer And Shine
11:39 Shimmer And Shine
12:02 Max & Ruby
12:27 Ben & Holly's Little Kingdom
12:37 Ben & Holly's Little Kingdom
12:48 The Day Henry Met
12:53 The Day Henry Met
12:58 The Day Henry Met
13:03 Blaze And The Monster Machines
13:25 Blaze And The Monster Machines
13:47 Team Umizoomi
14:11 Team Umizoomi
14:33 Paw Patrol
14:57 Paw Patrol
15:20 Shimmer And Shine
15:43 Shimmer And Shine
16:06 Nella The Princess Knight
16:28 Nella The Princess Knight
16:51 Rusty Rivets
17:14 Rusty Rivets
17:38 Blaze And The Monster Machines
18:00 Blaze And The Monster Machines
18:23 Paw Patrol
18:37 Dora The Explorer
19:00 Zack & Quack
19:21 Bubble Guppies
19:45 Blaze And The Monster Machines
20:08 Paw Patrol
20:32 Shimmer And Shine
20:54 Nella The Princess Knight
21:16 The Day Henry Met
21:22 Paw Patrol
21:45 Rusty Rivets
21:57 Bubble Guppies
22:21 Fresh Beat Band Of Spies
22:43 Zack & Quack
22:54 Team Umizoomi
23:17 Shimmer And Shine
23:40 Shimmer And Shine

AM MOVIES HD FAMILY
00:40 The Wild
02:05 Pirates Of The Caribbean 2: Dead Man's Chest
04:35 Mary Poppins
06:55 Diary Of A Wimpy Kid: Rodrick Rules
08:35 Rio
10:15 The Wild
11:50 Diary Of A Wimpy Kid: Rodrick Rules
13:00 I'll Be Home For Christmas
15:00 Hercules (1997)
16:35 Brave
18:15 Hocus Pocus
20:00 Marvel Super Hero Adventures: Frost Fight
21:25 I'll Be Home For Christmas
23:00 Hercules (1997)

AM MOVIES HD COMEDY
01:45 The Hot Chick
03:35 Taxi
05:15 Mr. Deeds
06:55 Love, Rosie
08:40 Taxi
10:20 Mr. Deeds
12:00 Love, Rosie
13:45 Camp Nowhere
15:25 Hope Springs
17:00 Father Of The Bride
18:50 The Grand Seduction
20:45 Surviving Christmas
22:15 Joshy
23:50 Are You Here

AM MOVIES HD KIDS
01:05 The Wish Fish
02:25 Bunny Tales
03:45 Space Dogs 2: Adventure To The Moon

05:10 Last Wizard
06:30 Egon And Donci
07:55 Ghosthunters On Icy Trails
09:35 Winnie The Pooh
10:45 Get Squirrelly
12:15 The Wish Fish
13:35 Bunny Tales
14:55 A.R.C.H.I.E.
16:30 Winnie The Pooh
17:40 Izzie's Way Home
19:05 Doctor Proctor's Far Powder
20:40 A.R.C.H.I.E.
22:15 Ghosthunters On Icy Trails
23:55 Get Squirrelly

AM MOVIES HD
01:30 Spectre
04:00 Air Force One
06:10 Forces Of Nature
08:00 Changing
10:20 Spectre
12:50 From Rocky To Creed The Legacy Continues
13:50 Reign Over Me
15:55 Steve Jobs
18:00 San Andreas
20:00 The Color Of Money
22:50 Love And Other Drugs
23:55 This Boy's Life

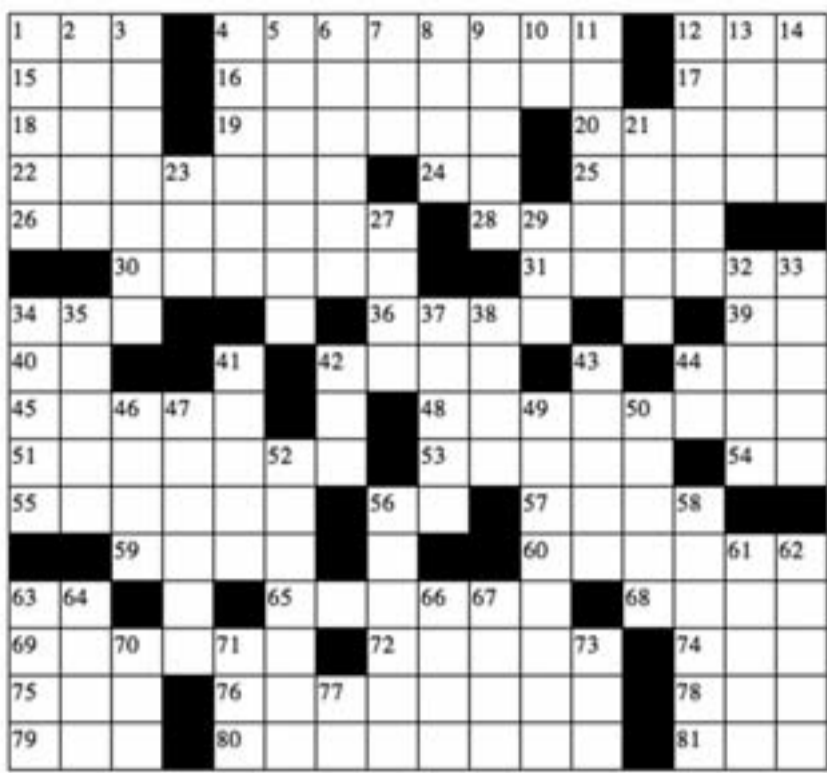
DISCOVERY SCIENCE
00:30 The Big Brain Theory
01:20 The Big Brain Theory
02:10 The Big Brain Theory
03:00 The Big Brain Theory
03:48 How Do They Do It?
04:12 How Do They Do It?
04:36 How Do They Do It?
05:00 How Do They Do It?
05:24 Food Factory
05:48 Food Factory
06:12 Food Factory
06:36 Food Factory
07:00 How Do They Do It?
07:26 The Big Brain Theory
08:14 The Big Brain Theory
09:02 The Big Brain Theory
09:50 The Big Brain Theory
10:38 The Big Brain Theory
11:26 Mythbusters
12:14 Mythbusters
13:02 Mythbusters
13:50 Mythbusters
14:38 Mythbusters
15:26 Food Factory
15:50 Food Factory
16:14 Food Factory
16:38 Food Factory
17:02 Food Factory
17:26 How Do They Do It?
17:50 How Do They Do It?
18:15 How Do They Do It?
18:40 How Do They Do It?
19:05 How Do They Do It?
19:30 Space Pioneer
20:20 Space Pioneer
21:10 Space Pioneer
22:00 Uncovering Aliens
22:50 Uncovering Aliens

STAR MOVIES HD
00:00 KILLSHOT
01:30 Soul Men
03:15 Kate And Leopold
05:15 The Ladykillers
07:00 Carjacked
08:30 The One
10:00 Gone In Sixty Seconds
11:55 Scouts Honor
13:25 Take This Waltz
15:25 KILLSHOT
16:55 Pulse
18:20 Soul Men
20:00 Good Will Hunting
22:15 Kill Bill: Vol. 1

STAR WORLD HD
00:00 Three
01:00 Three
02:00 Three
03:00 Mistresses
04:00 Married At First Sight
05:00 Married At First Sight
06:00 Married At First Sight
07:00 Married At First Sight
08:00 Grey's Anatomy
09:00 Grey's Anatomy
10:00 Grey's Anatomy
11:00 Grey's Anatomy
12:00 Grey's Anatomy
13:00 Wedding Band
14:00 Wedding Band
15:00 Wedding Band
16:00 Married At First Sight
17:00 Married At First Sight
18:00 Black Box
19:00 Black Box
20:00 Black Box
21:00 The Fashion Fund
22:00 Fit For Fashion
23:00 Fit For Fashion

TLC
00:20 My 600lb Life: Where Are They Now?
01:05 The Day I Almost Died
01:50 Katie Price's Pony Club
02:35 My Big Fat Fabulous Life
03:20 Sister Wives
04:05 Toddlers & Tiaras
04:50 Toddlers & Tiaras
05:35 Say Yes To The Dress: Bridesmaids
06:00 Obsessive Compulsive Cleaners
06:45 7 Little Johnstons
07:30 Sister Wives
08:15 Sister Wives
09:00 Cake Boss
09:25 Toddlers & Tiaras
10:10 Obsessive Compulsive Cleaners
10:55 Too Ugly For Love?
11:40 Belief
12:25 Katie Price's Pony Club
13:10 Outdaughters: Busby Quints
13:55 Toddlers & Tiaras
14:40 Sister Wives
15:25 Too Ugly For Love?
16:10 Love, Lust Or Run
16:35 Cake Boss
17:00 Outdaughters: Busby Quints
17:50 Obsessive Compulsive Cleaners
18:50 Ultimate Shopper
19:40 Say Yes To The Dress: Bridesmaids
20:10 Cake Boss
20:35 Cake Boss
21:00 The Undateables
21:50 My Big Fat Fabulous Life
22:40 Jodie Marsh On... Mail Order Brides
23:30 90 Days To Wed

CROSSWORD 1706



ACROSS

1. The compass point that is one point north of due west.
4. A cut of pork ribs with much of the meat trimmed off.
12. The portion of the vertebrate nervous system consisting of the brain and spinal cord.
15. American prizefighter who won the world heavyweight championship three times (born in 1942).
16. The world's largest active volcano.
17. (informal) Informed about the latest trends.
18. Of the blackest black.
19. Chinese tree cultivated especially in Philippines and India for its edible fruit.
20. Jordan's port.
22. Use up, as of resources or materials.
24. A highly unstable radioactive element (the heaviest of the halogen series).
25. A colorless odorless inert gaseous element occurring in the earth's atmosphere in trace amounts.
26. A farmer who keeps bees for their honey.
28. Jordan's port.
30. A stiff chitinous seta or bristle especially of an annelid worm.
31. A dark purplish red.
34. East Indian tree bearing a profusion of intense vermilion velvet-textured blooms and yielding a yellow dye.
36. Any of a number of fishes of the family Carangidae.
39. An informal term for a father.
40. A silvery ductile metallic element found primarily in bauxite.
45. A sharp abrupt noise as if two objects hit together.
48. Dry brandy distilled in the Armagnac district of France.
51. Chinese evergreen conifer discovered in 1955.
53. A barrier that serves to enclose an area.
54. (astronomy) The angular distance of a celestial point measured westward along the celestial equator from the zenith crossing.
55. Traveling on horseback.
57. A tiny or scarcely detectable amount.
59. A platform built out from the shore into the water and supported by piles.
60. Used improperly or excessively especially drugs.
63. A soft gray malleable metallic element that resembles tin but discolors on exposure to air.
65. Being or from or characteristic of another place or part of the world.
68. (obstetrics) The number of live-born children a woman has delivered.
69. A seaport on the Don River near the Sea of Azov in the European part of Russia.
72. (of a number) Having a fixed and unchanging value.
74. Gear (including necessary machinery) for a particular enterprise.
75. A loose sleeveless outer garment made from aba cloth.
76. Of or relating to Canada or its people.
78. Fiddler crabs.
79. The last (12th) month of the year.
80. Brown or blackish Alpine mosses having a dehiscent capsule with 4 longitudinal slits.
81. An adult male person (as opposed to a woman).

DOWN

1. Polish filmmaker (born in 1929).
2. A short high tone produced as a signal or warning.
3. Be overly critical.
4. Whitish fibrous membrane (albuginea) that with the cornea forms the outer covering of the eyeball.
5. United States film actor and director (born in 1927).
6. Provide evidence for.
7. Mythical bird of prey having enormous size and strength.
8. An ancient Hebrew unit of dry measure equal to about a bushel.
9. An Indian side dish of yogurt and chopped cucumbers and spices.
10. Denoting a quantity consisting of one more than eight and one less than ten.
11. Having two axes.
12. Thorny shrub or small tree common in central Argentina having small orange or yellow flowers followed by edible berries.
13. (Babylonian) God of wisdom and agriculture and patron of scribes and schools.
14. The complete duration of something.
21. Cubes of meat marinated and cooked on a skewer usually with vegetables.
23. The syllable naming the sixth (submediant) note of a major or minor scale in solmization.
27. Any piece of work that is undertaken or attempted.
29. A theory of strong interactions between elementary particles (including the interaction that binds protons and neutrons in the nucleus).
32. An ancient Hebrew unit of dry measure equal to about a bushel.
33. Genus of tropical plants with creeping root-stocks and small umbellate flowers.
35. Muslim name for God.
37. Soreness and warmth caused by friction.
38. A river in north central Switzerland that runs northeast into the Rhine.
41. An edict of the Russian tsar.
42. Title for a civil or military leader (especially in Turkey).
43. French biochemist who (with Jacques Monod) studied regulatory processes in cells (born in 1920).
44. A state in east central United States.
46. On, to, or at the top.
47. A prophet of the first century.
49. Family of erect mosses with club-shaped paraphyses and the hexagonal cells of the upper leaf surface.
50. A set of clothing (with accessories).
52. Capital of Armenia.
56. An ancient musical horn made from the horn of a ram.
58. Wild ginger.
61. Any plant of the genus Erica.
62. (Mesopotamia) God of agriculture and earth.
64. (anatomy) A somewhat rounded subdivision of a bodily organ or part.
66. The periodic rise and fall of the sea level under the gravitational pull of the moon.
67. A monocytledonous genus of the family Iridaceae.
70. An enclosed space.
71. South American wood sorrel cultivated for its edible tubers.
73. A nucleic acid consisting of large molecules shaped like a double helix.
77. A yellow trivalent metallic element of the rare earth group.

Friday's Solution



STAR TRACK



Aries (March 21-April 19)

You may have to work part of this day—but the afternoon is yours! Others may find you especially witty and eccentric just now. There are insights with regard to your living situation or life circumstances. Others value you for your independence and unique qualities. You may have some added responsibility today but this just seems to spur you forward. When it comes to spending the money you may decide a trip is more important than a new hairstyle—some may consider this frugal or unnecessarily a bit much. You may be just as fond of simplicity as much as others are of abundance. You put great value on organization and planning. Watching your finances grow brings a great deal of satisfaction. You may plot out some new investments.



Taurus (April 20-May 20)

Helping others to make a positive difference in their lives and finding new ways to make money are where your mind-set is focused. A quick chance to show your talent at a flea market or community bazaar will help you bring in some spending money. Obtaining and exchanging information takes on a great deal of importance when a foreign visitor takes a liking to your professional skills. You are able to step up and take care of this visitor's needs. While you may not want to make writing a living, you could consider some of your writing is worthy of being published. Think about writing a review of an activity, city or accommodations while traveling or vacationing in the near future. Being paid for your literary expertise can be a lot of fun.



Gemini (May 21-June 20)

You may find that this is just not the best time for exercise, chores and upkeep of home and self but since those things are important, you might be able to get some family member to help—perhaps in exchange for some favor. Pay close attention to an older person in your family today as this person may give you guidance in an unexpected way. You are able to penetrate and get to the very heart of things and you find positive results to most any situation. Self-sacrifice and an understanding attitude could have far-reaching effects on your family members and friends during this time. Involving yourself with a hobby this evening will help you to relax. You could include others in your fun activity. A young person may want to join you. Whistle a happy tune!



Cancer (June 21-July 22)

It may be a good time for study—you have a real appreciation for old ways of thinking. You may find yourself enjoying a long conversation, writing a letter, or making a special phone call. Your own requirements may appear to limit or separate you from where the rest of the gang is headed. Perhaps you have decided to brush up on some computer skills—at any rate you will be able to join the group activities again soon. Unconventional approaches to philosophy, religion, law and politics play a bigger role in your life. Developments in these fields can have a big impact on you. Higher education, publishing, broadcasting or advertising could also play an unexpected role in setting new directions for you now. Keep a good balance.



Leo (July 23-August 22)

Getting personal with you is a mistake—it always manages to plunge you into turmoil. You resent probing questions, but you are fascinated by any so-called secret information. You may prefer not to think about anything below the surface, but even this is not a constant and this inner conflict produces more than its share of tension. Think about adding to your list of friends—these relationships are the ones that will help you grow in positive, healthy ways. After all, it is through our friends that we truly learn about ourselves. You are beginning to demonstrate great understanding of the needs of others just now and are in a good position to show insight and compassion toward society. You involve yourself in helping with community improvements.



Virgo (August 23-September 22)

You may appear very much at ease today. Everything seems to be working together and you will find yourself expressive. Characterized by high energy, you tend to be restless and always eager for new experiences. The experience itself is what is foremost in your mind, not so much what you can get out of it. You seek contact, involvement and are not much concerned about matters of personal privacy. You will find yourself enjoying a special impromptu gathering of friends this afternoon; perhaps a special movie is in town that everyone wants to see. This is a great way to be with friends and visiting after a show can be quite fun. You are a unique individual and many people enjoy your company. There are not many people with your fine character.



Libra (September 23-October 22)

Your responsibilities have increased over the recent months and if you take a look at this time last year, you will see some real progress. You may find yourself guiding someone younger than you in matters of importance. In turn, you may perceive how to proceed with plans regarding your own life situation. Your first obligation is to do the best you can—everything else is secondary. Work relationships, personal relationships or the social scene in general is very important during this time and can have a very decided influence in all areas of your life. You may find that a more impersonal attitude is the key. You and a friend take care of or adopt a pet today. Your home environment, friends and surroundings in general become less complicated.



Scorpio (October 23-November 21)

Your personality hangs on your mind; mental activity and the world of communication opening up for you now. This is the keystone that binds the rest of you together. Ideas, mental things, information exchange and the interrelating of all these are central to your outer makeup. Communication is the interface that holds the rest of you together. Communication is where the fun part of this day happens. Visiting with acquaintances continues this afternoon—a leisure meal or an ice cream party may develop as a celebration of the end of the summer season. You love a good story and a sense of the mystical pervades every one you tell. You are at home in the world of myths and dreams and may find that you enjoy the company of others, all day long.



Sagittarius (November 22-December 21)

Sunny days are not over. You may find yourself gardening and being creative through the design you give your garden. Perhaps a pool of water and a little waterfall will be nearby. Whatever the case, you enjoy the planning and developing stages. Your persuasive ways will win over any disputes that occur, but not without much deliberation. The idea of what-you-see-is-what-you-get is not enough for you. You want more than appearances and are willing to expand and improve whatever is in need of your brilliant mind. You work through all that is superficial, no matter what kind of personal sacrifice. You draw emotional sustenance and a sense of security from ideals, friends and social involvement this afternoon. Ideas for a vacation may surface tonight.



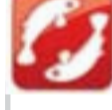
Capricorn (December 22-January 19)

You have an incredible drive to accomplish and achieve these days. Your ambitions are backed up by the will to get things done. Be aware of your tendency for aggressiveness—you can be very emotional when involved in personal goals. You try hard and you always push on toward whatever you want to accomplish. You have an ability to work with the imagination, reaching beyond the mundane. Consider the field of teaching, even on a part-time basis. You could be an excellent teacher in the areas of art and creative matters. Your sense of the unity behind things spiritual and psychological is felt by those around you. You are at home in the world of dreams and may find the television, movie or scriptwriting industry quite tempting.



Aquarius (January 20-February 18)

You and an old friend may get together today and talk about old times. Fondness and appreciation for the past and for your roots in life take on greater importance now. You may yearn for family harmony. Mothering, or being nurtured, sympathy and a yearning to put down roots create a fondness for things that have stood the test of time. These are some of the hallmarks of the phase that now begins in your life. Romantic and social experiences, as well as artistic tastes, will show evidence of these factors. Family and security are things that rattle your chain more than ever. These are areas where you make beginnings and bold moves—things you are willing to fight for and things about which it pays to be careful. Real estate brings gain.



Pisces (February 19-March 20)

A garage sale is on your mind and loved ones as well as neighbors may offer to pitch in and help—making it a neighborhood effort. Circumstances may urge you to great effort and hard work. Things are working with rather than against you however, so do not hold back. There may be some real monetary benefits for your efforts. However, do not try to do everything yourself—others want to help. Let things take their natural course. This may be one of the last few comfortable weekends to enjoy your time out-of-doors. Consider celebrating this evening with a barbecue bash. You may find yourself seriously thinking about your next vacation—many of your friends and neighbors are talking about their travel experiences from this summer.

WORD SEARCH

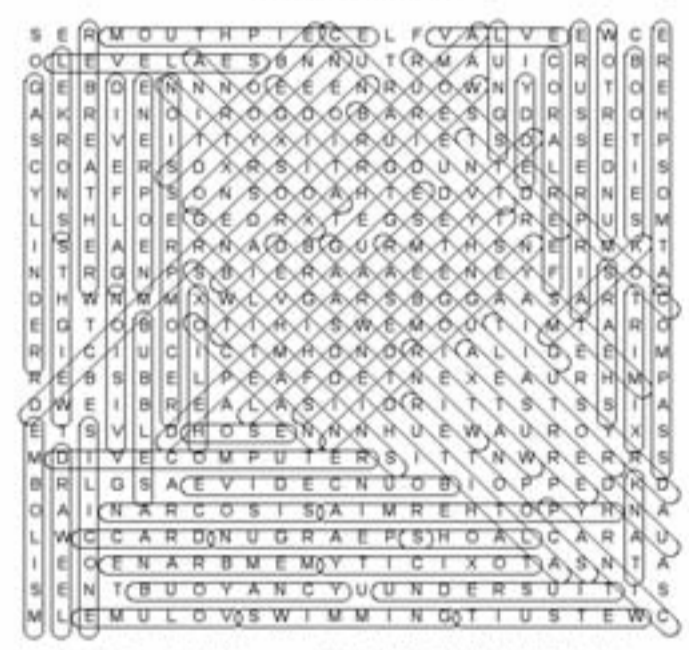
Sewing

Find and circle all of the Sewing words that are hidden in the grid. The remaining letters spell an old saying.



- | | | | |
|------------|------------------|---------------|---------------|
| AWL | HEM | PINS | SPOOL |
| BOBBIN | HOOKS | QUILTING | STITCH |
| BUTTONS | LACE | RIBBON | TAILOR |
| CLOTH | MAGNIFYING GLASS | RIPS | TAPE MEASURE |
| DARNING | MENDING | ROTARY CUTTER | TEARS |
| DRESSMAKER | NEEDLES | SCISSORS | THIMBLE |
| ELASTIC | PATCH | SEAM RIPPER | THREAD |
| EMBROIDERY | PATTERN | SEAMSTRESS | TRACING PAPER |
| EYES | PENCIL | SHEARS | TRACING WHEEL |
| FABRIC | PINCUSHION | SNAPS | ZIPPER |
| GROMMETS | | | |

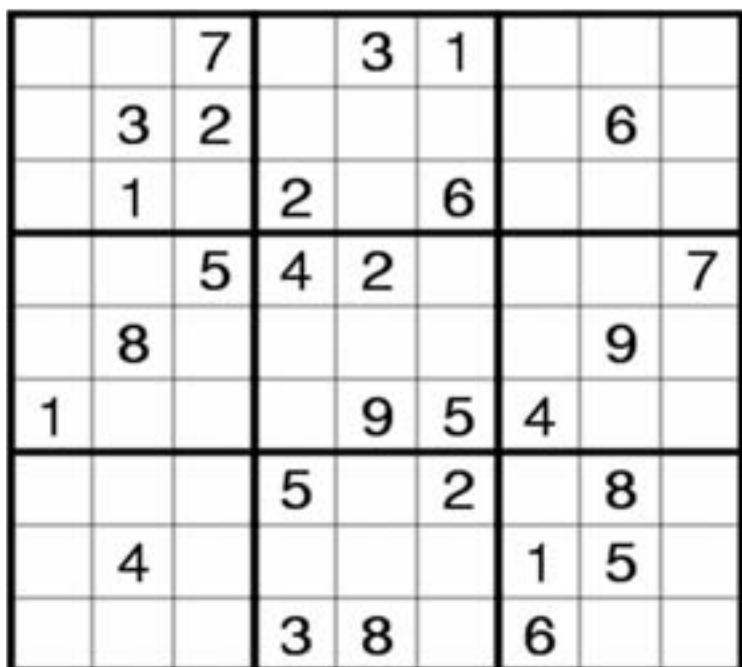
SCUBA Diving



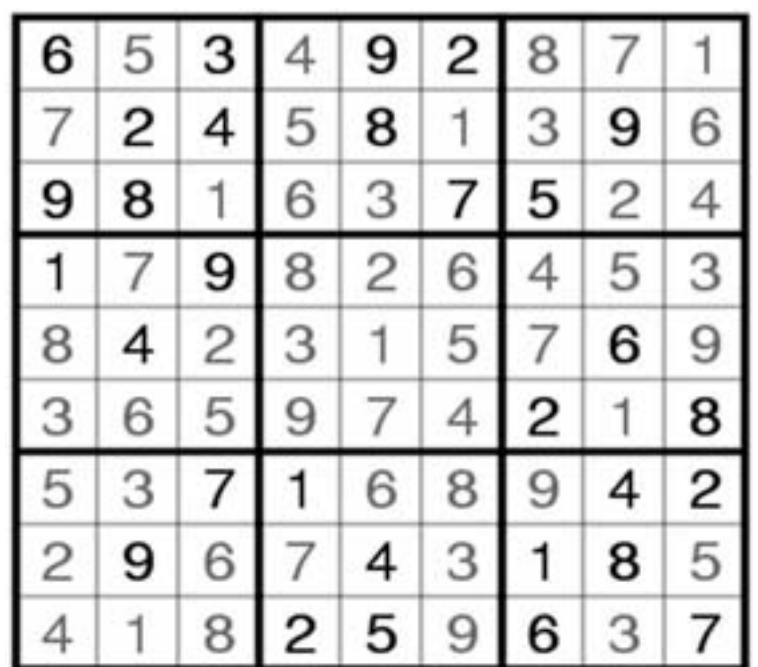
- | | | | | |
|-----------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|
| AIR PRESSURE | CURRENT | HYPOTHERMIA | RECOMPRESSION | TIDE |
| ALTITUDE DIVING | DEPTH GAUGE | LEEWARD | REGULATOR | TOXICITY |
| ANOXIA | DIVE COMPUTER | LUNGS | SCOOTER | TRIMEX |
| ATMOSPHERE | DIVE FLAG | MASK | SEA LEVEL | UNDERSEA |
| BAROTRAUMA | DIVE MARSHAL | MEMBRANE | SHEARS | UNDERSUIT |
| BOOTSIES | DRYSUIT | MOUTHPIECE | SHOAL | UNDERTOW |
| BOUNCE DIVE | EDDY | NARCOSIS | SILICONE | VALVE |
| BURBLES | NEOPRENE | NITROGEN | SNORKEL | VISION |
| BUDDY SYSTEM | GAS MIXTURE | OCEAN | SPEAR GUN | VOLUME |
| BUOYANCY | GUANT STRIDE | PANIC | TANK | WATER |
| C CARD | HELIIX | HOSE | REBREATHER | WEIGHT BELT |
| COMPASS | HOSE | REBREATHER | THE BENDS | WETSUIT |
| COMPRESSOR | | | | WINDOWARD |
| CORAL REEF | | | | |

The hidden message is: SELF CONTAINED UNDERWATER BREATHING APPARATUS

Daily SuDoku



Friday's Solution



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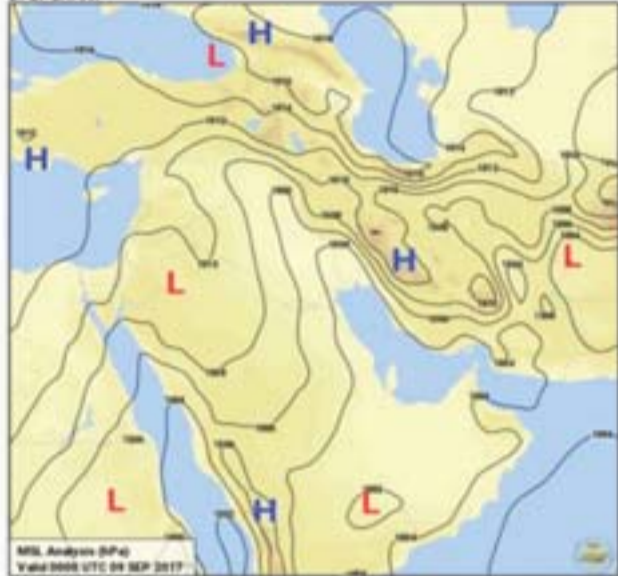


Expected Weather for the Next 24 Hours
Issued 09/09/2017-07:00 LT UTC +3hr

Max Temperature 45 °C

By Day : Hot with light to moderate freshening at times north westerly wind to northerly wind, with speed of 15 - 42 km/h and some scattered clouds will appear with a chance for blowing dust over open areas.
By Night : Relatively hot with light to moderate north westerly wind, with speed of 10 - 35 km/h.

SEC. CHART



Four-Day Forecast

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Expected Weather	Hot and Relatively humid over coastal areas	Hot	Very hot	Very hot with a chance for rising dust over open areas
Min Temp °C	30	28	29	30
Max Temp °C	46	46	48	47
Wind Direction	northerly westerly to variable	northerly westerly to northerly	northerly westerly to northerly	northerly westerly to northerly
Wind Speed km/h	08 - 30	10 - 30	12 - 35	12 - 40

All times are local time (GMT+3) unless otherwise stated

Warnings & Weather Watches

no warnings or weather watches

Kuwait Forecast

Station	Min °C	Max °C
KUWAIT CITY	33	44
KUWAIT AIRPORT	33	45
ABDULY	28	45
BUBYAN	25	40
SAHRA	31	45
FAILAKA ISLAND	30	39
SALMIYAH	33	40
AHMADI	34	39
JAL ALIYAH	29	45
QAROH ISLAND	34	38
UMM AL-MARADEM	34	38
NUWAISIB	31	42
WAFRA	29	44
SALMIY	27	44
MUTRIBA	27	46

Recorded Yesterday at Kuwait Airport

Max Temp (°C)	47
Min Temp (°C)	29
Max Rel Hum (%)	42
Min Rel Hum (%)	08
Max Wind Speed (km/h) and Direction	43 N
TOTAL RAINFALL IN 24 HR	0 mm

Sunrise	05:29
Sunset	18:02

Prayer Times

Fajr	04:09
Sunrise	05:29
Zuhr	11:46
Asr	15:18
Sunset	18:02
Isha	19:21



AIRLINES

American Airlines	22087425
	22087426
Kuwait Airways	171
Jazeera Airways	177
Jet Airways	22924455
FlyDubai	22414400
Qatar Airways	22423888
KLM	22425747
Air Slovakia	22434940
Olympic Airways	22420002/9
Royal Jordanian	
22418064/5/6	
Reservation	22433388
British Airways	22425635
Air France	22430224
Emirates	22921555
Air India	22438184
Sri Lanka Airlines	22424444
Egypt Air	22421578
Swiss Air	22421516
Saudia	22426306
Middle East Airlines	22423073
Lufthansa	22422493
PIA	22421044
Alitalia	22414427
Balkan Airlines	22416474
Bangladesh Airlines	22452977/8
Czech Airlines	22417901/
	2433141
Indian Airlines	22456700
Oman Air	22958787
Turkish Airlines	22453820/1
Aeroflot	22404838/9

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CHANGE OF NAME

I, Sabira D/o Abbas Ali Hita, holder of Indian Passport No. L4906912 & Civil ID No. 283051602805, has changed my name to Sabira Ora hereinafter in all my dealings and documents. (C 5343)

274082401497, has changed my name to Arif Ora hereinafter in all my dealings and documents. (C 5343)

I, Azima Arif D/o Arif Ora, holder of Indian Passport No. M9150401 & Civil ID No. 306100600523, has changed my name to Azima Ora, hereinafter in all my dealings and documents. (C5343)

I, Arif S/o Asger Ali Ora, holder of Indian Passport No. K4650108 & Civil ID No.

7-9-2017

Flight Schedule

Directorate General of Civil Aviation Home Page (www.kuwait-airport.com.kw)

DIAL161 FOR AIRPORT INFORMATION

Arrival Flights on Sunday 10/9/2017				Departure Flights on Sunday 10/9/2017			
Airlines	Flt	Route	Time	Airlines	Flt	Route	Time
THY	772	Istanbul	00:10	SAW	704	Damascus	11:45
JZR	513	Sharm el-Sheikh	00:15	MEA	405	Beirut	11:55
PGT	4860	Istanbul	00:20	SYR	342	Damascus	12:00
KAC	786	Jeddah	00:30	QTR	1075	Doha	12:10
JZR	267	Beirut	00:35	KAC	413	Bangkok	12:20
KAC	504	Beirut	00:45	PAL	669	Manila	13:10
KAC	102	London	00:55	JZR	786	Riyadh	13:10
DLH	635	Doha	01:00	JZR	176	Dubai	13:10
PGT	858	Istanbul	01:15	SAW	702	Damascus	13:30
JZR	539	Cairo	01:20	JZR	124	Bahrain	13:30
UAE	853	Dubai	01:40	THY	767	Istanbul	13:45
RJA	642	Amman	01:45	FEG	932	Alexandria	13:55
THY	1464	Istanbul	01:50	MSR	611	Cairo	14:00
KKK	6506	Istanbul	01:55	AXB	394	Kozhikode	14:10
THY	3954	Istanbul	02:05	UAE	872	Dubai	14:15
KLM	446	Bahrain	02:05	MSC	404	Asyut	15:00
QTR	1086	Doha	02:10	GFA	222	Bahrain	15:00
JZR	553	Alexandria	02:10	KAC	673	Dubai	15:00
ETH	620	Addis Ababa	02:15	FDB	060	Dubai	15:05
GFA	211	Bahrain	02:15	QTR	1079	Doha	15:15
AEE	942	ATH	02:25	ICV	675	Hong Kong	15:20
KAC	418	Manila	02:50	KAC	775	Riyadh	15:40
THY	752	Istanbul	03:05	KAC	563	Amman	15:40
ETA	643	Muscat	03:05	SWA	501	Jeddah	15:45
OMD	305	Abu Dhabi	03:10	KAC	619	Doha	16:00
RJA	644	Amman	03:10	OMA	646	Muscat	16:10
KAC	382	Delhi	03:15	ABY	128	Sharjah	16:15
MSR	612	Cairo	03:15	ETD	304	Abu Dhabi	16:20
FDB	069	Dubai	03:15	KAC	615	Bahrain	16:30
PGT	860	Istanbul	03:25	FDK	802	Damascus	16:55
QTR	1076	Doha	03:45	RJA	641	Amman	16:55
KAC	1544	Cairo	03:50	KAC	675	Dubai	17:00
LMU	510	Cairo	04:00	FDB	052	Dubai	17:10
SAW	713	Damascus	04:10	JZR	266	Beirut	17:15
RBG	559	Alexandria	04:10	KAC	503	Beirut	17:15
KAC	346	Ahmedabad	04:15	QTR	1073	Doha	17:25
UAE	873	Dubai	04:15	JZR	240	Amman	17:30
JZR	557	Alexandria	04:25	KAC	361	Colombo	17:35
THY	3950	Istanbul	04:30	UAE	858	Dubai	17:40
KAC	358	Kochi	04:50	KAC	357	Kochi	17:40
KAC	784	Jeddah	05:00	JZR	564	Sohag	17:45
MEA	406	Beirut	05:00	NIA	362	Alexandria	17:50
MSR	3010	Sohag	05:00	KAC	381	KAC	17:50
FEG	931	Alexandria	05:00	KAC	283	Dhaka	18:00
THY	1414	TZK	05:05	KAC	343	Chennai	18:00
DHX	170	Bahrain	05:10	KAC	212	Bahrain	18:15
QTR	8511	Doha	05:20	SWA	511	Riyadh	18:20
THY	770	Istanbul	05:25	GFA	216	Bahrain	18:25
KAC	344	Chennai	05:30	JZR	184	Cairo	18:30
KAC	332	Trivandrum	05:40	JZR	538	Cairo	18:30
KAC	362	Colombo	05:50	KAC	785	Jeddah	18:45
BAW	157	London	06:05	QTR	1081	Doha	19:15
KAC	678	Dubai	06:25	JZR	552	Alexandria	19:20
KAC	284	Dhaka	06:35	KAC	345	Ahmedabad	19:20
KAC	1802	Cairo	06:35	MSR	621	Cairo	19:30
KAC	206	Islamabad	06:40	GFA	218	Bahrain	19:50
KAC	342	Sohag	06:40	FDB	064	Dubai	19:50
WAN	411	Asyut	06:45	ABY	124	Sharjah	20:00
MSC	411	Mumbai	06:55	FDB	058	Dubai	20:30
KAC	302	Istanbul	07:05	UAE	876	Dubai	20:35
KAC	156	Istanbul	07:05	KAC	331	Trivandrum	20:35
JZR	531	Asyut	07:10	KAC	353	Bangalore	20:55
JZR	1541	Cairo	07:10	DLH	634	Doha	21:00
KAC	354	Bangalore	07:50	OMA	648	Muscat	21:05
FDB	053	Dubai	07:50	MEA	403	Beirut	21:15
JZR	563	Sohag	07:55	KAC	1543	Cairo	21:30
KAC	384	Delhi	08:00	KAC	301	Mumbai	21:40
JZR	541	Cairo	08:20	KAC	203	Lahore	21:45
UAE	855	Dubai	08:25	DHX	171	Bahrain	21:50
ETD	301	Abu Dhabi	08:55	QTR	1089	Doha	21:50
ABY	125	Sharjah	09:00	KAC	205	Islamabad	21:55
QTR	1070	Doha	09:25	ETD	308	Abu Dhabi	22:00
IRA	665	Shiraz	09:25	KAC	155	Istanbul	22:15
FDB	055	Dubai	09:40	ALK	230	Colombo	22:20
SVA	512	Riyadh	10:00	THY	1403	AYT	22:25
IRC	528	Ahwaz	10:25	UAE	860	Dubai	22:35
GFA	213	Bahrain	10:40	KAC	383	Delhi	22:35
SAW	703	Damascus	10:45	GFA	220	Bahrain	22:50
MEA	404	Beirut	10:55	ETD	310	Abu Dhabi	23:00
QTR	1074	Doha	11:00	JZR	528	Asyut	23:05
WAN	114	Bahrain	11:00	KAC	783	Jeddah	23:10
PAL	668	Manila	11:00	QTR	1083	Doha	23:20
SYR	341	Damascus	11:00	RBG	552	Alexandria	23:40
JZR	561	Sohag	11:10				
KAC	614	Bahrain	11:15				

FASHION



Jeremy Scott looks to his own history for inspiration

The third day of New York Fashion Week had Jeremy Scott, once known as the bad boy of fashion, celebrating 20 years of success and bringing together a bevy of supermodels past and present. At the Monse label, Fernando Garcia and Laura Kim brought guests to a real gymnasium, where they celebrated vintage athletic wear - but with their own so-called "unhinged" style.

Anniversary time at Jeremy Scott

Jeremy Scott's kitschy, high-entertainment fashion shows always have whimsical themes. This time, the designer didn't have to look far for inspiration: his theme was himself. It was the 20th anniversary of Scott's label, and he celebrated it by going back to his own past, looking at key moments of his career and updating the looks for today. "I used my own history as my starting point," Scott said in a backstage interview Friday night. "And as fashion is so contextual - there's so much meaning about when and where it's done - that it was challenging, because I was, 'How do I take all of this and also make something new for today?'"

Scott said he finally figured out that the answer was "like making a fragrance from a flower and taking the essence, and so I started grabbing the essence of different remarkable moments in my career that I am responding to today." A quickly visible theme was snakeskin, in bright neon colors - bold pink, brilliant yellow - in trousers, or jackets, or thigh-high boots. And there were sequins galore, reserved not for gowns but for street wear, like glittering hoodies and work boots.

There were cargo pants, but here, they were perfectly sheer. There were big and colorful cartoon graphics, on shirts and sweaters. And there was a series of looks with huge, fake colorful gems, or what Scott called "body jewelry." Among the notable models were those who have been important Scott's past shows, like British model Liberty Ross, 38. Also walking the runway was the daughter of singer Lionel Richie, Sofia Richie.

"She's so excited she's about to have a nervous breakdown," Richie said before the show, "and she's just, 'Oh my God Dad, I want you to come!' Then I'm finally here and she goes 'Oh I'm so nervous that you're here! What does that mean?'" Also walking in the show were supermodels Gigi Hadid, Karlie Kloss, Coco Rocha, and Joan Smalls. Scott, who also is the creative director for Moschino, spoke passionately about his recent work on the music video and album artwork for his friend Miley Cyrus' "Younger Now." "Miley is like a rib out of my own chest," Scott said, adding he would do many more projects with her. "We can't get enough of each other," he said. "I love her to pieces."

He also addressed the role of fashion in the current polarized political climate. "Particularly with me, I think I have always played a role in being... a place of fantasy, of escape... I always think of my shows as like the movies were for the Depression era, where people would go to the movies to escape the fact that they were hungry and didn't have a job and didn't have all the necessities. They brought you fantasies, these movies of glamour and glitz and fairytales. And you know, putting a smile on someone's face really does make them feel better."



The Jeremy Scott spring 2018 collection is modeled during Fashion Week, Friday in New York. — AP/AFP photos

Fashion from Monse collection is modeled during Fashion Week, Friday.

FASHION



(From left) Sam Beckerman, Cailli Beckerman, Erika Jayne, Nicky Hilton, Paris Hilton, Federico Lucia, Chiara Ferragni and Sita Abellan attend the Jeremy Scott Fashion Show during New York Fashion Week at Spring Studios.



Nicki Minaj attends Harper's BAZAAR Celebration of 'ICONS By Carine Roitfeld' at The Plaza Hotel presented by Infor, Laura Mercier, Stella Artois, FUJIFILM and SWAROVSKI.



Kickoff time at Monse
 The designing duo of Fernando Garcia and Laura Kim seem to have a particularly grueling Fashion Week schedule. On Friday they showed their younger label, Monse, which they launched two years ago, and on Monday they'll show their work for the storied Oscar de la Renta, where they were named creative directors a year ago. The venues of the two shows have an entirely different vibe: The de la Renta show will take place at Sotheby's auction house on the Upper East Side, and the Monse show was in, well, a gym - in a complex on the far west side of Manhattan. Guests walked by weight machines and stationary bicycles to get to the runway.
 As for the clothes, they were inspired by vintage football and baseball uniforms, Garcia said backstage. "We just started looking at every Americanism that we could find, and reimagined it in the unhinged Monse way," he said. "I think everything we do is slightly unhinged. We pick a subject every season and we just tear it apart."
 Example: The collection included oversized striped, button-down shirts - a classic look, except the shirt back was in front this time, and the buttons and collar were in the back. Other shirts had one bare shoulder hanging out. Some skirts were shredded into narrow strips; there were roomy, colorful sweatshirts with holes at the shoulders. There were '50s-style collegiate cardigans, but with one exposed shoulder, and a satin team jacket was turned upside down, so that the waistband was at the shoulders, and the collar at the waist. The idea, Garcia and Kim said, was to give women tired of the staples in their closets a new and different version of them.
 The designers also wanted to pay tribute to New York. "I don't think we would have ever been able to get to where we are in just two years time if it hadn't been for the support of people in New York," Garcia said. "It would have happened eventually in other cities, but not as fast as in New York. And so we're saying thank you." Celebrities at the show included Paris and Nicky Hilton, actress Kate Bosworth, and Nicki Minaj - whose late arrival due to traffic issues delayed the show. — AP



Fashion from Monse collection is modeled during Fashion Week, Friday.

FASHION



Maye Musk walks the runway for the Concept Korea show during New York Fashion Week.



Model Maye Musk (center) is honored by designers Younhee Park (left) and Lee Chung after walking the runway for the Concept Korea show during New York Fashion Week.

Maye Musk: Model at 69 — oh, and mother of Elon

The modeling world is often accused of worshipping at the fountain of youth, but at the grand old age of 69, Maye Musk, mother of Elon, is having a moment. Mother of three and grandmother of 10, the silver-haired siren with luminous skin, who frequently breaks into laughter, is walking tall alongside a bevy of younger models at New York Fashion Week. If it helps being the mother of the most lauded inventor-entrepreneur of his generation, valued by Forbes at \$20 billion, then so does social media and the industry's gradual embrace of more diverse models.

She is determined to make the most of her moment in the sun. "Forever-until they stop calling!" she smiles when asked how long she plans to keep working, her 70th birthday looming next year. Her's has been an extraordinary life. Musk has modeled since the age of 15 in South Africa where she migrated with her Canadian parents as a child. For decades she has worked as a nutritionist. She married engi-

neer Errol Musk and the couple had three children. Elon, 46, is the eldest, but all are remarkable. Kimbal, 44, has founded a chain of farm-to-table restaurants and daughter Tosca, 43, is a filmmaker.

She and her husband separated after nine years of marriage, and the period that followed was not always easy. After some years, she left South Africa and returned to Canada when Elon went there to study. She likes to recall the time she had "three teenagers in a rent-controlled apartment in Toronto," but today she lives in California close to her children and grandchildren. "I would color my own hair... and you don't even think of getting out for drinks or dinner with people because you can't afford it," she tells AFP. But she always worked, she says proudly. She's appeared on billboards in Times Square in commercials for Virgin America and Target. "Nobody knew it was me because I did not have a name out," she says. Her name. The one she shares with

Elon. So did being the mother of the CEO of Tesla help her career take off?

'Appreciate every last bit'

She signed recently with IMG—one of the most prestigious modeling agencies in the world—has chalked up magazine appearances and been cultivated by brands known to favor celebrities, like rag and bone. Kyeong Ji, who organized a runway show of young Korean designers in which Musk starred Friday, says "of course it is helpful," but neither is it the only reason she was booked. "Her beauty is different, very strong and noble. She has such an ostentatious smile, gracious, strong and a transcending beauty and intelligence... she has every single thing!" Ji said.

Musk has developed something of a following in South Korea since she graced the cover of Vogue Korea. When it comes to her eldest son, she doesn't want to talk but she

does confirm with a smile, that she drives a Tesla. And she does recognize that social media, to which she contributes daily on Instagram, "helps a lot" and that clients like booking a model "who has a reputation and is well known."

For more than 50 years, she says work has been steady. As she neared 60, she decided to leave her hair natural. "I just was tired of coloring," she explains. When it comes to her recent success, other factors, she says are an ageing population and the fact that there is "not much competition" when it comes to models hovering around the septuagenarian stage. "I appreciate every last bit," she says. "All the people really love us," she says, of how older models are received on the runway. "I think designers are figuring that out... They just want to show there is diversity and that they appreciate older women and why not? Everybody has a mother and a grandmother." — AFP



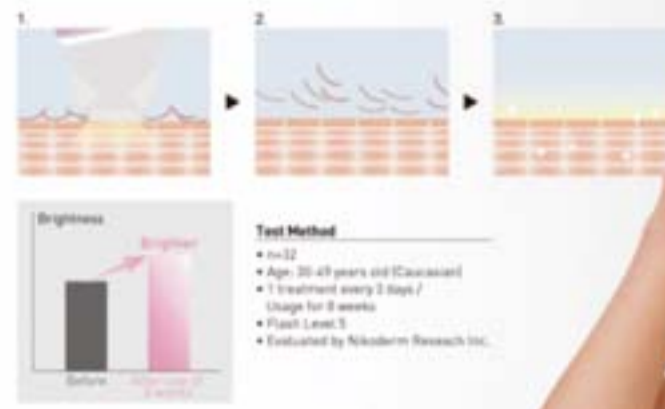
Models walk the runway for Bibhu Mohapatra Fashion Show at Gallery 1, Skylight Clarkson Sq in New York City.

Review



For finer, smoother, glowier skin

A build-up of dead skin cells can roughen your facial skin and make it look dull. IPL treatment stimulates the shedding of dead skin cells, leaving your skin glowing and more finely-textured. For best results, treat your face with IPL once every 3 days.



Panasonic Cordless IPL Hair Remover: A device worth trying

By Sahar Moussa

I have hypertrichophobia (fear of body hair), I might be exaggerating it a bit but I really dislike body hair. As far as I remember I have tried many different epilation methods. I have tried waxing, sugaring, epilation devices, lasers, threading, electrolysis and even plucking with tweezers. I must admit, we women are lucky to be living in the 21st century where technology has served us well in almost every aspect especially in beauty industry to reserve and maintain our beauty. For the past eight years I used laser treatment to get rid of hair on my body.

Before inventing the home laser hair removal devices, going to a specialized clinic for laser hair removal was my only convenient option and I must admit, it was life changing. Honestly throughout the years I could not help but notice that these devices where constantly getting better and more advanced. For women and men who do not have any idea about laser hair removal, briefly lasers are useful for removing unwanted hair from the face, leg, arm, underarm, bikini line, and other areas with a device that beams highly concentrated light into hair folli-

cles, where pigment in the follicles absorb the light which leads to destroying the hair.

The result varies from person to person. People with dark hair color and brownish/black and darker skin tone or with light brown and red, white or grey hair color are least to get perfect results, while people with black, dark brown, brown and dark blonde hair color with white, beige, light brown, medium brown and dark brown skin tone get the best results in general. I had the chance to try the Panasonic Cordless IPL Hair Remover System with Facial Skin Glow Enhancer. After my experience with lasers and hair removal methods I had my doubts, but I have to confess that my experience was really impressive. I have been using it for almost two months now.

When I received it I was very excited to try it. I liked the shape and the color of it. It is sleek and easy to charge and to my surprise it is light in weight (compared to the big and huge appliances in the clinics). It's easy to grab and very apt to use on any body part. Before trying it I advise you to read the instructions in the catalogue carefully. I have to admit, it did take me a while to get used to the pressure required and

understand how the device works. But after understanding its system you will enjoy using it especially because it is cordless and pain free.

Yes, believe it or not it is pain free, you will feel heat in places more than other in your body, but compared to the other laser hair removal in the clinics, I felt a difference in the amount of pain on my body. Make sure to shave any unwanted hair first from the area you want to treat before proceeding with the appliance. Then direct it on the desired area that you want the hair to be removed from, press it and you will see a flash of light, wait for the beep and repeat.

Two attachments will be accompanied with the appliance, the face and body attachment for more precision. It has five intensity settings to control the heat and UV filter for skin protection. In the catalogue, directions are written on how often you can use it, for example you can use it once every two weeks for the first two months, and then use it once every four weeks from the 3rd month onward for legs and arms. As for underarms, bikini and face, you can use it once every week for the first two months and once every two weeks from the 3rd month onward.

After approximately two months of using the appliance I have witnessed that the hair growth has been reduced. The only thing that bothered me was the strong red light that emits from the flash of light, and I think that a special eyeglass should be accompanied with the appliance to protect the eyes. Remember to charge it before your first use and it also has a long battery life. Panasonic Cordless IPL Hair Remover System reduces hair growth but in my opinion it's not designed to remove unwanted hair permanently but the appliance is made to slow it down, unwanted hair will gradually grow back if treatment is stopped. What is interesting in this device is the extra treat that they have added to it which is the Facial Skin Glow enhancer. I did feel a slight change in my skin, but my concern was more on the hair removal.

If you are looking for a way to save time, money and be in control of the unwanted hair, I advise you to buy it, but if you are looking for a permanent solution, I do believe that the devices in a special clinic are way better.



This photograph shows Nepali Lakhe dancer Laxman Ranjit performing the "Lakhe" dance in Kathmandu. — AFP photos



Onlookers watch a Nepali masked dancer perform the "Lakhe" dance, on the fifth day of festivities at The Indra Jatra Festival at Hanuman Dhoka.



Nepali Lakhe dancer Laxman Ranjit being helped into his costume before performing the "Lakhe" dance in Kathmandu.



This photograph shows Nepali Lakhe dancer Laxman Ranjit being helped into his costume before performing the "Lakhe" dance in Kathmandu.

NEPAL'S FEARED DEMON DANCER DANCES AGAIN

Kathmandu's feared Demon Dancer finally performed again after a two-year break at this year's Indra Jatra festival, an annual celebration that marks the end of the monsoon and the beginning of the harvest. The "Lakhe" is meant to protect the city from evil, but Laxman Ranjit, who comes from a long line of Lakhe dancers, broke with a centuries-old tradition and refused to dance for two years as he mourned the loss of his wife and mother. His wife died in the 2015 earthquake that devastated swathes of Nepal, crushed to death inside a temple. Ranjit escaped with just a broken foot after he dashed out of the building to save his young son.

A year later, Ranjit's mother died, leaving him alone to raise his son. "My wife died and I was mourning for an entire year. And on top of that I had a fractured leg. The year after that my mother passed away," he said. Now, after a two-year break,

Ranjit has once again put on the huge red mask to become the Lakhe, a feared demon that is meant to scare away any evil spirits that threaten Kathmandu. "Laxman is the real Lakhe for us. He has feelings, emotions, and a fierceness that cannot be substituted by anyone else," said Bipin Tamang, 26, who came to watch Ranjit dance again.

"I know he can make the kids scream like no one else can. It is amazing to see him back after two years." The Lakhe was first brought to Kathmandu by a powerful king, so the myth goes. The king made the flesh-eating demon promise that he would not harm the city's residents but instead serve as the capital's guardian. "The history of the Lakhe is that he was allowed outside his home only during the eight days of Indra Jatra. The Lakhe protects the city from drought, diseases, accidents, ghosts, spirits and demons," said L.R. Ranjit, a member

of the Lakhe caste. The role of Demon Dancer has been passed down through the generations of the Lakhe caste, and Laxman Ranjit will one day pass it on to his young son. "The Lakhe made me who I am," said Ranjit as he put on the red Lakhe mask, which weighs around 10 kilograms (22 pounds). "People say that I am in a trance, that I embody the Lakhe, but it's not like that. When I put the mask on, there is a different kind of extra energy I have." This year Ranjit's son will dance with his father as a young Jhyalincha, a small demon that taunts the Lakhe testing his promise not to eat the city's residents. The father and son will continue this age old tradition to vanquish evil from Kathmandu—and this time they will also chase away their own demons. — AFP

First Italian Netflix series infiltrates Rome mafia

The "mafia" corruption trial that has gripped Rome is barely over, but the fictional version it inspired is ready to hit TV screens—the first Italian Netflix series and a cocktail of power, violence and religion. In the first episode of "Suburra", aired this week at the Venice Film Festival, the Eternal City's sins are revealed when a priest at the Vatican takes a taxi under the cover of darkness to a cocaine-fueled orgy. It follows an explosive corruption case that hit the Italian capital at the end of 2014, ending with the conviction of the gang's ringleader in July.

The organized crime saga hopes to enjoy the sort of rapt reception awarded to the Naples-based series "Gomorra", which follows the lives of mobsters in one of the most run-down areas of the southern Italian city. "Suburra", named after an ill-reputed area of ancient Rome, will be released on October 6 for Netflix's 100 million subscribers in 190 countries.

Eye on Europe

The world's oldest film festival rolled out the red carpet for the entertainment company, which also premiered



This file photo shows Pedro Pascal attending the "Narcos" Season 3 New York Screening at AMC Loews Lincoln Square 13 theater in New York City. — AFP

the romantic movie "Our Souls at Night" with screen legends Jane Fonda and Robert Redford. Erik Barmack, Netflix's vice president of international productions, said making an Italian series was part of the company's market strategy in Europe, with new projects popping up in Germany, Poland, Spain and Sweden. "The more local it is, the more authentic it is," he said, with European shows available in their local language with subtitles.

The show "Narcos", about Colombian crime lord Pablo Escobar, has been a huge success despite 85 percent of it being shot in Spanish, he said. Among the new projects is "The Eddy", a series set in a Parisian jazz club, two episodes of which will be filmed in French, English and Arabic by Oscar-winning American director Damien Chazelle, the man behind "La La Land". Since 2012, the company says it has invested two billion dollars on European series, including rights acquisitions.

"Suburra", adapted from a book, also comes on the heels of a 2015 film of the same name. A one-eyed convicted gangster with a history of involvement in violent far-right groups was accused of operating a "mafia-style" network, the criminal tentacles of which reached into almost every department of Rome's City Hall. The scandal culminated in a trial which saw the gangster get 20 years behind bars in July. The judges ruled that the ringleader and his right-hand men were guilty of corruption but not mafia association, much to the disbelief of some experts. — AFP

You must brie joking! Foodies cheesed off as China says 'no' to France's finest

Fans of French cheeses in China have received news they may find hard to digest: the country's food hygiene authorities have turned their noses up at some people's favorite fare, blocking imports of Camembert, Brie and Roquefort. "We haven't been able to get our orders through customs for three weeks," Vincent Marion, co-founder of Cheese Republic, one of China's leading online cheesemongers, told AFP on Friday. "Our suppliers say food hygiene authorities have tightened their rules," he said.

One major supplier identified soft cheeses including Camembert and Brie as well as goats cheese and blue vari-

eties such as Roquefort as being among those in for the chop. Axel Moreaux, manager at French restaurant Paradox in Beijing, said the measures had destroyed months of hard work on a new menu. "It was all going so well and then in a single blow a lot of work and ideas have been ruined." "We've got one Camembert in stock," he explained. "We've put it in the freezer as a souvenir." — AFP



A chef displays a cheese platter featuring French brie and other cheeses at a restaurant in Beijing. — AFP photos



Brie and other cheeses are displayed in the kitchen of a restaurant in Beijing.

Lifestyle

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2017

Maye Musk:
Model at 69 — oh,
and mother of Elon

30



French slackliner Anthony Newton crosses on his slackline (250m long and 50m height) Marseille's Old Harbour. — AFP



An Egyptian labourer unearthing mummies at a newly-uncovered ancient tomb for a goldsmith dedicated to the ancient Egyptian god Amun.



Small funerary statues carved in wood, clay and limestone recovered at the site of a newly-uncovered ancient tomb for a goldsmith dedicated to the ancient Egyptian god Amun.



Egyptian archaeologist restoring a wooden sarcophagus at a newly-uncovered ancient tomb for a goldsmith dedicated to the ancient Egyptian god Amun.



Egyptian laborers and archaeologists unearthing mummies at a newly-uncovered ancient tomb for a goldsmith dedicated to the ancient Egyptian god Amun.

Egypt dig unearths goldsmith's tomb, mummies

Egyptian archaeologists have uncovered the tomb of a goldsmith dedicated to the god Amun and the mummies of a woman and her two children, the antiquities ministry said yesterday. The finds, dating back to the New Kingdom (16th to 11th centuries BC), were made in the Draa Abul Naga necropolis on the west bank of the Nile in Luxor, famed for its temples and burial grounds. The tomb of "Amun's Goldsmith, Amenemhat" contained a sculpture carved into a recess of him seated beside his wife, the ministry said. A portrait of their son was painted between them.

A burial shaft in the tomb led to a chamber where the archaeologists discovered mummies, funerary statues and masks, the ministry said. Another shaft led to a chamber where the team found the mummies of a woman and her two children. The woman appears to have died at the age of 50 and tests showed she had suffered from a bacterial bone disease, the ministry quoted bone specialist Sherine Ahmed Shawqi as saying. The team also discovered 150 small funerary statues carved in wood, clay and limestone. — AP



A picture shows ornaments recovered at the site of a newly-uncovered ancient tomb for a goldsmith dedicated to the ancient Egyptian god Amun, in the Draa Abul Naga necropolis on the west bank of the ancient city of Luxor, which boasts ancient Egyptian temples and burial grounds. — AFP photos



Egyptian laborers unearthing a sarcophagus, skulls, and bone remains at a newly-uncovered ancient tomb for a goldsmith dedicated to the ancient Egyptian god Amun, in the Draa Abul Naga necropolis.



A handout picture shows an Egyptian archaeologist looking at a broken statue at a newly-uncovered ancient tomb for a goldsmith dedicated to the ancient Egyptian god Amun.