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Amir, Saudi Crown Prince discuss common Gulf action

Prince Mohammad bin Salman arrives on official visit to grand welcome



KUWAIT: HH the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah receives Saudi Crown Prince Mohammad bin Salman at Bayan Palace yesterday. — KUNA



HH the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah welcomes Saudi Crown Prince Mohammad bin Salman at the airport yesterday.

Kuwait Times, Saudi Ministry of Media in historic partnership

KUWAIT: Kuwait Times is excited to announce an official partnership with the Saudi Ministry of Media. The cooperation was agreed upon under the umbrella of Kuwait hosting the visit of Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman Al-Saud and as part of the Saudi Vision 2030, Crown Prince Mohammed's vision for developing Saudi Arabia and the region.



Kuwait Times Deputy Editor-in-Chief Ziad Al-Alyan

During a meeting yesterday between Kuwait Times Deputy Editor-in-Chief Ziad Al-Alyan and Nada Al-Tuwajri, advisor at the Saudi Ministry of Media, the two sides agreed to develop a program of cooperation that includes editorial and media cooperation, digital media development, youth training programs and outreach.

"We are delighted to be partnering with our Saudi counterparts to develop a stronger, more proactive and digital-focused media that tells Kuwait and Saudi stories to the outside world," said Ziad Al-Alyan. Kuwait Times, the oldest English-language newspaper in the Gulf region, serves the country's English-reading community as well as the growing population of bilingual Gulf youth and the international community interested in Kuwait and Gulf affairs.

"Saudi Arabia and Kuwait are historic allies and we look forward to working with Kuwait Times for a long and fruitful partnership," said Nada Al-Tuwajri. "This cooperation comes as part of His Highness the Crown Prince's vision for developing and expanding ties, including media relations, with our neighbors in order to support his Vision 2030 for Saudi Arabia's future."

The planned cooperation will be outlined in an official memorandum of understanding to be signed by the two sides at a later date. The cooperation comes in line with Kuwait's long and historical ties with neighboring Saudi Arabia. Yesterday, HH the Amir of Kuwait Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah hosted Prince Mohammed at Bayan Palace during the crown prince's historic visit to Kuwait.

KUWAIT: HH the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah held official talks with visiting Saudi Crown Prince, Deputy Premier and Defense Minister Mohammad bin Salman bin Abdulaziz yesterday on efforts to support common Gulf action. HH the Amir, accompanied by HH the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, and Prince Mohammad bin Salman said support of common Gulf action was within the solid bonds among the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries.

They also discussed ways of boosting bilateral relations in all domains, as well as regional and international developments. The meeting was attended by acting

Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah and Minister of Amiri Diwan Sheikh Ali Jarrah Al-Sabah. Prince Mohammad was earlier received at the airport by HH the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf, Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled and senior state officials.

A Gulf Arab official told Reuters the conflict with Qatar will be on the agenda in the talks. Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain and Egypt have imposed sanctions on Qatar accusing it of cozying up to Iran - their arch regional rival - and supporting terrorism. Doha denies the accusations. Kuwaiti mediation efforts have failed so far to end the crisis.

Prince Mohammad is also expected to discuss the resumption of oil output from the Neutral Zone, which the kingdom shares with Kuwait, a source familiar with the matter told Reuters. Prince Mohammad is accompanied by Energy Minister Khalid Al-Falih during his trip to Kuwait, two separate sources said. Senior officials have been trying for months to resolve the closure of the Neutral Zone's jointly operated oilfields, mainly Khafji and Wafra. It was not clear whether the renewed talks on the Neutral Zone would result in the resumption of oil production from the area, one of the sources said.

Continued on Page 24

Indonesia mourns as quake death toll jumps to 832

PALU, Indonesia: The death toll from Indonesia's quake and tsunami disaster nearly doubled to 832 yesterday and was expected to rise further, prompting authorities to announce mass burials in a desperate attempt to stave off disease. As shattered survivors scoured make-shift morgues for loved ones, and authorities struggled to dig out the living or assess the scale of the devastation beyond the city of Palu, grim

warnings came that the eventual toll could reach thousands. "The casualties will keep increasing," said national disaster agency spokesman Sutopo Purwo Nugroho, whose agency announced the jump in the toll from 420 earlier. "Today we will start the mass burial of victims, to avoid the spread of disease."

Rescuers on Sulawesi island raced against the clock and a lack of equipment to save those still trapped in the rubble, with up to 60 people feared to be underneath one Palu hotel alone. Rescuers said they heard voices and a child's cries from under the rubble. Desperate survivors, now facing a third straight night sleeping outdoors, turned to looting shops for basics like food, water and fuel as police looked on, unwilling or unable to intervene.

Continued on Page 24



PALU, Indonesia: Rescue personnel evacuate earthquake survivor Ida, a food vendor, from the rubble of a collapsed restaurant yesterday. — AFP

News in brief

Military officer arrested

KUWAIT: Kuwait enlisted the aid of Interpol to arrest a military officer accused of stealing public funds, the interior ministry said yesterday. The interior ministry worked closely with the global police body to repatriate one of the suspects involved in the squandering of public funds to ensure that he ultimately stands trial, the ministry said in a statement. It emphasized that the misuse of public funds is punishable under the rule of law, vowing to pursue and bring to justice anybody involved in such nefarious practices. —Hanan Al-Saadoun

PART ready for rainy season

KUWAIT: The Public Authority for Roads and Transportation (PART) affirmed yesterday full readiness for the rainy season this year. Director-General of PART Ahmed Al-Hassan said there will be regular inspection visits to check the readiness of rainwater pumps, stressing he will personally hold an inspection tour. Hassan noted that the capacity of one pump is 225 liters per second and this indicates the high performance of the pumps. — KUNA

UAE approves \$16.4bn budget

ABU DHABI: The UAE yesterday approved a zero-deficit 60.3 billion dirham (\$16.4 billion) budget for 2019, up 17 percent from this year's budget and the largest in the country's history. Over 40 percent of next year's budget will go towards community development, 17 percent towards education and 7 percent to healthcare. The UAE's Vice President Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al-Maktoum said the cabinet also approved a 180 billion dirham budget for the next three years. "Fifty-nine percent of [the three-year budget] will go towards education and social development," Sheikh Mohammed, also the ruler of Dubai, tweeted yesterday. — AFP

Amir receives top officials at Bayan Palace



KUWAIT: His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah received Acting Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah. —KUNA photos



His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah received His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah.



His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah received National Assembly Speaker Marzouq Ali Al-Ghanem.



His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah received Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Anas Al-Saleh.



His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah received Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior Sheikh Khaled Al-Jarrah Al-Sabah.



His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah received Acting Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah.

KUWAIT: His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah yesterday received His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah at Bayan Palace. HH also received National Assembly Speaker Marzouq Ali Al-Ghanem. HH later received Acting Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Sabah Khaled

Al-Hamad Al-Sabah.

Later, HH the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah sent a cable of congratulations to President Mokgweetsi Masisi of the Republic of Botswana on its national day. HH the Amir congratulated Masisi on his country's national day, wishing him perpetual good health and wellness, as well as further progress and

prosperity for his country. HH the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and HH the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah also sent similar cables to Botswana's President.

Moreover, HH the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah yesterday received the Speaker of the National Assembly Marzouq Ali Al-

Ghanem at Bayan Palace. HH the Crown Prince also received Acting Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior Sheikh Khaled Al-Jarrah Al-Sabah, and Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Anas Al-Saleh. —KUNA

Kuwait health ministry opens new building



Minister of Health Sheikh Dr Basel Al-Sabah



KUWAIT: The opening ceremony of the new licensing building by the Kuwait Health Ministry. — KUNA photos



KUWAIT: Minister of Health Sheikh Dr Basel Al-Sabah attended the opening of the new licensing building yesterday. "The new licensing building marks the beginning of a new stage in work development procedures for health licenses," the minister said in a statement at the

inauguration ceremony. He praised the efforts of all those who contributed to the planning, construction and equipping of the building. The minister emphasized that the project aims to encourage investments, upgrade procedures and partnerships in Kuwait. — KUNA

Kuwait relations 'distinct' in all fields: Jordan PM

AMMAN: Jordan's Prime Minister Dr Omar Al-Razzaz yesterday stressed on the depth of "historical and brotherly" relations between Jordan and Kuwait in all fields. This came during Al-Razzaz's meeting with Kuwait's Ambassador to Jordan Aziz Al-Dehani, where they discussed methods to strengthen Jordanian-Kuwaiti ties, a statement by Jordanian Prime Minister bureau said.

The relations between the two countries have been bolstered by the support of the senior political leadership led by King Abdullah II of Jordan and His Highness the Amir of Kuwait Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, the statement said. Al-Razzaz stressed Jordan's keenness to strengthen bilateral relations and open

wider areas of cooperation to serve the interests of both countries on various regional and international issues.

"The Jordanian-Kuwaiti economic relations are an example of Arab cooperation in all fields", he said, noting that Kuwaiti investments in Jordan rank first among Arab and foreign investments. For his part, Ambassador Al-Dehani told KUNA he conveyed the greetings of the Kuwaiti political leadership to the Jordanian Prime Minister and emphasized on the historic depth of relations between the two countries and keenness to strengthen them in various fields. Al-Dehani also emphasized Kuwait's determination to back up Jordan and develop bilateral relations between the two countries. —KUNA



AMMAN: Jordan's Prime Minister Dr Omar Al-Razzaz meets with Kuwait's Ambassador to Jordan Aziz Al-Dehani. —KUNA

Information undersecretaries of Yemen coalition hold coordination meeting

RIYADH: Undersecretaries of Information from member states of the coalition to restore legitimacy in Yemen met yesterday in Riyadh to discuss ways for "coordinating information efforts." Saudi Undersecretary for External Media at the Information Ministry, Dr Khaled Al-Ghamdi, said, in his address to the conferees, that the meeting is a follow-up gathering to the coalition information ministers' meeting which was held in Jeddah last June.

Yesterday's meeting is scheduled to follow up on the ministerial meeting recommendations and "adopt executive mechanisms," Al-Ghamdi added. The meeting also aims to support the legitimate Yemeni govern-

ment in order to confront the Houthi and Iranian media in the region and the world, Al-Ghamdi said. Moreover, it is designed to work out "a mechanism to activate the joint media discourse of the coalition members and enhance cooperation among them".

Al-Ghamdi has noted that the discussions will focus on the development of joint mechanisms to confront any hostile media outlets and support media institutions in the coalition countries. Kuwaiti Undersecretary of Information Tariq Al-Mizrim and Assistant Undersecretary for external media in Information Ministry Faisal Al-Mutlaqim also attended the meeting with the agenda to address cooperation with the Yemeni Ministry of Information. —KUNA



RIYADH: Information undersecretaries of Yemen coalition at the coordination meeting. — KUNA photos



Local

Kuwait flag carrier launches flights to GCC countries via new terminal

The number of passengers using T4 will reach between 4.5 to 5m annually



KUWAIT: Kuwait Airways chairman Yousef Al-Jassem speaks to the press.



Passengers and staff busy on the opening day of the new T4 passenger terminal. — Photos by Yasser Al-Zayyat



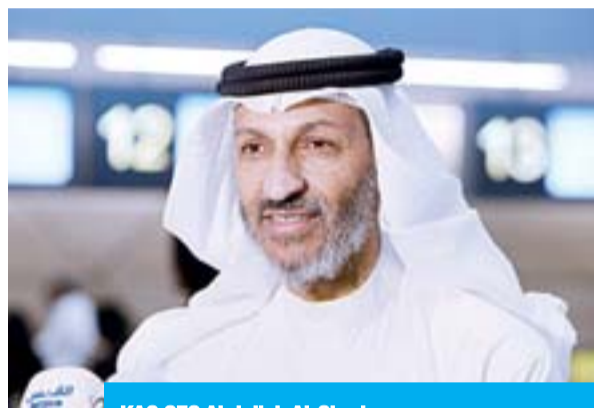
By Faten Omar

KUWAIT: Kuwait Airways Corporation (KAC) began operating all its flights to Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries yesterday from the new T4 passenger terminal. KAC Chairman Yousef Abdul Hameed Al-Jassem said: "We hope from mid-November to fully operate and expand flights to the rest of the Arab nations, Europe, US, the Indian subcontinent and South East Asia."

Jassem added operation of all flights is in coordination with the General Administration of Civil Aviation of Kuwait, Incheon, the Korean company operating the terminal, the ministry of interior and the General Administration of Customs, pointing out that the number of flights through T4 will reach 184 with the expansion of Kuwait Airways.

He predicted the number of passengers using T4 will reach between 4.5 to 5 million annually, noting that Kuwait Airways has not faced any problem since the first day of operation of T4. "The company's market share increased with the increase in bookings. Kuwait Airways will make efforts to enhance this share among competing companies," he said. Jassem expressed his thanks and gratitude to HH the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and HH the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah for the continuous support of Kuwait Airways.

KAC CEO Abdullah Al-Sharhan said 28 flights arrived and departed from T4 to GCC countries yesterday.



KAC CEO Abdullah Al-Sharhan

day. "We will operate a maximum of 34 flights per day. After a week to 10 days, flights to other countries will gradually move from the old airport to T4, and full operations will start by the end of 2018," he said.

Meanwhile, the Director General of Kuwait's General Directorate for Civil Aviation Yousef Al-Fouzan told KUNA that flights to GCC destinations have successfully been launched out of the new terminal. He pointed out that a team of experts is evaluating flight operations in an effort to pinpoint any hurdles that could encumber travel at the newly opened terminal. Kuwait's International Airport has seen a spike of up to 10 percent in passenger traffic with the completion of the sprawling terminal.



KUNA chief receives Saudi Crown Prince's media delegation

KUWAIT: Chairman and Director General of Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) Sheikh Mubarak Duaij Al-Ibrahim Al-Sabah received the media delegation accompanying Saudi Crown Prince Mohammad bin Salman Al-Saud at KUNA's headquarters yesterday.

The delegation, headed by Chairman of Saudi Press Agency (SPA) Abdullah Bin Fahad Al-Hussain, includes chief editor of Aljazeera newspaper Khaled Al-Malek, chief editor of Al-Watan newspaper Othman Bin Mahmoud Al-Seeny, their counterpart at Al-Madina newspaper Fahad Al-Aqran, editor-in-chief at Sabq

electronic newspaper Ali Abdulfatah, said Spokesperson of the Ministry of Information Dr Abdullah Al-Maghlooth. The Kuwaiti side at the meeting consisted of KUNA board members, Deputy Director General for Financial and Administrative Affairs Abdulhameed Malak, Chief Editor Saad Al-Ali, the director of the general director's bureau Nayef Al-Otaibi and the director of marketing and public relations Esam Al-Rowayeh. The two parties discussed their significant media relations and ways of strengthening these ties to include all media sectors.

On his part, Sheikh Mubarak Al-Duaij said "the Crown Prince's visit to Kuwait is very important in light of the challenges that the Arab region is facing, in addition to the two countries' keenness on consultation and coordination on various causes, regionally and internationally." While Al-Hussain affirmed in a statement to KUNA his keenness to regularly meet with Sheikh Mubarak Al-Duaij Al-Sabah, noting such that a gathering constitutes an opportunity to benefit from Sheikh Mubarak's long media expertise at the local, Gulf and Arab levels. —KUNA



KUWAIT: Chairman and Director General of (KUNA) Sheikh Mubarak Duaij Al-Ibrahim Al-Sabah receives Chairman of (SPA) Abdullah Bin Fahad Al-Hussain. —KUNA

Public Works Ministry focusing on projects in Northern Kuwait

KUWAIT: Ministry of Public Works said yesterday that it is now focusing on projects in the northern region of Kuwait such as Boubyan Island and Al-Harir City's development project. Spokesman of the Ministry Abdulmuhsen Al-Enizi told KUNA that the northern region's development project includes linking Boubyan Island to Subiya area, stating that the entire project is a part of Kuwait's 2035 vision. Sheikh Jaber Bridge, which will link Kuwait City to areas in the north of the country over Kuwait Bay, is also one of the main components of the state development project, he said. Boubyan Island and Al-Harir City's development project will be at a total cost of KD 30 billion (approximately USD 100 billion). —KUNA

Kuwait's embassy in Japan warns Kuwaitis of typhoon Trami

TOKYO: Kuwait's embassy in Japan has warned Kuwaitis visiting or residing in Japan to take precautionary measures against the tsunami that swept through the southern region of the Far East Asian country, and is now heading towards the capital Tokyo. The embassy called on Kuwaitis to comply with safety instructions issued by the local Japanese authorities, urging them to communicate with the embassy in case of required assistance or an emergency. The embassy provided the following contacts: Phone number: 03-3455-0361 Email: consular@kuwait-embassy.or.jp

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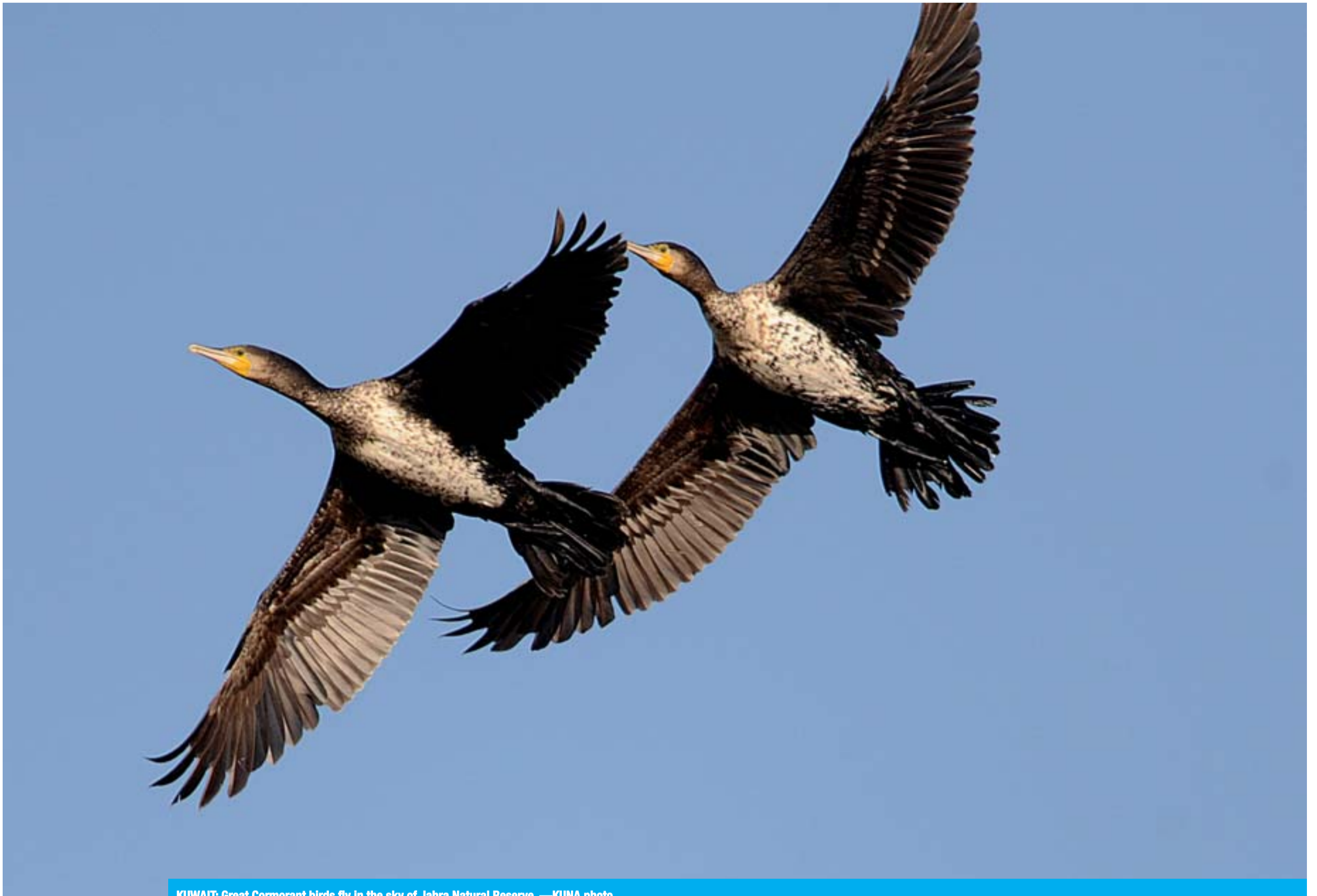
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Local

Photo of the Day



KUWAIT: Great Cormorant birds fly in the sky of Jahra Natural Reserve. —KUNA photo

ABK sponsors Teddy Bear Hospital initiative for the third consecutive year

KUWAIT: Building on a successful partnership, and with a view to engage with its community, Al Ahli Bank of Kuwait (ABK) sponsored the 'Teddy Bear Hospital' initiative for the third consecutive year. The event, held at 360 Mall from 27- 29 September, was organized by student volunteers from the Faculty of Medicine at Kuwait University.

ABK's support for the worldwide 'Teddy Bear Hospital' initiative aims to promote early-learning-through-play, in an impactful manner for children of all ages. This year's event saw a large number of children interacting with young doctors in an approachable and interactive environment over a three-day period.

These students were given the opportunity to experience the atmosphere of a hospital and understand the compassion and knowledge required to become a medical professional, without being patients themselves. The Teddy Bear Hospital Kuwait is a local version of an international project, which aims to reduce childhood anxiety and fear factor about medical environments, procedures and professionals, through an educational, fun and interactive project.



Fawzy Al Thunayan, Sahar Al Therban and Fajer Al Kandari with student volunteers from the Faculty of Medicine during the opening of the Teddy Bear Hospital at 360 Mall.

GCC housing undersecretaries adopt joint action strategy

KUWAIT: A joint action strategy was adopted by the 19th meeting of undersecretaries of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) housing ministries, an official said yesterday. "Kuwait presided over the preparatory meeting held earlier yesterday, as recommendation were forwarded to the 16th GCC ministerial meeting, due today" said Bader Al-Wugayyan, director general

of the state's Public Authority for Housing Welfare in a press release.

Conferees agreed on the infeasibility of continuing to update the GCC housing database now that a specialized and inclusive statistics' center is available, he noted. Furthermore, Al-Wugayyan said that research papers that won the GCC housing award would be honored on the sidelines of the ministerial meeting. He also pointed out that a workshop held earlier this month (September 9 to 11) on the best experiences on house financing was a major success. —KUNA



Bader Al-Wugayyan

KGL wins \$230m car rental contract with US army

KUWAIT: Kuwait and Gulf Link Transport Company announced that its subsidiary company KGL Car Rental won a leasing contract worth USD 230 million

with the US army. The contract is for seven and a half years as a maximum time period and will be signed this week, the company said in a statement published on Boursa Kuwait website yesterday.

The expected revenue of the leasing cost for KGL is about five percent, said the statement, adding that the percentage could rise or drop during the contract's execution time period. KGL was established in 1982 and was enlisted in Boursa Kuwait in 2000 with a capital of KD 27.7 million (about USD 91.41 million). —KUNA

Council of Arab Businesswomen appoint Sheikha Hessa as chief

CAIRO: The Council of Arab Businesswomen has unanimously elected Kuwait's Sheikha Hessa Al-Sabah as their president for the next four years. The announcement came amid the council's sixth session in the Arab League's headquarters based in the Egyptian capital.

Speaking to KUNA after the meeting, she said that the council has been instrumental in providing Arab women with business opportunities in a region that still remains highly patriarchal. She went on to say that the Council of Arab Businesswomen, which has received much global acclaim as of late, aims to fund development projects pioneered by women in the wider Arab region. Sheikha Hessa revealed that a "huge conference" will take place in Kuwait in the near future, citing other plans including visits to major European nations as part of the efforts to encourage women to break the glass ceiling. —KUNA



Local

Kuwaiti divers retrieve sunken wooden ship from Kuwait Bay

Only three vessels of this type were ever manufactured in the Gulf



KUWAIT: Kuwaiti divers retrieve the old wooden sunken ship from Kuwait Bay. —KUNA photos



KUWAIT: Professional Kuwaiti divers, aided by volunteers and advocates of environment protection, lifted a 25-meter-long, sunken wooden ship from south of Kuwait Bay. The chief of the diving team, Waleed Al-Fadhel, told KUNA yesterday that the team used air bags and water pumps to float the ship to the water's surface and later would be towing it to Doha coast for maintenance works and to ensure the future safety of sea-goers of Kuwait Bay.

The ship was considered a threat due to the dispersal of some of its parts in the sea during high tide. So it needed to be removed in order to ensure the safety of sea-goers in addition to containing fuel and oils which could adversely affect the marine environment, he added. He explained that the recovered ship is locally called a

'Baghlah'. 'Baghlahs' were traditional Kuwaiti sailing vessels which were used for travel from Kuwait to India and East Africa as well as Aden and Basra, indicating that this ship is extremely rare as only three vessels of this type were ever manufactured in the Gulf.

The vessel was built in Kuwait using traditional methods (baghlah) and is a large deep-sea dhow. A traditional Arabic sailing vessel, the name "baghla" means "mule" in Arabic and is similar in type to Portuguese ships used in the 17th century. Al-Fadhel stressed that the Kuwaiti Dive Team strives to protect the marine environment through its voluntary activities and help sea-goers to recover their ships and boats in the event of drowning. It also contributes actively to spreading the culture of volunteering and fruitful community participation. —KUNA

DGCA partakes in regional aviation safety meeting

KUWAIT: The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) will partake today in a regional meeting on civil aviation safety in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, said a statement yesterday. A statement by the DGCA, obtained by

KUNA, said that the three-day meeting would focus on the latest developments within the aviation safety domain both on regional and international levels. The DGCA's delegation will be headed by chairman Sheikh Salman Sabah Al-Humoud Al-Sabah. The Saudi General Authority of Civil Aviation (GACA) will host the meeting. —KUNA



Fire in Salmiya flat kills parents; maid and kids in hospital

By Hanan Al-Saadoun

KUWAIT: A fire broke out in a Salmiya flat yesterday, killing the parents while leaving the maid and two kids in severe condition. Security sources noted that the father and mother was killed while the housemaid and his two kids suffered from severe smoke inhalation and were rushed to Mubarak hospital for emergency treatment.

Fire on sixth ring road

A vehicle caught fire along the sixth ring road, security sources said yesterday. Firemen from the Farwaniya district rushed to the scene where they managed to control the fire before it spread. No casualties were reported at the scene.

Citations filed

The capital municipality emergency team leader,

Zaid Al-Azmi said that his team has filed 53 citations and dealt with five complaints regarding bachelors' residing amongst families in the month of August. He added that the team also made 63 warning notices for violating public property, 28 for violating public facilities' safety and security conditions, 12 warning notices for using property for purposes other than those in the license, 16 for violating shop window regulations, removed 1506 illegal ads and arrested 43 illegal butchers.

CSC systems

Informed sources at the Civil Service Commission said all ministries and government entities are obligated to link together the fingerprint systems within the CSC. They said the decision by the remaining government bodies to link their systems with CSC is a "compulsory move." They said this move aims at enabling the concerned authorities at CSC to follow up on data and make sure everything remains in compliance with the rules and standards circulated by the commission. The sources said a new automated system will be applied to ministries and government bodies that will commit all those who did not link the fingerprint system with CSC to quickly rectify this and link it.

ATC sponsors 'Green & Clean Environment' Expo

KUWAIT: Advanced Technology Company (ATC), a company specialized in supplying and installing medical equipment and surgery theatres and building and sanitizing hospitals, announced sponsoring the 'Green & Clean Environment Forum' to be organized by the Leaders Group Company for Consultancy and Development in collaboration with EPA and a number of relevant ministries and bodies at Jaber Al-Ahmed Cultural Center on Oct 2 and 3.

ATC deputy CEO for strategic operations Ahmed Jaradi stressed the company was motivated by keenness on taking part in various environment-focused activities, adding that ATC is focused on using green building techniques. Jaradi said ATC also uses solar power in illuminating corridors in a number of hospitals and plans to expand solar power use to limit the use of electricity by using alternative resources with less emissions, as instructed by HH the Amir, who ordered 15 percent of the energy used in Kuwait to come from renewable energy resources by 2030.

Further, Jaradi hailed the state's efforts in this regard, noting that Al-Shaqaya Renewable energy project involves building the first power plant generating 70 megawatts of electricity from renewable resources. Moreover, Jaradi reiterated that ATC is working on using new water treatment technology in hospitals to make them 100 percent safe and reuse the treated water for irrigation to help improve air quality of those buildings. He also noted that ATC plans to display its new equipment used in safe disposal of medical waste during the exhibition.



Ahmed Jaradi

Arms dealer arrested in his Jahra residence

KUWAIT: Weapons detectives arrested a Gulf national and accused him of firearms possession following a raid on his house. The suspect resisted arrest at first, but was eventually brought under control. Detectives received tips about the suspect trading in arms and an investigation was carried out on him. After confirming the location of his residence, the raid was carried out on his house in Jahra. Preliminary investigations revealed his arm trading deals.

Expats dumping furniture


Environment police are looking for two expats who dumped leftover furniture on the side of Khairan area road. A citizen who witnessed this happening became angry and filmed the action and then later posted it on social media. The identity of the bystander was later found out and he is being summoned to be questioned about the two expats.

Car thief or good Samaritan?

An Indian told police his car was stolen after he left it running on the side of the road. Police then later found the car parked properly and legally in a parking lot. After this discovery, the owner was called and they found the car in sound condition and with the car keys still inside. The car was taken to the police station for further investigation.

Tablets and herbs

A citizen and an Egyptian were sent to the Drugs Control General Department, as police arrested them with 12 Tramadol tablets and strange herbs suspected of being marijuana. The arrest was made in a cooperative parking lot, when police responded to a call and discovered the two in an abnormal condition. The drugs were later found on their persons. — Al-Rai, Al-Anbaa



condolences

The Management and Staff of
EQUATE Petrochemical Company
wish to offer their heartfelt
condolences to

Debarun Saha

Utilities – Shuaiba
On the sad demise of his

Father

May his soul rest in peace and may
God grant comfort and strength to the
bereaved family members during this time



Macedonia votes on new name to end Greece row

Indonesians turn to Facebook in desperate hunt for loved ones

Page 9

Page 8



PYONGYANG: This undated picture shows North Korea leader Kim Jong-un attending a photo session with teachers and researchers of Kim Chaek University of Technology in Pyongyang. — AFP

US, North Korea leaders 'in love'

Pyongyang gifts dogs to South Korea's Moon

WASHINGTON: US President Donald Trump said he and North Korea's Kim Jong-Un have fallen "in love"—their bromance fuelled by "beautiful letters" he received from the leader of the nuclear-armed state. Trump on Saturday elevated his recent praise of Kim to new heights, at a West Virginia rally in support of local candidates for his Republican Party.

"And then we fell in love—OK? No really. He wrote me beautiful letters and they're great letters. We fell in love," Trump told the crowd. On Monday at the United Nations General Assembly Trump lauded the North Korean strongman—who is accused by the UN and others of widespread human rights abuses—as "terrific", one year after Trump eviscerated Kim from the same platform. Trump followed those comments by saying Wednesday he had received an "extraordinary letter" from Kim, and sounded optimistic about prospects for a second summit between the two leaders "fairly quickly."

Trump used his debut address at the UN General Assembly 12 months ago to threaten to "totally destroy" North Korea and belittle its leader as "rocket man," prompting Kim to respond by calling the president a "mentally deranged US dotard." Those were among a series of playground-type slurs the leaders of the two nuclear-armed states hurled at each other, setting the world

on edge. Last August, after US media reported Pyongyang had successfully miniaturized a nuclear warhead to fit into a missile, Trump warned Pyongyang not to threaten the United States or it would face "fire and fury like the world has never seen."

Kim had earlier compared comments by Trump to the bark of a "rabid dog," and Trump derided Kim as a "sick puppy"—before the apparent outbreak of puppy love. Trump met Kim in Singapore in June for the first-ever summit between the two countries that have never signed a peace treaty. The summit led to a warming of ties and a halt in Pyongyang's missile launches, but there has been little concrete progress since. North Korea's foreign minister Ri Yong Ho on Saturday told the UN there was "no way" that his country would disarm first as long as the US to push for tough enforcement of sanctions against Pyongyang.

Pyongyang's gifts

In another development, South Korean President Moon Jae-in received a pair of North Korean indigenous hunting dogs from Pyongyang, his office said yesterday, the latest token of the rapidly blossoming friendship on the peninsula. "Cheong Wa Dae (the presidential office) was offered a pair of Pungsan dogs from the North as a gift at the North-South summit and

received them Thursday," the South's presidential office said in a statement.

The canines, both aged around one, were handed over via the truce village of Panmunjom with three kilograms of dog food to "help with their adaptation", it added. Known for its loyalty and cleverness, the Pungsan breed—a hunting dog with thick, creamy white coat, pointy ears and hazel eyes—is one of the National Treasures of North Korea. The canine gifts come after a September meeting between Moon and North Korea leader Kim Jong Un in Pyongyang, at which Kim agreed plans to shutter a missile-testing site and visit Seoul.

North and South Korea also announced that they would jointly bid for the 2032 Olympics. Former South Korean President Kim Dae-jung had also received a pair of Pungsan pups after his landmark summit in Pyongyang with then North Korean leader Kim Jong Il in 2000. The dogs were kept at the Seoul Grand Park and both died of natural causes in 2013 after giving birth to 21 puppies. The newly arrived pooches will reside at the presidential office with Moon—an animal lover who already owns a Pungsan dog named Maru, a former shelter cat called Jjing-Jjing, and Tory, a black mutt he adopted after taking office. — Agencies



SEOUL: This undated handout photo released by South Korea's presidential Blue House shows a one-year-old Pungsan breed dog gifted from North Korea. — AFP

Startups tackle Indian women's toilet woes

NEW DELHI: With her bladder fit to burst on a recent ride with an all-female motorbike club, Vidhi Malla chugged on her 350cc "Thunderbird" into a fancy highway eatery near New Delhi and rushed to the toilet. But to her disgust, if not to her surprise, the facilities stank and the seat was splattered with urine, forcing the 34-year-old to get back on her bike and wait till she got home.

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi will trumpet progress in improving access to toilets at a Delhi convention starting this weekend—but as Malla's experience shows, there is still a long way to go. Some help is at hand from local startups providing ways to avoid coming into contact with or clean up filthy toilet seats, which doctors warn pose a health risk to many women. "Toilets are a huge issue. Once I caught an infection from using a loo in a big hotel," Malla, a public relations consultant, told AFP.

Malla's friends in her bike gang recounted their own horror stories—from bins overflowing with used toilet paper to wiping the seat with

the edge of their dresses. Using a dirty toilet, not drinking enough water or holding urine for a long time puts women at a greater risk of urinary tract infections, a painful complaint that half of women report having had at least once. Indian toilets "are a breeding ground for infections", gynaecologist Anshu Jindal told AFP. New businesses tackling the problem are tapping into a feminine hygiene sector forecast by Euromonitor to grow to \$522 million by 2020 from \$340 million now as India's middle class swells.

India's first female urination device, the PeeBuddy, is a simple candy-green cardboard funnel laminated with water-resistant coating allowing women to keep their distance from loo seats. PeeSafe meanwhile, dispensed from a purple spray can, is a seat sanitiser. "We have sold 750,000 units in the last 18 months and we are now present in 10 other countries," said Vikas Bagaria, founder of PeeSafe. Innovations like these have helped to "liberate" women like Malla, she says, meaning they don't have to think twice before hitting the road.

Stand-and-pee

Such issues are set to figure highly at the Mahatma Gandhi International Sanitation Convention, running from Saturday to Tuesday. The event, coinciding with Gandhi's 150th birthday, is hosted by Modi with UN chief Antonio Guterres in attendance alongside ministers and

experts. A lack of sanitation remains a burning issue for India—and much of the developing world—despite an aggressive drive by Modi's government since he came to power in 2014.

His government says it has slashed the number of people forced to defecate in the open from 550 million in 2014 to less than 150 million today. But the state of existing toilets still shocks. The capital Delhi, for example, a megacity teeming with 19 million people, has just a few hundred public washrooms. A survey of 200-odd toilets by Action Aid last year found 70 percent of them unclean and without a water supply. Entrepreneurs abroad have also created products to help women but they are often prohibitively expensive in a country where hundreds of millions of people live on less than a dollar a day.

For instance the reusable, silicone GoGirl stand-and-pee device costs \$9.99 apiece in the United States, while the Shewee goes for \$12. But a pack of 10 single-use, locally produced PeeBuddy funnels costs 200 rupees (\$3) and a pack of two PeeSafe 75 ml sprays 350 rupees. Deep Bajaj, the brains behind PeeBuddy, came up with the idea during a road trip when he noticed women in his group were not drinking anything. "Men are so blessed, we can stand and pee almost anywhere," Bajaj told AFP, checking a consignment for dispatch at his chock-a-block warehouse. — AFP

British ministers' phone numbers leaked in app flaw

LONDON: Phone numbers and other personal details of senior ministers from Britain's Conservative party were made public by an app security flaw on Saturday, including those of top Brexiters Michael Gove and Boris Johnson. Several top MPs reportedly received nuisance calls after their profiles were accessed on the official mobile application for the annual party conference, which kicks off this weekend.

The security breach saw members of the public able to enter the profiles using just the politicians' email addresses—easily available online—to view and edit the data stored within. Former foreign secretary Johnson had his profile picture briefly swapped for pornography and his job title changed to an profane insult, according to several Twitter users. Meanwhile Environment Secretary Gove's picture was changed to one of media tycoon Rupert Murdoch, his former employer when he was a journalist.

Among the first to report the flaw was Dawn Foster, a columnist for daily The Guardian. "The Tory conference app allows you to log in as other people and view their contact details just with their email address, no emailed security links, and post comments as them," she wrote on Twitter, using a colloquial name for the party. "They've essentially made every journalist, politician and attendee's mobile number public. Fantastic." A Conservative party spokesperson apologized for the breach, saying the technical issue had "been resolved and the app is now functioning securely".

Britain's data watchdog, the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO), said it was investigating the data breach related to the app, which was developed by an Australian firm called Crown Comms. The opposition Labor Party said the blunder showed the ruling party could not be trusted in matters of security. "They can't even build a conference app that keeps the data of their members, MPs and others attending safe and secure," said shadow cabinet office minister Jon Trickett.

The breach is the latest embarrassment for Prime Minister Theresa May's embattled party, whose yearly gathering begins on Sunday in the city of Birmingham in central England. — AFP

International

Kurds hold election one year after failed independence bid

Growing frustrations with main parties; Opposition weak

ERBIL: Kurds voted in a parliamentary election in their semi-autonomous region in northern Iraq yesterday, with political dynasties expected to extend their power sharing rule despite growing discontent with perceived corruption and economic hardship. The vote comes a year after the region of six million, which gained semi-autonomous status after the 1991 Gulf War, made a failed bid to break away from the rest of Iraq in a campaign headed by Masoud Barzani, leader of the Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP). Barzani has retained a support base even though his independence drive prompted an intense backlash from the Baghdad government and resulted in the Kurds being stripped of some territory and economic autonomy.

And while criticism of the ruling Kurdish establishment - dominated for decades by the Barzani and the Talabani families - has grown more vocal, a weak opposition means voters may stick to the status quo. "I don't know who I will vote for but our family has always supported the KDP. My son will pick a candidate for me," said Halima Ahmed, 65, as she walked with a cane in the city of Erbil, the seat of the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG). Splits within the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK) mean the KDP could gain the upper hand in their two-party ruling coalition.

At midday, the Independent High Elections and Referendum Commission said that at mid-day turnout ranged between 16-23 percent in a breakdown of provinces. The number of voters has shrunk in recent elections as the oil-producing region's stagnant politics, unpaid public sector salaries and corruption have undermined the population's faith in politics. Polls are scheduled to close at 6 pm. Preliminary results are expected within 72 hours. There are 111-seats up for grabs in the election, including 11 reserved for ethnic minorities.

Weak opposition

Kurdish opposition parties did poorly when Iraq held federal elections in May. But multiple allegations that the KDP and PUK had committed election fraud - not confirmed in a subsequent recount - may sway some voters in their favor. Gorran, the main opposition movement, has been weakened by infighting and the death of its founder and leader Nechirvan Mustafa last year. "I wanted to make sure I voted early. I gave my vote to Gorran and hope for the best," said Omar Mahmoud Abdullah, 52, at the polling station set up at Shireen School in Sulaimaniya, stronghold of the PUK.

At another polling station in Sulaimaniya, lawyer Hassan Dalloush, 65, also said he was voting for the opposition. "If there's no fraud in this election, I'll feel good about it. But the parties in power always want to commit fraud, it's the only way they stay in power," he said. "I will never vote for the parties in power. Today I voted for the opposition." The referendum in September 2017 promised to set Iraq's Kurds on a path to a homeland and nearly 93 percent voted in favor of independence, despite pressure from the central government in Baghdad and threats from neighboring Turkey and Iran.

A swift backlash from Baghdad dashed those prospects. Relations with the central government have improved, but the ordeal cost the Kurdish region territory as well as economic autonomy. Nevertheless, some voters showed optimism about the future. Salar Karim arrived at a polling station with his wife and two young children, all dressed festively for the occasion. "Today is a historic day for Kurds," Karim, 50, said. "We get to elect our parliament as is our duty. I feel good about today." — Reuters



ERBIL, Iraq: Former leader of the Iraqi Kurdish Regional Government (IKRG) Masoud Barzani casts his ballot for the parliamentary election at a polling station in Erbil, the capital of the Kurdish autonomous region in northern Iraq yesterday. — AFP

Typhoon Trami pounds Japan

KAGOSHIMA: A powerful typhoon pounded Japan's mainland yesterday after injuring dozens on outlying islands, bringing transport grinding to a halt and triggering warnings of fierce winds, torrential rain, landslides and floods. Typhoon Trami has already snarled travel in the world's third-biggest economy, with bullet train services suspended, more than 1,000 flights cancelled and Tokyo's evening train services scrapped. The storm's huge eye was forecast to move near the city of Osaka before churning across the Japanese archipelago, likely hitting areas still recovering from extreme weather that has battered Japan in recent months.

In total, 65 people have sustained minor injuries-mainly cuts from shattered glass-and one woman was reported missing in the Miyazaki region, which was drenched by record rainfall and suffered localized flooding. According to local media, the woman in her 60s was swept away by gusts in a gutter while working with her husband in their ricefield. Nationwide, authorities have issued non-compulsory evacuation advisories to 1.5 million residents, according to public broadcaster NHK, and officials urged people across the country to stay indoors. Nearly 500,000 households in the western region of Kyushu and Okinawa have lost power, local utilities said.

Violent gusts and heavy rain made it impossible to venture outside, said Yuji Ueno, an official in the town of Shirahama in Wakayama prefecture, which was forecast to be right in Trami's path. "From around 2pm, we saw incredible winds and rain. I stepped outside the city hall in the afternoon, and the rain was swirling in very strong wind. Enormous wind." "It was difficult to stay standing. It was very scary," Ueno said. As the typhoon barreled east, rail authorities took the highly unusual step of cancelling evening train services in Tokyo, one of the world's busiest networks, urging



KAGOSHIMA: Pedestrians carry a bag as they walk against a strong wind after Typhoon Trami hit the city of Kagoshima on Kyushu Island yesterday. — AFP

passengers to shelter indoors when the storm hits.

Hunkering down

The typhoon is not expected to hit the capital head-on but strong winds and heavy rain are still feared from later. Some businesses were already putting up shutters and hunkering down. Trami is the latest in a string of extreme natural events in Japan, which has suffered typhoons, flooding, earthquakes and heatwaves in recent months, claiming scores of lives and causing extensive damage. Packing maximum gusts of 216 kilometers per hour, Trami was expected to travel over most of the archipelago, weakening slightly but causing extreme weather into Monday, forecasters said. Still classed as a "very strong" typhoon, Trami pounded Kagoshima on the western tip of Japan yesterday, causing minor injuries-such as cuts from broken windows and people knocked over by gusts.

'It's really deserted'

The western city of Osaka lay close to the path of the storm and its Kansai Airport, which is situated on reclaimed land offshore and suffered extensive damage in a storm earlier in September, closed two runways. Officials piled up sandbags to avoid a repeat of flooding seen during the previous storm.

Speaking to AFP from a hotel near the airport, British businessman Richard Swart said: "It's actually quite warm outside, very windy and with very heavy rain."

"The airport is closed. There are very few people around and all the shops are shut. It's really deserted," added Swart, 56, from Durham in northern England. Even from the safety of the hotel, he said he could hear the wind "howling" outside. The Japanese meteorological agency warned the typhoon would bring strong winds and downpours, which could trigger landslides and floods as well as lightning strikes and tornados across the nation. Cities in the expected path of the typhoon were already taking precautions.

East Japan Railway stopped all train services in and around Tokyo at 8pm, shortly before the typhoon was to draw near the Japanese capital. Some western regions are still recovering from Typhoon Jebi in early September, the most powerful typhoon to strike the country in a quarter of a century. It claimed 11 lives and shut down Kansai Airport. Deadly record rainfall hit western Japan earlier this year and the country sweltered through one of the hottest summers on record. Also in September a magnitude-6.6 earthquake rocked the northern island of Hokkaido, sparking landslides and leaving more than 40 people dead. — Reuters

Iran sentences three to death

DUBAI: Special courts set up in a drive against financial crime have sentenced three people to death in Iran, state television reported yesterday, as the country faces renewed US sanctions and a public outcry against profiteering and corruption. A judiciary official also warned truck drivers holding a nationwide strike over pay and high prices of "harsh penalties" if they continue their protests, state media said.

The special Islamic revolutionary courts were set up last month to try suspects quickly after Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei called for "swift and just" legal action to confront an "economic war" by foreign enemies. Judiciary spokesman Gholamhossein Mohseni Ejei, quoted by state TV, said the courts handed down death sentences to three defendants after convicting them of "spreading corruption on earth", a capital offence under Iran's Islamic laws.

Mohseni Ejei did not name the three but said the sentences would have to be upheld by the supreme court before being carried out, the TV reported. Iranian officials have accused arch-foes the United States and Israel,

as well as regional rival Saudi Arabia and government opponents living in exile of fomenting unrest and waging an economic war to destabilize Iran. Mohseni Ejei said 32 other defendants were sentenced to jail terms of up to 20 years for economic crimes, the official news agency IRNA reported.

In May the United States pulled out of a 2015 deal between world powers and Tehran under which international sanctions on Iran were lifted in return for curbs on its nuclear program. Washington has reimposed a number of sanctions on Iran, and it is planning to impose heavier sanctions in November aimed at the Islamic Republic's oil sector. The rial currency has lost about 70 percent of its value since April under the threat of revived US sanctions, with heavy demand for dollars among ordinary Iranians trying to protect their savings.

The cost of living has also soared, sparking sporadic demonstrations against profiteering and corruption, with many protesters chanting anti-government slogans. Mohseni Ejei warned truck drivers who have continued their protests for higher wages and affordable parts despite several rounds of arrest. "Harsh penalties await those who ... block lorry traffic on roads," he said according to IRNA. General prosecutor Mohammad Jafar Montazeri said last week that protesting drivers may face death sentences under stern laws against highway robbery, the state broadcaster IRIB reported on Thursday. — Reuters

Apple employee killed in Indian police shooting

NEW DELHI: State police have arrested two constables in northern India over the fatal shooting of an Apple employee in an incident during a routine patrol on Saturday. Vivek Tiwari, a sales manager for Apple, was shot dead early on Saturday by a police constable in the Gomti Nagar neighborhood in Uttar Pradesh state, about 13 km from state capital Lucknow. The two constables were on night motorbike patrol and the patrolman who shot Tiwari told reporters: "I didn't shoot at him. The

bullet was shot by mistake." The state's top police officer, OP Singh, told reporters that the policeman who shot Tiwari claimed to have fired in self-defense. State police spokesman Vivek Tripathi said the two constables have been arrested for suspected murder. Apart from van and motorcycle mobile patrols, it is common in India for police to perform random checks at temporary road blocks. Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath said the state would investigate the incident and would hand over the case to the federal police if required.

"We are shocked and heartbroken by the news of our colleague Vivek Tiwari. We extend our deepest sympathies to Vivek's family and friends during this difficult time," an Apple spokesman said. The family of Tiwari, who leaves behind two daughters, has demanded a special inquiry into the incident, employment for his widow and cash compensation. — Reuters

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International

Macedonia votes on new name to end Greek row

A bid to unlock a path to NATO and EU membership

SKOPJE: Macedonians cast ballots yesterday on whether to re-name their country North Macedonia, a bid to settle a long-running row with Greece and unlock a path to NATO and EU membership. It is an emotional moment for a country that has struggled for recognition of its name since its birth in 1991, when the former Yugoslav republic declared independence. Athens protested immediately, accusing Skopje of stealing the name of its own northern province also called Macedonia. The dispute dives deep into history, with both countries vying for claims to Alexander the Great's ancient empire of Macedon, which spanned their territories.

But in June Macedonia's new premier Zoran Zaev and his Greek counterpart Alexis Tsipras reached a landmark compromise under which Athens would drop its objections to Macedonia joining the EU and NATO in return for the name change. Zaev is billing the vote as a painful but historic opportunity to break the 27-year-old stalemate. "Today is a beautiful day, a beautiful holiday for the country. Today the citizens are going out to decide on their future," Zaev told the press after casting his ballot in his hometown of Strumica, an eastern city where he was once mayor. Voters began trickling in to schools and other polling stations around the country after polls opened at 7am.

"I hope that the result will be positive. This referendum will change something if it opens the door to Europe and NATO," Olivera Argirovska, a 74-year-old retired nurse, told AFP after casting her ballot in a high school in the capital Skopje. "It will change things for the youth." Few Macedonians are enthused about the new name, saying they have been unfairly bullied by Greece. But a desire to anchor their future to the West—and the economic prosperity that it could bring—is a driving

force behind the 'yes' vote in one of Europe's poorest nations. "We cannot really say it is fair, but the EU and NATO matter more for all of us, so let's move forward," 28-year-old Abedin Memeti said ahead of the vote.

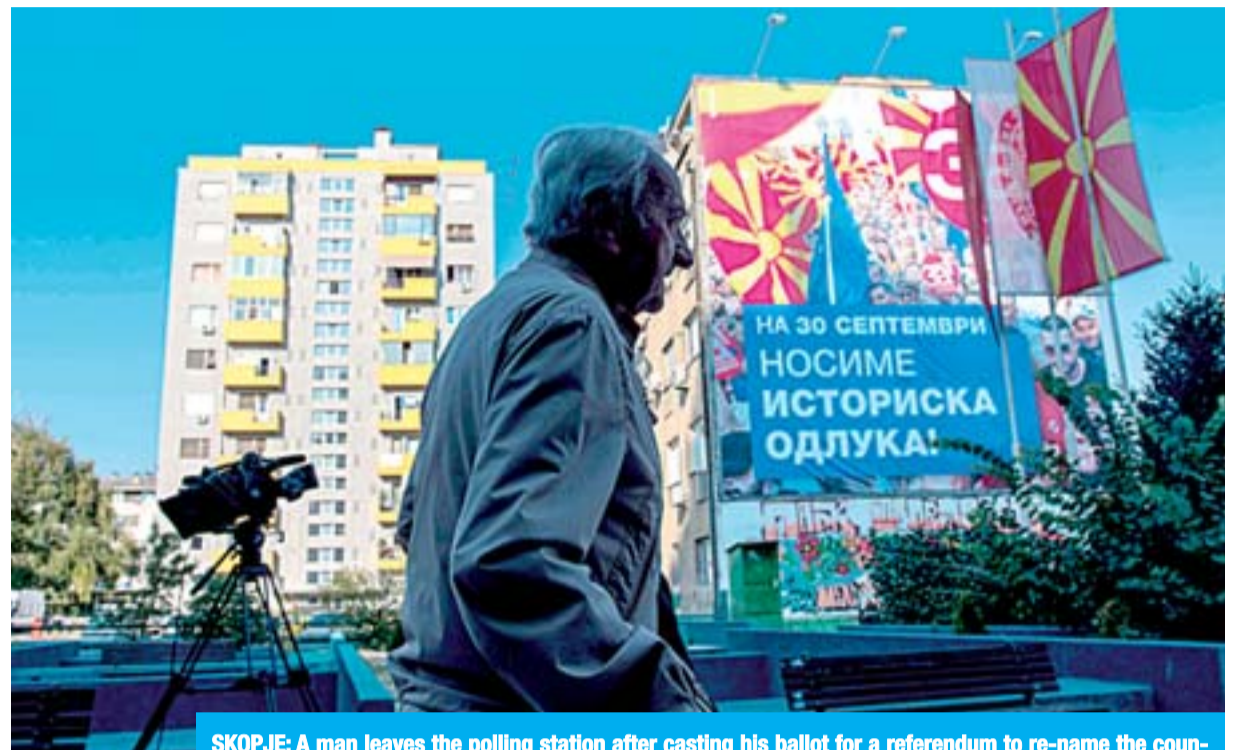
Boycott

The referendum is not binding, but a 'yes' majority would give parliament a political mandate to change the constitution. If the deal is backed in the referendum and is ratified by two-thirds of MPs, the Greek parliament will be called on to give the final stamp of approval. Yesterday's vote is being watched closely across the border in Greece, where nationalists staged a protest against the deal earlier this month. "We hope for a positive outcome for the proceedings to progress with the constitutional review," Greece's government spokesman Dimitris Tzanakopoulos said on the radio.

"Any other result would create a disturbance," he added. While the Macedonian government plans to call any significant majority in favor of the deal a success, the right-wing opposition may question the vote's credibility if turnout is below 50 percent. Some critics of the name deal have been calling for a boycott, including President Gjorge Ivanov, who is allied with the nationalist opposition. Massive emigration in recent decades could also affect turnout numbers, with nearly a quarter of the 2.1 million population estimated to live abroad. Less than 3,000 of those overseas have signed up to vote.

Western Balkans foothold

Europe and the US have campaigned hard for the deal, with many leaders passing through Skopje this month to urge Macedonians to seize the "historic" opportunity. NATO has already issued an invite-on hold



SKOPJE: A man leaves the polling station after casting his ballot for a referendum to re-name the country North Macedonia yesterday. —AFP

until the deal passes—while EU accession talks are scheduled to begin next year. The West is keen to have another foothold in the Western Balkans, a region where Russia, which is opposed to NATO expansion, has historically had influence. At home, those in favor of the deal say a desire for an EU future is helping bind ethnic Macedonians with the Albanian minority, who are broadly pro-West.

While Macedonia avoided the full-scale inter-ethnic

Wars that rippled across the region during the collapse of Yugoslavia, it was roiled by an Albanian insurgency in 2001 that left more than 100 dead. A peace deal was reached later that year granting Albanians more political rights, but tensions have remained. "This is the first time I am seeing Macedonians and Albanians campaigning together for common goals," Besa Arifi, a law professor said. "This will give us more opportunities to unite all citizens around shared values," he added. —AFP



Greece accuses Macedonia of stealing name

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News in brief

Migrant boat capsizes

ANKARA: Five people died after a boat carrying illegal migrants capsized off Turkey's northwestern coast yesterday, state media reported. The Turkish coastguard found the bodies after the rubber vessel sank off the Enez district in Edirne province, Anadolu news agency said. Fearing the numbers on board could be higher, the coastguard continued search and rescue efforts, the agency added. The cause of the incident was not yet known but a Mediterranean storm is battering Greece and brought heavy rain and wind to Turkey's Aegean cities. The agency did not give details of the migrants' nationalities however Turkey hosts over three million Syrian refugees and up to 300,000 Iraqis. It is also one of the transit countries used by those fleeing war and poverty to try and reach Europe. —AFP

Mine kills 3 children

KIEV: Three children were killed and another injured yesterday in a landmine blast in rebel-held eastern Ukraine, which remains littered with explosives left behind by the four-year war. The explosion happened in the industrial frontline city of Gorlivka, 30 kilometers north of the rebel area's de facto capital Donetsk, separatist "defense minister" Eduard Basurin said. The wounded child was hospitalized, he added. The blast was the latest incident in a string of deadly explosions to hit the unrecognized Russian-backed republic over the past few weeks. On Saturday, three people were injured in an explosion in Donetsk, including a candidate for the post of the self-proclaimed republic's leader. In August, the head of the Donetsk People's Republic, Alexander Zakharchenko died in a bombing at a cafe in broad daylight. —AFP

Sudan's 100-pound note

KHARTOUM: Sudan's central bank will start printing 100 pound bank notes for the first time to ease a liquidity crisis exacerbated by rampant inflation, state news agency SUNA said yesterday. Sudan's economy has been struggling since the south of the sprawling northeast African country seceded in 2011, taking with it three-quarters of oil output and depriving Khartoum of a crucial source of foreign currency. In recent months local currency liquidity at commercial banks has dried up, with long queues outside of banks and daily withdrawal limits falling to as low as 500 Sudanese pounds (\$17.06) in some places. The previous largest banknote in Sudan was 50 pounds. "Printing the 100-pound banknote is a step in the right direction, because the high inflation rate has dropped the value of the 50-pound banknote," Abdullah Al-Ramadi, a Sudanese economist, said. —Reuters

Curfew in anglophone

YAOUNDE: Cameroon ordered a 48-hour curfew in its English-speaking regions a day ahead of the one-year anniversary of a symbolic "independence" declaration by anglophone separatists, officials said yesterday. "The movement of people between areas in the northwest will be banned for a period of 48 hours from Sunday, September 30 until Monday, October 1," said Adolphe Lele Lafrique, governor of the largely English-speaking northwest region. Similar measures will be enforced across Cameroon's other anglophone areas, officials said. Hundreds of civilians and dozens of security forces are understood to have been killed in the majority French-speaking country's anglophone northwest and southwest this year. In October 2017, radical anglophone leaders declared a "Republic of Ambazonia" in the two English-speaking regions which were incorporated into francophone Cameroon in 1961. —AFP

Trump helps sell millions of books; both pro and con

NEW YORK: "Fire and Fury," "A Higher Loyalty," "Fear," three books about Donald Trump have each sold more than a million copies in the United States, a first that reflects Americans' fascination with their ever-surprising president. The great majority of successful books on politics have been written by politicians themselves—or by ghostwriters working with them. Barack Obama set the standard in the genre, selling a combined 4.6 million copies of his autobiographical books "Dreams From My Father" and "The Audacity of Hope."

A desire to understand

In their time, Bill Clinton, George W. Bush, Jimmy Carter, Hillary Clinton and even Sarah Palin all topped the best-seller lists at least for a few weeks, while not reaching Obama's lofty level. And in 1976, Washington Post journalist Bob Woodward sold 630,000 copies of his "The Final Days," chronicling the dramatic unwinding of the Nixon presidency. After that, however, there have been no chart-toppers about a president. But in just nine months, "Fire and Fury" by journalist and author Michael Wolff, "A Higher Loyalty" by former FBI chief James Comey, and Woodward's "Fear" have sold a combined total of more than five million copies, according to numbers reviewed by AFP.

"I'm not surprised," said David Corn,

co-author of "Russian Roulette," a book about Russian interference in the American presidential campaign. "There is deep desire on the part of many Americans for an understanding of what happened in this country" during the 2016 presidential campaign, he said, and also of "what's going on now within the Trump White House." In the past, books about a presidency were generally published only after it was over, leaving sources freer to talk and allowing greater historical perspective.

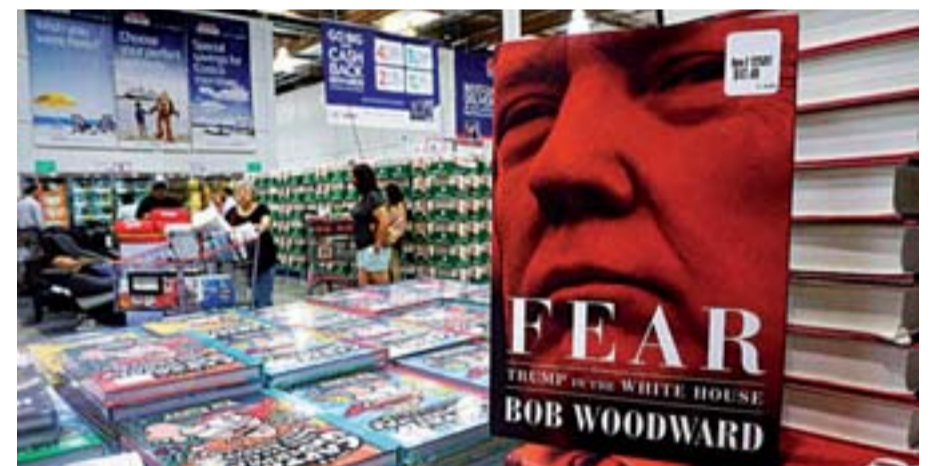
But, "as ever, Trump has sped everything up," Jon Meacham, the author of several best-selling political and historical books, told MSNBC. "It's almost as if we had a webcam" providing live coverage of events inside the White House. Trump himself has, however unintentionally, helped promote these books—all of which paint an apocalyptic picture of his administration—by firing off highly critical Twitter messages about them.

"The Woodward book is a joke," he tweeted shortly before "Fear" was published, "just another assault against me." "I guess people want to see how bad it really is" in the White House, said Marianne Elliott, who is on a long waiting list at the New York public library to read "Fear." Many opposition Democrats, though repelled by Trump, his politics and his blustering personality, have been eager to read anything they can find about him. "They want more bad information, to make you feel better because you know he's terrible," Elliott said. "It's comforting."

Trump the author

While coming nowhere near the success of Woodward or Wolff, several books favor-

able to the president have also done well—helped by Trump's endorsements. "In our very divided society, people are feeling motivated by their political passion in deciding what books to read and buy," said Corn. Trump's impact on the publishing world doesn't stop with the current best-sellers. Books like "1984" and "Fahrenheit 451," portraying totalitarian regimes that manipulate people through disinformation and propaganda, have enjoyed newfound popularity. Nor does the surging interest in political books seem close to peaking. "The Fifth Risk" by Michael Lewis (author of "Liar's Poker" and "The Big Short"), "The Apprentice" by Washington Post journalist Greg Miller, and the Stormy Daniels book "Full Disclosure," about the adult film star's



CALIFORNIA: Photo shows veteran journalist Bob Woodward's latest book 'Fear: Trump in the White House' being displayed for sale upon release at a Costco store in Alhambra, California. —AFP

alleged sexual liaison with Trump, are all set to reach bookstores on Tuesday.

"One potential problem is that people get too accustomed to the outrages of the Trump administration," Corn said, "and therefore become less interested in books like these. 'But I don't see that happening any time soon.' Might Trump himself set a new sales record? The onetime real estate magnate, co-author of 1987's best-selling 'The Art of the Deal,' has already said he plans eventually to write 'the real book' about his presidency. Corn is not holding his breath. "According to The Washington Post, Trump has made over 5,000 false statements as president. So I would not look forward to looking at any book of his as an accurate reflection of reality." —AFP

With Brexit clock ticking, PM gathers fractious party

BIRMINGHAM: Prime Minister Theresa May gathered her party for its annual conference yesterday, under immediate attack from leading rival Boris Johnson over her strategy for pulling Britain out of the European Union. The Conservative leader arrived in Birmingham, central England, only days after the EU rejected her plan for close trade links after Brexit and demanded a rethink before a summit in mid-October.

Many of her eurosceptic MPs also oppose the proposal and, led by former foreign minister Johnson, will use the conference to argue for a looser trade agreement instead. Johnson, long tipped as a successor to May, published his own Brexit program last week, and in an interview with the Sunday Times newspaper, condemned her plan as "deranged" and "preposterous". May also came under pressure from pro-Europeans in her party, with protesters set to hold a rally in Birmingham for a second Brexit vote - which she has ruled out.

In a BBC interview on Sunday, the prime minister said her plan was the only way to protect cross-border trade in goods and avoid physical checks on the Irish border. "My message to my party

Threats to leadership

is, let's come together and get the best deal for Britain," she said. Analysts believe May will have to give further ground to Brussels to secure a withdrawal agreement before Brexit in March next year, although no announcements are expected at the conference. "I've always said it was going to be tough, and it was always going to get toughest towards the end of the negotiations. "But we're continuing to focus on getting a good deal for the UK," the prime minister said yesterday.

Since losing her parliamentary majority in a disastrous snap election last year, May has faced endless internal plotting and rumors of a leadership challenge. Many potential successors inside and outside her cabinet will address delegates this week, notably Johnson, who quit in July over May's Brexit plan. Charismatic and with a populist touch, Johnson is a favorite with the Conservative faithful and is expected to draw large crowds to his speech at a fringe event on Tuesday. In his interview yesterday, he made a direct pitch for the leadership by setting out a slew of domestic policy ideas.

When asked if May should stay on until the next election in 2022, he said: "The prime minister said she is going to serve for as long as her party wants her, and I certainly think she should." But many believe May's rivals will wait and see what happens in the EU talks before



BIRMINGHAM: Britain's Prime Minister Theresa May (2nd left) reacts as she listens from her seat next to husband Phillip May (2nd right) on the first day of the Conservative Party Conference 2018 yesterday. —AFP

making a decisive move against her. One Brexit MP who wants a new leader told AFP the crunch time would come when the House of Commons votes on the final Brexit deal, possibly in November or December. May only has a slim working majority among the 650 MPs, making her vulnerable to even the smallest rebellion.

Labor threat

The opening to the conference was overshadowed by a security breach in the mobile app for the event which

allowed users to access phone numbers of senior ministers and MPs. It was an inauspicious start, the year after May's closing conference speech was marred by a collapsing set and a prankster stage invasion. Many Conservative MPs are anxious the party should present something more than Brexit divisions this week in Birmingham, as they eye the threat posed by the opposition Labor party. Leftist leader Jeremy Corbyn presented a radical economic program for government at his own conference last week. —Reuters

International

Indonesians turn to Facebook in desperate search for loved ones

Distraught Indonesians in grim search for family members

JAKARTA: Indonesians desperate to trace loved ones missing in the earthquake and tsunami that struck the island of Sulawesi are turning to social media sites like Facebook to aid their search. With the scale of the disaster still unclear, telecommunications patchy and some areas still out of reach, families are posting photos, descriptions of lost family members and contact numbers in the hope of learning more.

"Have you seen any of my family members in these photographs?" asks one user on one Facebook group with 6,843 members. "I want to know if they are safe there. I haven't got any information on them until this moment. Connection is still cut off. Let me know if you see them." Others are trying to help friends still in Palu, the city believed to be the worst-affected.

"Please help, anybody in Palu and areas near the city. Family members of my friend are still missing until now," says one post asking for information about a father, mother and a toddler living in the city. Some users share information about Palu residents who have been evacuated to a safe area. A September 29 post gave the names of some 53 citizens who have been evacuated to an office of PLN-Indonesia's state-run electricity firm-along with a plea for help. "Evacuees here are in dire need of food, water and electricity generator," the post said. Some Indonesians turned to the page simply to offer support.

A user who appears to be from Lombok-an Indonesian resort island hit by a series of major earthquakes in July and August-had a message of solidarity. "Your sorrow is ours. Your wailing is ours. Hopefully dead victims are buried in the most beautiful place. Our prayers are always with you," said the post from Eddie Moodmakerzz. While many still hope for updates from

missing relatives, some appear desperate enough to offer instructions should their corpses be found. "If someone locates her dead body, please do not bring her to the mass grave because we will pick her up," said a Facebook post, mentioning the person's name.

In grim search

Standing on white tiles smeared with blood, Baharuddin looks absently at the bodies strewn across a hospital courtyard in front of him in Palu, Indonesia. "I have one child, he's missing," the wiry 52-year-old said. "I last spoke to him before he went to school in the morning." He is looking for one small body among these dozens of corpses lying in an open courtyard at the back of the medical centre, baking under Sulawesi's fierce tropical sun. Only one building separates a triage area for the living from this makeshift morgue.

It is a mosaic of yellow, blue and black body bags punctuated only by hands reaching up in rigor mortis. This police hospital in Palu has become a focus point for shell-shocked residents hoping for news of loved ones after the 7.5 magnitude quake and subsequent tsunami on Friday. The official death toll stands at over 800, but everyone knows that figure will only continue to rise. In a police tent, people clutching photos and passports ask after relatives. Outside an elderly woman-her head covered in a t-shirt to ward of the stench-crouched in the dirt and sobbed.

By midday yesterday, 320 bodies had been through the centre, hospital authorities said, but a stream of ambulances, police and army vehicles unloaded corpses with alarming regularity. Many people returned day after day to undertake the grim task of looking through the bodies. Amamsyah, who was searching for four



PALU: Photo shows residents look at covered up bodies recovered after an earthquake and tsunami hit Palu on Sulawesi island. — AFP

missing cousins, said he was desperate for news. "I've been here three times, everyday," Amam, 28, who like many Indonesians only has one name, told AFP. "I hope I find them-I'm going to fight to find them." But it is a race against time.

The Indonesian authorities announced yesterday that

they would soon begin to dispose of the bodies, a desperate bid to prevent a catastrophic situation from getting even worse. "Today we will start the mass burial of the victims, to avoid the spread of disease," said Sutopo Purwo Nugroho, a spokesman for the Indonesian National Board for Disaster Management. —Agencies

Crumpled hotel becomes focus in rescue effort

PALU: Squads of orange-clad rescue workers clambered over the tangled remains of an Indonesian hotel yesterday, hoping to dig out 50 to 60 guests still feared trapped by an earthquake-tsunami disaster. Authorities believe the 80-room Hotel Roa-Roa in the city of Palu on Sulawesi island was near capacity when the district was ravaged by a 7.5 magnitude quake and a tsunami wave Friday.

"It is assumed there are still 50 to 60 people trapped under the rubble," said disaster agency spokesman Sutopo Purwo Nugroho. A South Korean is among those believed to be stuck inside. Rescue workers are making the hotel a focus of their efforts to save lives. But they face a race against time to locate and extract survivors before injuries, exhaustion or dehydration take hold. "We even heard people calling for help there at the Roa-Roa hotel yesterday," Muhammad Syaugi, head of the national Search and Rescue Agency, told AFP.

At least one person has been pulled out alive, he added. Video posted by the agency yesterday showed weary rescuers carrying one body wrapped in black plastic out on a



PALU, Indonesia: This aerial picture shows the remains of a ten-storey hotel in Palu in Indonesia's Central Sulawesi yesterday after it collapsed following a strong earthquake in the area. —AFP

stretcher. Until Friday the Roa-Roa was a modern chic hotel catering to business travellers, with views of the Makassar Strait and cloud-shrouded mountains in the distance. It offered guests "easy access to the shopping malls, Talise Beach, market, restaurants" for around US\$30 a night. Now its Ray Eames-style designer armchairs and whitewashed surfaces are buried beneath a mangled heap of rebar, dust and concrete.

The rescue effort is being hampered by a lack of equipment and by continuing aftershocks. Syaugi said what rescue staff need now is heavy lifting equipment like an excavator. "That is the priority," he said. "I saw one in downtown Palu and it was just sitting there." Some rooms at the back of the hotel could be accessible, he added "but it would be dangerous if search teams go in there because we are still having aftershocks." —AFP

Indonesian air traffic controller hailed as hero

JAKARTA: An Indonesian air traffic controller is being posthumously hailed as a hero for refusing to leave his post despite devastating earthquakes so that he could guide a passenger jet safely off the ground. Twenty-one-year-old Anthonius Gunawan Agung was on duty in the air traffic control tower at Palu's Mutiara SIS Al-Jufrie airport when a series of earthquakes struck the city in Sulawesi island on Friday. Officials say he refused to leave his post until he got an Batik Air plane off the ground, while his colleagues who were not handling aircraft departed.

"When the quake happened, he was giving clearance to Batik Air to

take off and waited for the plane to be safely airborne before finally leaving the ATC cabin tower," said AirNav Indonesia spokesman Yohanes Harry Sirait. After Flight 6231 was safely in the air the quakes became ever-stronger, culminating in a 7.5 magnitude jolt and tsunami. At least 832 people are confirmed dead. Eventually, Agung jumped from the top of the crumbling four-storey tower in a desperate bid to escape, breaking his leg and suffering serious internal injuries.

He was taken to a nearby hospital where he received basic treatment, but died before a helicopter could arrive to transport him to a better-equipped facility. The company will raise Agung's rank by two levels as a sign of appreciation for his extraordinary dedication, AirNav said in a statement. Local station Metro TV was among those who hailed Agung's "heroic act". The Indonesian archipelago sits on the Pacific "Ring of Fire", where tectonic plates collide and many of the world's volcanic eruptions and earthquakes occur. —AFP

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Immigrants in Quebec: Needed but unwanted as election nears

Anti-immigrant sentiment is butting up against an acute labor shortage in Canada's mostly French-speaking Quebec province ahead of a general election there today. Two of the province's four major political parties have vowed to cut immigration despite employers saying they need more than 100,000 skilled workers, amid record-low rates of unemployment. Francois Legault, leader of the Coalition Avenir Quebec (CAQ), which is leading in the polls, has suggested that immigration threatens Quebec's cultural identity. He has vowed to cut it by 20 percent in 2019, if elected. He also said he would deport any immigrants who failed a "Quebec values" test or who did not learn French within three years of arriving in the province.

Quebec Premier Philippe Couillard, whose Liberals face an uphill re-election battle after almost 15 years in office, accused the CAQ leader of "scaremongering". But polls show there is substantial popular support in Quebec for curbs on immigration. A recent Leger survey for the Huffington Post found that 48 percent of Quebecers support immigration while 38 percent see it as a growing problem. A surge in asylum seekers from the United States since Donald Trump was elected president in 2016 has strained government services, fueling the anti-migrant views.

'Hiring' signs

In the city of Saint-Georges, about 300 km northeast of Montreal, "hiring" signs hang outside most businesses. "I can understand that people want Quebecers to be hired first and foremost, which we try to do, but there's none or few available," said Louise Couture, a human resources official at semitrailer manufacturer Manac. The regional development organization estimates that 5,000 positions for welders, machinists, cargo handlers and programmers in the area are going unfilled. "We need to bring in a new workforce. We feel the same need in all regions of Quebec. That's why immigration is one of the solutions," the agency's Melanie Poulin told AFP. The local unemployment rate is 2.6 percent, compared with 5.6 percent for the province and 6.0 percent for all of Canada.

A sign outside Couture's office proudly notes Manac's 82 hires since January. The company offers a starting salary that is 40 percent higher than the minimum wage - yet that is not enough. "Hiring foreign workers helps to meet our delivery deadlines," said Couture. "Without immigration, we could not have the growth we currently have," said Sylvain Bernard, human resources director at OSI Machinery. "The shortage of manpower is a handicap for Quebec."

His company decided in 2012 to recruit directly from abroad and now employs six workers from Costa Rica, one from China and nine recently hired Tunisians, four of whom are still awaiting visas. The immigration process is "so long and painful", Bernard complained. If immigration procedures were simpler and faster, Couture said, 22 foreign workers, including a first group from Cameroon, could "start tomorrow" at Manac.

Wedge issue

Demographer Yves Carriere told AFP that politicians have turned immigration into a wedge issue in the coming election. The Liberals hope to solidify their base, which includes immigrants and Quebec's anglophone minority in Montreal. The CAQ and the Parti Quebecois, meanwhile, are targeting mostly French-speaking suburban and rural voters. But amid the focus on language, University of Montreal professor Marie-Therese Chicha lamented how many skilled immigrants are forced to take low-paying jobs for which they are highly overqualified, because Quebec does not recognize their foreign diplomas.

Since 2015, Quebec has welcomed an average of 50,000 immigrants and refugees a year. But the number of French-speaking newcomers has fallen from 56 percent in 2015 to 42 percent last year, and increasingly they have settled in metropolitan Montreal instead of the outlying areas where French is predominantly spoken. Legault suggested that if the trend continues, "our grandchildren may not speak French". Critics have called his remarks alarmist, noting that while some newcomers may never learn French, their children will all be educated in the language of Moliere.

When Ronald Carvajal, a welder, arrived from Costa Rica five years ago, he spoke French "pantoute", he said, using Quebec slang for "not at all" and speaking in a blended Latin-Quebec accent. After intensive language courses offered by the government, he is now bilingual and is proud to be able to read the works of acclaimed French-Canadian novelists such as Michel Tremblay. "I want to make my life here, and die here," said Carvajal, who is 33. "I would like to buy property here, to have my cottage, to retire here." — AFP



Catalans divided a year after referendum

For Jaume Casamitjana, last year's banned independence referendum in Catalonia marked a watershed in his feelings about Spain, while for Alexandra Lopez-Liz, it pushed her to take a stand against the separatist movement. A year after the contested October 1, 2017 referendum, disagreements over separatism have deepened in the wealthy northwestern region of Spain, which is home to some 7.5 million people and has its own distinct language. Far from uniting the community, it has polarized opinion, leaving deep divisions over the region's fate.

The tiny village of Sant Julia de Ramis - which was prevented from participating in the referendum after dozens of riot police smashed their way into its polling station to seize voting material just before it opened - plans to mark the anniversary of the vote today. "For many, it was a point of no return regarding Spain," said Casamitjana, who lives in this town of 3,500 people in the province of Girona, where support for independence runs highest. "They wanted to scare us but it backfired. Before this town was very divided, now it is more united and convinced than ever," the 58-year-old said.

A civil servant, Casamitjana was in charge of the polling station at a sports center on the village square, where one of the referendum ballot boxes now stands inside a glass cabinet, like a trophy. Ahead of the anniversary, he is working with other villagers to decorate the square - which has been renamed "October 1 Plaza" - with red, yellow and blue Catalan separatist flags, as well as banners and portraits of separatist leaders on trial over the secession attempt.

'We feel deceived'

There were many people working at the polling station on that day, and when the riot police turned up, they hid ballot boxes or shielded them with their bodies. Most of those who voted cast their ballots for independence. The regional Catalan government had promised to declare independence within 48 hours of the vote if the "yes" side

won. When it finally did vote to declare independence on Oct 27, Madrid swiftly sacked the Catalan government, prompting several key figures to flee abroad, including deposed Catalan president, Carles Puigdemont.

Others were jailed. "People are very angry, we feel deceived," said Casamitjana, explaining how the referendum has polarized opinion all round. Some of those previously considered more "moderate" separatists now tell him that the jailed separatist leaders should remain behind bars because they are "traitors" to the cause - for not making good on their independence bid.

'Before and after'

Puigdemont's successor, Quim Torra, is scheduled to attend the ceremony in Sant Julia de Ramis. Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez, who ousted conservative Mariano Rajoy in June, has proposed drafting a new autonomy statute for Catalonia which could be put to a vote. But Torra wants to start taking steps to implement independence. "A year ago we could have negotiated a solution, not now. October 1 marked a before and after," said 54-year-old plumber Santi Anglada.

With Catalans evenly split on the issue of independence, the referendum also marked a turning point for others who had, for the most part, watched passively as the independence movement grew. Among them was Lopez-Liz who watched as dozens of people protected a polling station in a well-off Barcelona neighborhood. "It's a huge shame that we got to this point," she told AFP at the time. The threat of secession from Spain had in October sent half of the population out into the streets of Barcelona to protest.

'Awakened the beast'

A month after the referendum, Lopez-Liz got together with others who had long stood on the sidelines to form an association that opposes independence called "Aixeca't Levantate" - which means "Stand Up". "We were ignored



In this file photo taken on Oct 01, 2017 a man waves an 'Estelada' (pro-independence Catalan flag) from a balcony after the closing of the 'Espal Jove La Fontana' (La Fontana youth center) polling station in Barcelona. — AFP

for a long time, now we want them to realize that we are here and we are not afraid," said Lopez-Liz. She has kept busy since the referendum, removing Catalan separatist symbols on public buildings and churches and speaking out against alleged separatist "indoctrination" in schools. "We are focused on action and we are not going to stop. Each symbol they put up, we take down," she said.

The group, which has around 500 members, also fights against laws that give priority to the use of the Catalan language in schools and the public administration. "For a long time, we accepted teaching in Catalan, positive discrimination for Catalan culture. But they have vilified us so much that they have awakened the beast," said Pedro Gomez, a 52-year-old Barcelona editor. "Before people tolerated it, but that's over. I could speak Catalan but I don't feel like it," he told AFP. "If you don't like it, you can lump it." — AFP

Catalan separatists rudderless

On Oct 1, 2017, Catalan separatists held an illegal and divisive referendum which saw them launching a failed attempt to break away from Spain. A year on, however, the independence movement is divided and rudderless. "We risked everything for the referendum, we blindly believed them and now we see everything they promised was false," says Adria, an angry independence supporter who is protesting against the regional, separatist government led by Quim Torra.

For the past four days, this 23-year-old has camped outside the regional government headquarters in Barcelona with around 20 other people to demand the republic promised a year ago. "We'll be here until independence. We're just asking them to move towards setting up a republic, or resign and go home."

'Historic' but not enough

The October referendum went ahead despite being ruled illegal by the Constitutional Court, and although it was marred by police violence, it was a "historic milestone", says political analyst Josep Ramoneda. But a year on the "situation has become paralyzed," he said. Even if it was illegal and therefore non-binding, 2.3 million people cast their ballots out of 5.5 million eligible voters, 90 percent of whom voted to break from Spain. And the images of police violence went round the world.

"The first of October was a disgrace for all of us because the image of Spain was suffering a lot," Foreign Minister Josep Borrell said recently in New York. For Ramoneda, it was a historic moment for the independence movement but also demonstrated its weaknesses. "With two million people, you don't have the necessary tools to impose yourself unilaterally," he adds.

A subsequent unilateral declaration of independence on Oct 27 was proof of that. No country recognised Catalonia and the Spanish government rapidly dissolved the Catalan parliament, deposed regional president Carles Puigdemont and called snap local elections. Puigdemont and other Catalan leaders fled to Belgium and those who remained in Spain were jailed days later,



In this file photo taken on Oct 01, 2017, Catalan president Carles Puigdemont holds a carnation in Sant Julia de Ramis during a referendum on independence for Catalonia banned by Madrid. — AFP

accused of rebellion. In the December polls, separatist parties once again won a majority in the regional parliament, even if only 47 percent of voters picked them in a system that over-represents rural areas which are more pro-independence. With Puigdemont unable to rule Catalonia from abroad, Torra was eventually picked to replace him. He is loyal to Puigdemont and his Together for Catalonia grouping that formed a coalition with the leftwing separatist ERC.

'Many divisions'

But strategies differ. Those loyal to Puigdemont - including the CUP, a far-left separatist party which has withdrawn its support for the regional government - want to keep the conflict with Madrid alive. But ERC and some from PDeCAT, Puigdemont's former party, advocate moderation and say the independence movement doesn't have enough support to continue on the path of unilateralism. A staunch nationalist slammed as a supremacist by his rivals, Torra is trying to accommodate both sides.

He gives heated speeches, calling for mobilization and criticizing Madrid. But at the same time, he takes part in

fledgling negotiations with Spain's new Socialist Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez, who is less antagonistic than his conservative predecessor Mariano Rajoy. "Under the table, there is cooperation with the central government but the official discourse remains the same," says Joan Botella, politics professor at the Autonomous University of Barcelona.

"The independence movement is divided into three parties and there is also a dividing line between the leaders who are outside Spain, those who are in prison, those who aren't... When there are lots of divisions, the situation jams up and no one is able to take the initiative." And influential civil society groups which regularly mobilize hundreds of thousands of independence supporters to protest, are starting to be concerned.

Today, they will protest in Barcelona to mark the anniversary of the referendum and to ask that "the wishes of the majority of Catalan people be put into effect". "We're aware of the difficulties but we would like to resume the path to independence," Elisenda Paluzie, head of the ANC association, told AFP. "We want to push ahead and avoid taking steps backwards." — AFP

Business

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NEW YORK: Traders work on the floor at the opening bell of the Dow Industrial Average at the New York Stock Exchange on Friday in New York. — AFP

Doomsayers see cracks in world economy

Rising interest rates could pop a debt-fueled Wall Street bubble

WASHINGTON: Over the last decade, the world's major economies floated themselves out of recession on oceans of easy money and low, or even negative, interest rates. For the moment, policymakers and analysts talk of a "Goldilocks economy" in the United States, which is enjoying low unemployment, brisk growth, improved household finances and a strengthened banking system.

But with much of the pain having subsided and US interest rates steadily rising, prominent investors and economists are shining a light on the issues that could trigger the next recession.

They point not to risk subprime mortgage lending, which sparked the last crisis 10 years ago, but instead to voracious borrowing by corporations and emerging market economies.

Martin Feldstein, chief economic adviser to President Ronald Reagan, paints a grim picture

where rising interest rates could pop a debt-fueled Wall Street bubble, gutting investment portfolios and consumer confidence, and causing "another long, deep downturn."

He offered some eye-watering numbers in a column in The Wall Street Journal on Thursday, warning that a drop in stock prices back to their historical averages from current dizzying heights would eliminate \$10 trillion of US household wealth, slashing consumer spending by about \$400 billion, and cutting two percentage points off GDP growth.

"Add in the effects on business investment, and this spending crunch would push the economy into recession," Feldstein wrote. Neither the Federal Reserve nor Congress are in a position to do much to respond, since there is little room to cut interest rates, and the gov-

ernment deficit and debt are high. Outside the United States, liabilities may also lurk under all the accumulated debt. Billionaire investor Stanley Druckenmiller warned that dollar-denominated borrowing by emerging markets, like Turkey, Argentina and others, meant they already are facing "a shrinkage of liquidity" as the US central bank raises interest rates.

The trigger

Federal Reserve rate hikes raise borrowing costs for companies and governments, particularly those with dollar-denominated debt, and those who need to refinance.

"My assumption is one of these hikes—I don't know which one is going to trigger this thing," Druckenmiller said, according to Business Insider. Ruchir Sharma, chief global

strategist at Morgan Stanley Investment Management, said: "The Fed's tightening is already rattling emerging markets." He worries that markets have grown "too big to fail," bloated by money which poured in following the 2008 meltdown as central banks tried to stabilize the system.

Central bank balance sheets went from \$5 trillion to \$17 trillion in the last decade, he wrote this month in The New York Times, swelling the value of global markets to \$290 trillion, or a record 360 percent of global Gross Domestic Product. Meanwhile, debt held by S&P 500 corporations has risen to 1.5 times earnings since 2010, near peaks that preceded past recessions.

The typical privately-held corporation purchased by private equity investors in that time is leveraged to six times earnings, twice what a

ratings agency would consider junk, according to Sharma. "When the American markets start feeling it, the results are likely to be very different from 2008 — corporate meltdowns rather than mortgage defaults, and bond and pension funds affected before big investment banks," he warned. Economist Joel Naroff told AFP the fading boost of December's tax cuts, combined with stagnant wage growth, could leave consumer spending "out of gas" in the next six to nine months.

With the housing market already soft, a slowdown in the real economy could be the first shoe to drop, he added, with debt-fueled market bubbles being the second. "My view is that the next recession will be an average recession," Naroff said, but added, "The worst-case scenarios are not unreasonable to project." — AFP

Brexit has cost Britain €500m a week: Study

LONDON: Britain's decision to leave the European Union has cost the government 500 million pounds (\$650 million) a week, wiping out for the moment any future savings from stopping payments to the bloc, according to a study published yesterday.

The economic impact of the Brexit vote has been the subject of intense debate, with supporters and opponents of leaving the EU seizing on positive and negative data to reinforce their case. The Centre for European Reform, a research group that focuses on the European Union, said the British economy is about 2.5 percent smaller than it would have been if the public have voted to remain in the bloc in June 2016. Its findings were based on the impact on the economy until the end of June 2018.

Public finances have been dented by 26 billion pounds a year, the equivalent of 500 million pounds a week and a figure that is growing, the group said <https://www.cer.eu/insights/cost-brexit-june-2018>. The Centre for European Reform, which describes itself as "pro-European but not uncritical", said it created a



BIRMINGHAM: Britain's Prime Minister Theresa May (right) walks with her husband Philip May (left) along the bridge from the hotel to the International Convention Centre in Birmingham, central England yesterday. — AFP

model of how Britain's economy could have performed had the campaign to remain in the EU won the referendum in 2016.

The group said its analysis was based on 22 advanced economies whose characteristics closely matched Britain and that did not vote to leave the EU. They then compared it with

Britain's actual economic performance since the vote. British economic growth in the first half of this year was the weakest for a six-month period since the second half of 2011 and companies were cutting investment, suggesting companies were taking a cautious approach before Brexit. — Reuters

Saudi says to eliminate deficit by 2023

RIYADH: Saudi Arabia said yesterday it expects to balance its budget by 2023, as oil prices rebound and the deficit-hit kingdom looks to diversify revenue. "The deficit is expected to continue to decline gradually over the medium term... until it reaches the fiscal balance by 2023," said Saad Alshahrani, head of the finance ministry's fiscal policy department, in a statement carried by the official Saudi Press Agency.

The kingdom—the world's top crude exporter—has posted budget deficits totalling more than \$260 billion (225 million euros) since the 2014 crash in oil prices. The shortfall came in at a preliminary 9.3 percent of gross domestic product in 2017, down from 17.2 percent in 2016, according to International Monetary Fund data.

Alshahrani said the government would continue to close the budget gap through

"structural reforms," including reassessing government spending and ensuring more Saudi citizens enter the employment market. Saudi Arabia has pushed an aggressive campaign to diversify its income sources in recent years, hiking fees on expatriate workers and raising fuel and electricity prices. It is also looking to replace foreigners with local hires, in a bid to contain welfare payments to citizens.

The Saudi economy took a turn for the better in the first half of 2018, as revenues jumped 67 percent, mainly due to a rise in oil prices.

But public spending rose 34 percent for the same period, according to official figures. In a report last month, the IMF recommended reducing the government wage bill, as part of measures to bring the deficit down to 1.7 percent of GDP in 2019.

Plans to list oil giant Aramco's shares on the stock market—which authorities said would raise \$100 billion—have stalled this year. Aramco's chief executive Amin Nasser on Sunday declined to confirm whether the firm still aimed to go public by 2020 but said the government was "committed" to the flotation in an interview with CNBC. — AFP

Business

VIVA recognized as 'Leading Corporate for Investor Relations in Kuwait 2018'

VIVA also third among best investor relations specialists in ME

KUWAIT: VIVA, Kuwait's fastest-growing and most developed telecom operator, is pleased to announce that it has been recognized as "Leading Corporate for Investor Relations in Kuwait" and third in the Middle East, during the Annual Awards Gala held in Dubai to reward the best investor relations specialists from Companies and Individuals in the Middle East Region. The Gala took place at the 10th annual conference of the Middle East Investor Relations Association "MEIRA" in presence of the biggest listed shareholding companies on the stock exchanges in the GCC and the Middle East Region. VIVA's CFO, Mohammed bin Abdulmohsen Al-Assaf, received VIVA's awards. In addition, Wassim El Hayek, Investor Relations Director at VIVA has won "Best Investor Relations Professional in Kuwait".

The Middle East Investor Relations Award is considered the biggest event focusing on the role and practices of the Investor Relations in the region. The leading companies applying the highest professional standards in investor relations are honored and awarded based on a survey prepared and launched by EXTEL Corporation about investor relations. This survey is conducted with a wide participation of the financial analysts and investors of the local & International investment companies and banks.

In this occasion, Eng Salman Bin Abdulaziz Al-Badran, VIVA's CEO said: "Since its incorporation, VIVA is committed, through its successful strategy, to play the leading role by applying the best practices and professional standards across all VIVA's sectors and departments that support its activities and plans. These awards reflect the efforts exerted by the executive management and Investor Relations Department to enhance communications and transparency with investment community and shareholders who proved their satisfaction with VIVA's performance in field of investor relations through fulfilling all investors' requirements such as meetings and inquiries about the VIVA's developments and its financial and operational per-



Eng Salman Bin Abdulaziz Al-Badran



Mohammed bin Abdulmohsen Al-Assaf

formance". He added: "The activations of Investor Relations Department's roles are an essential part of corporate governance principles which aiming to improve work environment, transparency and shareholders protection. VIVA is keen to apply all rules and regulations that are in line with our principles, values and professional standards to result to our shareholders' interests. Therefore we always seek to concentrate our efforts to achieve the best results through integrated professional team in timely and efficiently manner".

Mohammed Bin Abdulmohsen Al-Assaf, VIVA's CFO said: "Granting VIVA's Kuwait two Investor Relations Awards for the second time during the last three years and ranked for the first time as 3rd among all the listed companies in the MENA stock markets which is more than 1,000 company assures the leading role of VIVA amid the Kuwaiti listed companies through our excellency and success in developing investor relations, also by applying the best practices and professional standards to interact and



meet the needs of the Investment community over all of all segments of society both inside and outside Kuwait, in addition by extending and enhancing the communications tools and channels of the transparency. The awards prove effective and continuous outstanding efforts exerted by VIVA Investor Relations Department to respond for our investors' requirements to provide them with information through various communication channels. Both awards given to VIVA: the Leading Corporate for Investor Relations and the Best Investor relations Professional in Kuwait, is considered a great achievement if compared with the short period for launching Investor Relations Department's activities since 2015 and it reflects VIVA employees' efficiency, experience and sincerity to achieve the best results".

MEIRA's Chairman, Alex MacDonald Vitale said: "Across the Middle East, we have been seeing tremendous efforts to implement best practice in investor relations and corporate governance. In all categories, this year's award winners have demonstrated their unequivocal commitment to further advancing the quality of IR in the Middle East. This is also in part a reflection of the positive impact that MEIRA has had since inception one decade ago. Much has been achieved, and we could not be prouder to see the fruits of our work and celebrate the achievements of those who have proven to be true front-runners in their field. We look forward to continuing to support all MEIRA members and IR professionals in raising the bar and promoting the development of the region's capital markets."

Flydubai recognized at CEO Middle East Awards and the APEX Awards

KUWAIT: Dubai-based airline flydubai was recognized in the 'Aviation CEO of the Year' category at this year's CEO Middle East Awards. The award was collected by Ghaith Al-Ghaith, the airline's CEO. Launched in 2006, the CEO Middle East Awards are judged by an editorial panel and recognize the most successful and innovative CEOs in the Middle East.

This week, flydubai was also recognized for 'Best Cabin Innovation' and 'Best Passenger Comfort Innovation' held at the APEX Awards in Boston, USA. These awards highlight the new innovative Boeing 737 MAX 8 cabin interior which features a full flat-bed in Business Class and our economy seat is designed to optimize space and comfort for our passengers.

Commenting on the achievements, Ghaith Al-Ghaith, Chief Executive Officer at flydubai, said: "The flydubai team is pleased to receive these awards as they showcase our hard work towards continuously innovating and enhancing our passengers' travel experience. Since beginning operations in 2009, we have continued to open opportunities for travel and have firmly established flydubai as an intrinsic part of the aviation industry in the UAE."

Seven Boeing 737 MAX 8 aircraft have joined the flydubai fleet with seven more aircraft due to be delivered by the end of the year. The new aircraft will enhance flydubai's operational performance while offering passengers an exceptional travel experience. The new aircraft offers the latest in terms of cabin innovation and is an important milestone for the airline and is a reflection of our ambition to continually evolve and exceed the expectations of our passengers.

With the recent launch of flights to destinations including Catania, Krakow and Thessaloniki and with flights to Helsinki due to start in October, flydubai's comprehensive network has grown to over 90 destinations in 48 countries.

Sudan to print 100-pound banknotes to ease liquidity crunch

KHARTOUM: Sudan's central bank will start printing 100 pound banknotes for the first time to ease a liquidity crisis exacerbated by rampant inflation, state news agency SUNA said yesterday.

Sudan's economy has been struggling since the south of the sprawling northeast African country seceded in 2011, taking with it three-quarters of oil output and depriving Khartoum of a crucial source of foreign currency. In recent months local currency liquidity at commercial banks has dried up, with long queues outside of banks and daily withdrawal limits falling to as low as 500 Sudanese pounds (\$17.06) in some places.

The previous largest banknote in Sudan was 50 pounds. "Printing the 100-pound banknote is a step in the right direction, because the high inflation rate has dropped the value of the 50-pound banknote," Abdullah al-Ramadi, a Sudanese economist, said. The decision "will help solve the liquidity shortage that harmed the Sudanese economy and the central bank has to increase the money supply to overcome the liquidity crisis," Al-Ramadi added.

Restrictions on how much cash is available to commercial banks are among measures aimed at curbing rampant inflation and addressing an economic crisis that could derail President Omar al-Bashir's plan to extend his nearly three decades in power. — Reuters

Everyone gets to win with Al Mulla Exchange Online and App

KUWAIT: Al Mulla Exchange, the leading money remittance company in Kuwait, has launched an exciting online promotion yesterday titled 'Everyone wins with Al Mulla Exchange'.

Customers remitting through their online portal www.almullaexchange.com or using Al Mulla Exchange Remittance App will get a chance to win electronic items instantly every day.

Speaking about the marketing promotion, General Manager Al Mulla Exchange, R Shankar said 'The new promotion that we are launching today is indeed very unique. Customers get to win something each time they do a transaction. We are having the latest electronic gizmos as prizes to the customer. This includes the latest Samsung Note 9 mobile phones, Fitbit watches, 40 inch LED TVs, Anti-Theft bag, Samsung Gear Icon X, JBL Speakers, Alba Watches, Elements Hard Drive 2TB, Wireless Charging Pad and much more. Even for those who have not won the electronic items need not despair,

KFH: 10 customers win KD 250 each in 'Hesabi' for youth draw

KUWAIT: Kuwait Finance House (KFH) announced the winners of the fourth draw of "Hesabi" for Youth. The draw took place under the supervision of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry. The draw is part of Win with Hesabi campaign that offers 2 BMW 4 Series Coupes and 120 cash prizes worth KD 250.

The winners of the KD 250 prize are as follows: Ahmad Alshati, Bashayer Alkindari, Zainab Thaqil, Asmaa Alazemi, Maram Alrashidi, Sara Alduwaikh, Seita Alotaibi, Noor Alsaana, Mohammad Zaid and Maryam Alzayed.

KFH offers "Hesabi for Youth" with a variety of privileges as part of its continued endeavor to provide ade-



R Shankar

quate customer care, innovate new products and services and fulfill the needs of all customers of various age categories and interests. Services and products are tailored to suit customers' needs and provide distinguished serve as per global standards in regard to quality, accuracy and speed.

Hesabi" program has been designed to meet the needs of youth and aspire for their active life style. This program presents for youth many exclusive offers and a wide range of privileges including Hesabi ATM card with a unique design, eligibility to issue Hesab prepaid card (as per credit regulations of KFH), distinguished offers and discounts etc.

KFH continues to launch marketing campaigns to reward youth customers in Hesabi campaign namely "On My Account" campaign which has met with wide acceptance among program owners, thus offering exclusive offers and many privileges to suite their expectations.

Hesabi for Youth represents the ambitions and expectations of youth category and copes with KFH aspirations to attract the largest portion of youth who represents the major part of Kuwaiti society. Also, the account represents KFH initiative to diversify banking services and products.

Al-Tijari announces winner of Al-Najma new prize program

KUWAIT: Commercial Bank of Kuwait announced the winner of the weekly draw as follows:-

Weekly draw prize KD 5,000- Mohammed Hanef Abdul Rahman

The draw was conducted in the presence of Ministry of Commerce and Industry representative Ms Latifa Al-Jean. The bank stated that the account prizes this year is featured by the highest cash prize and diversity of prizes throughout the year clarifying that Al-Najma Account will offer weekly prize of KD 5,000 and monthly prize of KD 20,000 and a semi-annual prize of KD 500,000 in addition to the grand prize (the biggest prize in the world) of KD 1,500,000 for which the draw will be held in January 2019. Al-Najma Account can be opened by depositing KD 100, and customer should maintain a minimum amount of KD 500 to be eligible to enter all draws on Al-Najma Account prizes. As for the chances of winning, the more balance a customer maintains in Al Najma Account, the more chances the account holder will get to win, where each KD 25 will give the customer one chance to win, the account also offers additional benefits like the ATM card, a credit card against customer's account and all CBK banking services that customer can enjoy.

Now CBK existing customers can open Al-Najma Account through Al-Tijari Online and enter all draws without visiting the Bank's branch. However, CBK non-customers can submit an account opening application via the Bank's website where the Bank's Sales Unit will call them to arrange a visit to the customers to complete the account opening formalities.

Canada's race against time with US to reach NAFTA deal

MONETREAL: Will Canada and the United States thaw their unprecedented diplomatic chill and reach a deal to revamp the North American Free Trade Agreement by a US-imposed Sunday deadline? Ottawa is certainly working hard on it.

Foreign Minister Chrystia Freeland, Canada's chief NAFTA negotiator, opted to push back her planned Saturday speech before the UN General Assembly until Monday so she could concentrate on trade matters. Those talks are now in a crucial phase. Negotiators are racing against the clock because of a US-set deadline. The United States and Mexico want to push their deal through their respective legislatures before Mexican President-elect Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador takes office on December 1.

In the United States, Congress must have the text of the deal by Sunday if a 60-day review period is to be respected. In a surprise twist, Mexican Economy Minister Ildefonso Guajardo said Friday that Washington and Ottawa had told him they could reach a compromise on an updated trilateral agreement within "48 hours."

"For the first time, we're seeing a real effort by both sides," Guajardo added. US and Canadian negotiators were expected to work all weekend via secure video link. The Globe and Mail newspaper reported Saturday, citing sources in Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's administration and on the US industry side.

Tough talks US President Donald Trump has been pushing for a complete overhaul of the 25-year-old continental trade deal, which he says has been a "rip-off" for the United States. In August-more than a year into the negotiations-the United States and Mexico announced they had reached a two-way deal, after breaking away from bilateral talks on their outstanding issues. — AFP



KFH representatives after the draw

CLINIC PAGE



Kuwait Times

248 33 199

DR. MOHAMMAD AL HAJRY
Canadian Board of Otolaryngology
Head & Neck Surgery and Facial Plastics.
Fellow of Royal College of Surgeons-Canada
A rare Subspecialty in Microscopic Ear Surgery, Cochlear implant & Ear diseases

- ◆ Diagnosis/ Treatment of General Ears, Nose, and Throat conditions in adults & pediatrics
- ◆ Minimally invasive Endoscopic sinus surgery including Balloon sinuplasty
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- ◆ Diagnosis & treatment of snoring & obstructive sleep apnea in clinic without surgery
- ◆ Diagnosis & Treatment of voice and swallowing disorders
- ◆ Diagnosis & Treatment of Head and Neck benign & malignant tumors.

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DR. FAHAD S BUHAIMED
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- o Referee reviewer of International Journal of Dermatology.

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Dr. Ahmad Alaeddine
Head of Cardiology departmenta at Dar Al Shifa hospital

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- Specialised in the Diagnosis and treatment of all adult cardiac diseases, including those cases that need urgent intervention in Cath lab (primary angioplasty).

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- ◆ Member of the American Academy of Otolaryngology Head & Neck Surgery
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Dr. Hani Haider
General Surgery Consultant
http://www.international-clinic.com Tel: 1886677 ic_kwt

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- ◆ Gallstones & Abdominal Hernias Surgery
- ◆ Colonic Hydrotherapy & Fecal Incontinence Treatment
- ◆ Laparoscopic mini bypass
- ◆ Transanal minimally invasive surgery

Academic Certificates, Trainings & Fellowships:

- ◆ American Board of General Surgery
- ◆ Fellow of American College of Surgery
- ◆ Canadian Board of General Surgery
- ◆ Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians & Surgeons of Canada
- ◆ American Board of Colo - Rectal Surgery
- ◆ American Board of Surgical Critical Care

Dr. Abdullah Al Haddad
Surgery Department
Consultant General Surgery, Laparoscopic & Colo - Rectal Surgeon

مستشفى دار الشفاء Dar Al Shifa Hospital
Tele: 1802 555 @daralshifa Email: aalhaddad@daralshifa.com

DR. FAHAD AL-MUKHAIZEEM
Consultant Pediatrician

Consultant Pediatrician-Canadian & American Board in Pediatrics-Canadian Board in Pediatric Emergency

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

DR. WALEED S BUHAIMED
Consultant of General Surgery
Laposcopic and Bariatric Surgery

Academic Certificates - Training

- ◆ Kuwait Board of General Surgery.
- ◆ (IFSO) member .
- ◆ Faculty member of (BEST).
- ◆ Member of Kuwait Surgical Association.

Scope of clinical Practice.

- ◆ Bariatric surgeries.
- ◆ Gallbladder stones surgeries.
- ◆ Abdominal wall and hernia surgeries.
- ◆ G.I. surgeries.
- ◆ Thyroid and para - thyroid surgeries.
- ◆ Anal surgeries.

email: wbuhaimed@gmail.com Tel.: 965 22269411/ Mob.: 965 99212228 Jabriya, 4th Ring Road, Block 1A Floor 9 - Clover Center Mazaya Building

What's On



Farwaniya governor Sheikh Faisal Al-Humoud Al-Malik Al-Sabah received Ambassador of the State of Qatar Bandar Al-Attiya last week on the occasion of taking over his post. Issues of mutual interests were discussed. Sheikh Faisal Al-Humoud affirmed that Kuwait and Qatar have had a history of strong relations in all fields, and wished the new ambassador success.

Lulu Hypermarket launches 'Global Tastes 2018' food festival

Lulu Hypermarket, the leading retailer in the region, launched its Global Tastes 2018 food festival with a grand inauguration on September 27, 2018 at the hypermarket's Al-Rai outlet.

The event was inaugurated by celebrity chef Abdul Razak Elsaid in the presence of top Lulu management in Kuwait, and a large gathering of shoppers and well-wishers. Earlier, a preview of the promotion was inaugurated on September 26 at the Jahra outlet by celebrity chef Wafaa Alkandary.

The food festival, which runs from 26 September to 6 October in all Lulu Hypermarket branches in the country, is a wonderful opportunity for shoppers to taste international food delicacies and shop for global food products available at very special prices during the promotion period.

Special competitions and activities are being held at

the hypermarket's outlets during the 11-day 'Global Tastes 2018' food festival, including live cooking demos by celebrity chefs, junior cookery contests and junior chef contests.

By providing a sampling of foods from around the world, the 'Global Tastes 2018' food festival underlines

Lulu Hypermarket as the place 'where the world comes to shop'. The festival also reiterates the Hypermarket's commitment to interacting with their customers through attractive promotional campaigns throughout the year that offer shoppers the widest variety of quality products at very competitive prices.



OSN's exclusive shows win big at Emmy Awards

OSN, the region's leading entertainment network, celebrated with the best of Hollywood as shows exclusive to its network scooped Emmy's across the board at the 70th Primetime Awards ceremony, in Los Angeles, last night. With the biggest shows winning a host of golden statuettes, OSN, once again, proves to be the home of nowhere else entertainment bringing exhilarating, enthralling and exciting drama, comedy, action and reality-competition shows.

This was another incredible year for global series hit Game of Thrones, bagging a total of nine awards in the creative arts and telecast awards, including the highly-coveted Outstanding Drama Series award. All seven seasons of the show are currently available to watch on OSN Play and OSN On Demand. It was also a big night for Saturday Night Live, which airs across the region on OSN's OSN Series Comedy HD.

The long-running comedy show was nominated for 21 awards this year, winning eight including Outstanding Variety Sketch Series. 'SNL' has taken home 65 Emmy Awards over its nearly 44-year history - the most Emmys won by any series in TV history. The Assassination of Gianni Versace: American Crime Story took home the award for Outstanding Limited Series, and Outstanding Lead Actor in a Limited Series went to Darren Criss for his depiction of Andrew Cunanan in the mini-series. OSN is the exclusive home of all HBO content in the Middle East, and the network topped the tables winning an impressive 23 awards across the programming and creative arts categories, proving that OSN continues to be the only entertainment destination for the very best in award-winning shows. One of the biggest night's in the TV entertainment industry was broadcast live and exclusive on OSN Series HD First to audiences across the MENA region, bringing all the glitz, glamour and gossip from the red carpet.

Global Lounge reopens at Kuwait University

Global Investment House (Global), a regional asset management and investment banking company headquartered in Kuwait and located in the major capital markets of the Middle East and North African region, reopened the "Global Lounge" at the College of Business Administration at Kuwait University, Shuwaikh Campus. As Global has always believed in contributing and supporting the community especially the young generation, the company has successfully renovated the lounge and new equipment have been installed.

The opening ceremony took place on September 26, 2018, and was attended by executives from Global, officials from Kuwait University, and group of students who have appreciated and admired the newly renovated lounge being a convenient place and an appropriate environment to rest between their daily lectures and long studies. It also presents an opportunity for the students to meet, gather, and socialize with colleagues and friends.

Dr. Nayef Al-Shammari, Vice Dean for Student Affairs of Business Administration stated, "We are committed to enhance and develop the ability of students of the College towards what is best for them. Since 2004, Global has generously supported the college and sponsored the lounge with an appropriate environment for students to rest and relax during their breaks."

The "Global Lounge" design was a result of a competition launched by Global with students of Dr. Reem Dashti from College of Architecture at Kuwait University. Several teams participated in this initiative with tasks involving research to identify the needs of the students, developing concepts and creating design visuals. It is worth noticing that nine teams participated in this competition and the winning concept was selected through joint efforts of

Global and university students. Nora Irscheid and Malak Al-Suwailem won this competition and were granted the cash reward.

Sulaiman Mohammed Al-Rubaie, Chief Executive Officer of Global commented, "This is in line with the company's commitment towards the community and the lounge is just one of Global's contributions in this direction. Global's contribution to the students and the youth is not only limited to these lounges but extends to include raising the investment awareness among students through training and engaging them in practical applications."

Dr. Dashti commented, "I would like to thank Global for giving the students of the College of Architecture the opportunity to participate in such a practical project which is in line with what they learn and experience in their studies throughout the college life. I would also like to thank my students who participated in this project for their hard work, professionalism and competitiveness." Al-Rubaie concluded by thanking the College of Business Administration and the Advisory Committee for the outstanding students supervised by Ikhlas Abdullah for their cooperation with Global for more than 15 years. He also thanked the students who won the competition and all those who participated by presenting their ideas and designs but weren't lucky to win.



PAAET honors Al-Shatti for winning gold

Director General of Public Authority for Applied Education and Training (PAAET) Dr Ali Mudhaf honored student of the Higher Institute for Energy Ali Al-Shatti for winning the gold medal at the Asian games in attendance of Student Affairs Dean Dr Hussein Al-Mukaimi. Dr Al-Mudhaf said Al-Shatti's win is not only a source of pride for all PAAET students but also has made him a role model for the students to look up to.



BISF honors students

The Bangladesh Ideal Student Forum (BISF) awarded crest honors to Bangladeshi students for their good results at SSC and HSC levels. This award ceremony was held on September 28, 2018, at KIG Hall Farwaniya, Kuwait. Crests were provided to a total of fifty students based on their results.

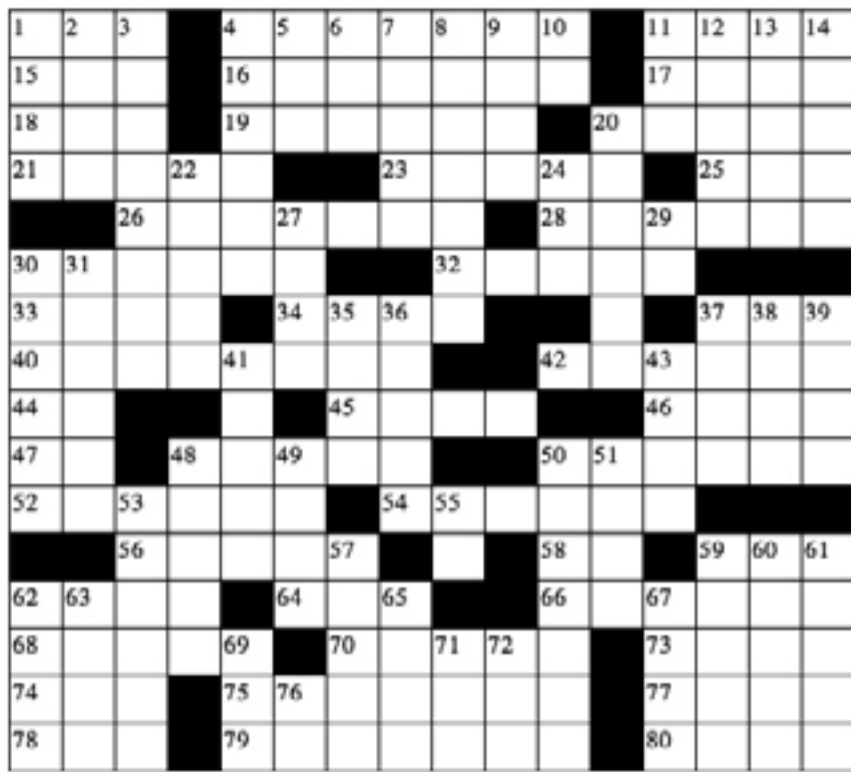
Special crests and gifts were given to the top six students. Among which were Nawal Mohammed Nazrul Islam with a score of 91.20, Solaiman Hafeez with a score of 91.00, Fatima Abdul Khalek with a score of 89.20, Maha Hafizul Islam with a score of 87.40, Nusrat Jahan Onu Kajol Mia with a score of 86.41, Jannat Akhtar Monir with a score of 82.20. The parents of the children were also present at the ceremony.

The ceremony began with the recitation of the Holy Quran. Abdur Rab Sardar, President of Bangladesh Quran Training Center was the chief guest, Hafez Nur Alam and Samsujoha were present as special guests. Shah Khaled Ahmed, Engineer Mosfikur Rahman, Engineer Nazrul Islam Zahir along with Asif Al-Abdullah gave speeches to the students. The program was managed by Sihab and directed by Rasheed Al Kabir Raihan and Yakub Ali. The program ended with a note of appreciation.



Stars

CROSSWORD 2022



ACROSS

- 1. The ratio of the distance traveled (in miles) to the time spent traveling (in hours).
4. East Indian cereal grass whose seed yield a somewhat bitter flour, a staple in the Orient.
11. A male monarch or emperor (especially of Russia prior to 1917).
15. The seat within a bishop's diocese where his cathedral is located adv.
16. The branch of medicine concerned with the ear.
17. An island of central Hawaii (between Molokai and Kauai).
18. To make a mistake or be incorrect.
19. The scene of any event or action (especially the place of a meeting).
21. Cold-water fish caught in Lake Superior and northward.
23. (statistics) Relating to or constituting the most frequent value in a distribution.
25. A river in north central Switzerland that runs northeast into the Rhine.
26. A consecrated ointment consisting of a mixture of oil and balsam.
28. God of war.
30. Ski downhill.
32. A state of northeastern India.
33. A professional cook.
34. The dynasty that ruled much of Manchuria and northeastern China from 947 to 1125.
40. Tropical and subtropical marine and freshwater fishes having an elongated body and long protruding lower jaw.
42. Officer in the (ceremonial) bodyguard of the British monarch.
44. Being nine more than ninety.
45. (used of count nouns) Every one considered individually.
46. A cord fastened around the neck with an ornamental clasp and worn as a necktie.
47. A gray lustrous metallic element of the rare earth group.
52. A percussion instrument consisting of a pair of hollow pieces of wood or bone (usually held between the thumb and fingers) that are made to click together (as by Spanish dancers) in rhythm with the dance.
54. Noisy quarrel.
56. Essential oil or perfume obtained from flowers.
58. Angular distance above the horizon (especially of a celestial object).
62. Primitive chlorophyll-containing mainly aquatic eukaryotic organisms lacking true stems and roots and leaves.
64. A workplace for the conduct of scientific research.
66. Foul with waste matter.
68. A native-born Israeli.
70. Tropical American tree grown in southern United States having a whitish pink-tinted fruit.
73. In or of the present month.
74. A benevolent aspect of Devi.
75. Of or relating to plants or botany.
77. A network of intersecting blood vessels or intersecting nerves or intersecting lymph vessels.
78. A small piece of cloth.
79. Capital of Swaziland.
80. The sixth month of the civil year.

DOWN

- 1. One thousandth of a second.
2. A beautiful and graceful girl.
3. English astronomer (son of William

- Herschel) who extended the catalogue of stars to the southern hemisphere and did pioneering work in photography (1792-1871).
4. A flag that shows its nationality.
5. A member of the Siouan people inhabiting the valleys of the Platte and Missouri rivers in Nebraska.
6. Mythical bird of prey having enormous size and strength.
7. The mission in San Antonio where in 1836 Mexican forces under Santa Anna besieged and massacred American rebels who were fighting to make Texas independent of Mexico.
8. The capital and largest city of Sri Lanka.
9. Advanced in years.
10. A Mid-Atlantic state.
11. A prominent rock or pile of rocks on a hill.
12. Large ornamental tropical American tree with bipinnate leaves and globose clusters of flowers with crimson stamens and sweet-pulp seed pods eaten by cattle.
13. Having the leading position or higher score in a contest.
14. Father of the storm gods Marut.
20. A non-aromatic saturated hydrocarbon with the general formula CnH(2n+2).
22. Blow hard and loudly.
24. The residue that remains when something is burned.
27. A small island.
29. A colorless and odorless inert gas.
31. Grayish baboon of southern and eastern Africa.
35. The United Nations agency concerned with atomic energy.
36. Jordan's port.
37. (Roman mythology) God of love.
38. An island in Indonesia east of Java.
39. Type genus of the Anatidae.
41. Any of several large deciduous trees with rounded spreading crowns and smooth gray bark and small sweet edible triangular nuts enclosed in burs.
43. Be obedient to.
48. An Arab country on the peninsula of Qatar.
49. Any of numerous local fertility and nature deities worshipped by ancient Semitic peoples.
50. A short introductory essay preceding the text of a book.
51. The basic unit of money in Western Samoa.
53. A motley assortment of things.
55. A state in southeastern United States between the Atlantic and the Gulf of Mexico.
57. An Indian side dish of yogurt and chopped cucumbers and spices.
59. (of complexion) Blemished by imperfections of the skin.
60. Follower of Rastafarianism.
61. Cause to change.
63. A Tibetan or Mongolian priest of Lamaism.
65. Divulge information or secrets.
67. A genus of Mustelidae.
69. A defensive missile designed to shoot down incoming intercontinental ballistic missiles.
71. (Irish) Mother of the ancient Irish gods.
72. A unit of time equal to 60 seconds or 1/60th of an hour.
76. A Russian river.

Yesterday's Solution



STAR TRACK



Aries (March 21-April 19)

The exchange of ideas is very important to you. You wish to surround yourself with like-minded individuals. Those that have different outlook on life are not tolerable to you now.



Taurus (April 20-May 20)

Let your hair down and take a drive. A horseback ride would be even better. Turn the music up loud and throw your cares out of the window.



Gemini (May 21-June 20)

This is day that all that is different and unusual seem to appeal to you. Dress for your mood! Grab attention. Laugh out loud. This is a day to let your wild side come out and play.



Cancer (June 21-July 22)

You may find your life taking on a kind of mystical quality on the emotional and instinctive levels. Dreams and illusions, forgiveness and understanding of human frailties are the things that arouse deep feelings.



Leo (July 23-August 22)

When you hear the phone ring today, answer it. You have a friend in need and you are just the person to help them out. You are understanding. There is no issue too personal that your friend feels they can not discuss with you.



Virgo (August 23-September 22)

You will make a new acquaintance today. Don't assume the person is insignificant. There may be connections or influence here that will lead to opportunities for you.



Libra (September 23-October 22)

Your creativity is at an all-time high. Not only are you able to express yourself, you are able to do it with a flair that catches the attention of all. How dare anyone tell you something can't be done! This is a time not only will you prove them wrong by doing it, your results will be over the top.



Scorpio (October 23-November 21)

Don't skip out on your responsibilities even though you may be tempted. Seems as if a party is calling your name. You may regret choosing fun over your duties. This is not a good time for you to break any old molds and develop new patterns.



Sagittarius (November 22-December 21)

Today is a great day to just go with the flow. Go ahead and take advantage of opportunities that present themselves to you. Don't be surprised if taking a chance brings great reward.



Capricorn (December 22-January 19)

Let your hair down and take a drive. A horseback ride would be even better. Turn the music up loud and throw your cares out of the window.



Aquarius (January 20- February 18)

Close relationships take on more emotional depth, power and importance in your world now. You feel as if you are needed and cared for. When these two feelings are missing you automatically have a feeling of uneasiness come over you.



Pisces (February 19-March 20)

You are being noticed in the workplace. It may become very obvious to your superiors at work that you are talented beyond the title you hold. You may find that you are in line for a promotion or you will be assigned a special project due to your leadership abilities.

Wordsearch Puzzle

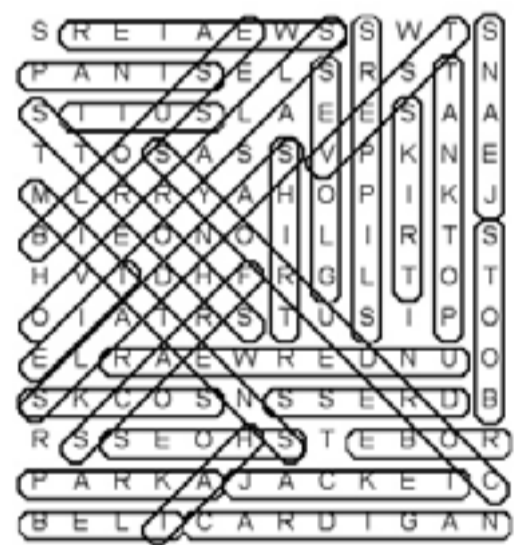
Comedy Movies 1

Find and circle all of the comedy movies that are hidden in the grid. The remaining letters spell an additional comedy movie.



- ALL OF ME, ANNIE HALL, BASE, BEING THERE, BIG, BOB ROBERTS, BULL DURHAM, CARS, CAT BALLOU, CITY SLICKERS, CLERKS, CLUELESS, DUCK SOUP, ELECTION, FLETC, GHOSTBUSTERS, HAPPY GILMORE, HARVEY, HOLIDAY, HOTSHOTS, LEGALLY BLONDE, LIAR LIAR, LOCAL HERO, MALLRATS, MANHATTAN, MEATBALLS, MOONSTRUCK, OH, GOO!, PLAZA SUITE, REPO MAN, RUSHMORE, SHREK, SLACKER, SLAP SHOT, SLEEPER, THE RUTLES, TODDSEE, TRACING PLACES, UNCLE BUCK, YES MAN

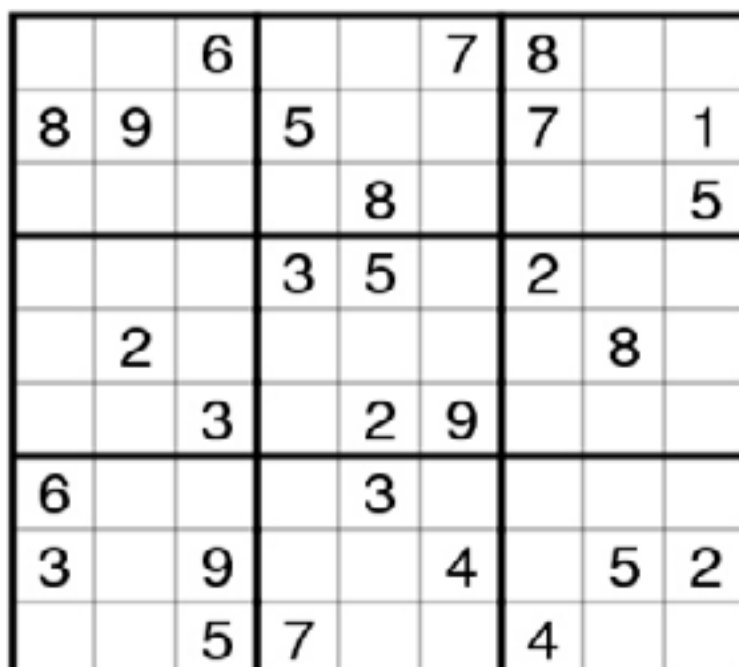
Clothing



- BELT, BLOUSE, BOOTS, CARDIGAN, CORDUROYS, DRESS, GLOVES, HAT, JACKET, JEANS, MITTENS, OVERALLS, PANTS, PARKA, ROBE, SANDALS, SCARF, SHIRT, SHOES, SHORTS, SKIRT, SLIPPERS, SOCKS, SUIT, SWEATER, TANK TOP, TIE, UNDERWEAR, VEST

The hidden clothing item is: SWEATSHIRT

Daily SuDoku



Yesterday's Solution



Lifestyle

MONDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2018



Hot air balloons take off above the tourist site of Rocamadour, southwestern France, on September 29, 2018, during the '33rd Montgolfiades', which brought together nearly 30 balloons. — AFP

Saudi Arabia embraces yoga in pivot towards 'moderation'

In a sparse, wood-floored studio, Saudi women squat, lunge and do headstands. Even a year ago, teaching these yoga postures could have rendered them outlaws in the conservative Islamic kingdom. Widely perceived as a Hindu spiritual practice, yoga was not officially permitted for decades in Saudi Arabia, the cradle of Islam where all non-Muslim worship is banned. But with Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman vowing an "open, moderate Islam", the kingdom last November recognized yoga as a sport amid a new liberalization drive that has sidelined religious hardliners.

Spearheading efforts to normalize yoga in the kingdom is Nouf Marwaai, a Saudi woman who has battled insults and threats from extremists to challenge the notion that yoga is incompatible with Islam. "I have been harassed, (and) sent a lot of hate messages," said the 38-year-old head of the Arab Yoga Foundation, which has trained hundreds of yoga instructors in the kingdom. "Five years ago, this (teaching yoga) would have been impossible," added Marwaai, as she began training a cluster of women students at a private studio in the Red Sea city of Jeddah. Hanging up their body-shrouding abayas and headscarves, the women stretched in unison in an arching warrior pose known as "virabhadrasana".

Arms outstretched, their bodies folded into a 180-degree backward bending posture known

as "chakrasana", or wheel pose. In a country where women have long been denied the right to exercise publicly, the students—some of whom regularly attend yoga retreats in India—said the exercise had transformed their lives. Ayat Samman, a 32-year-old health educator, said yoga helped alleviate her lifelong struggle with fibromyalgia, a chronic pain disorder that often left her bedridden. Yoga also works as therapy, the women said, helping them vent bottled up emotions and tackle a woefully common ailment—depression. "It just opened me up like a water balloon," said Yasmin Machri, 32. "After my first class... I started breaking down and crying."

“
Five years ago, this (teaching yoga) would have been impossible

Religious outreach

In just a few months since yoga's recognition, a new industry of yoga studios and instructors has sprouted in various Saudi cities. That includes Mecca and Medina, Islam's holiest cities, Marwaai said. Prince Mohammed, the de facto ruler, has sought to project a moderate image of the kingdom, long associated with a fundamentalist strain of Wahhabi Islam, with a new push for inter-religious exchange. Saudi Arabia in recent months has hosted officials linked to the Vatican and the prince also met a group of Roman Catholic and Jewish leaders in New York earlier this year, in a rare inter-faith gesture. "The prince's outreach to other religions



Saudi women practice yoga at a studio in the western Saudi Arabian city of Jeddah. — AFP photos

is apparent in the interfaith gatherings and the new enthusiasm for Saudi Arabia's pre-Islamic heritage," said Kristin Diwan, of the Arab Gulf States Institute in Washington. For decades, Saudi rulers derived much of their legitimacy from their alliance with a clerical establishment that pushed a puritanical vision of Islam.

But the prince appears to have upturned the system, seeking instead to tap support from the kingdom's swelling youth base through a surge of nationalism and a much-hyped modernization drive. Saudi columnists have openly called for

abolishing the once-feared religious police as the kingdom introduces entertainment, including mixed-gender concerts, and re-opens cinemas after a decades-long ban.

Prominent hardline Salafist clerics with millions of followers on social media have been jailed, with some on death row, as the crown prince clamps down on dissent. "The religious networks which once led campaigns against more liberal ideas appear cowed, but new practices like yoga are always subject to ad-hoc attacks," Diwan said.

'Nothing to do with religion'

Yoga is still regarded as a deviant practice in conservative circles, sometimes associated with witchcraft, and Marwaai's students say they often confront accusations of betraying their religion. "I receive messages through social media asking: 'Are you a Hindu? Did you turn into a Hindu?'" said Budur Al-Hamoud, a recruitment specialist. "Yoga has nothing to do with religion. It's a sport... It does not interfere with my faith." Yoga is seen at odds with several other faiths, but the recognition of the practice in Saudi Arabia—the epicenter of the Islamic world—appears to have given a new impetus to Muslim yoga practitioners around the world.

Marwaai is taking on conservatives not just in the kingdom but also India, the birthplace of yoga where clerics last year slapped a fatwa, or religious edict, against a female Muslim yoga teacher just days before the kingdom recognized the sport. In a shrill Indian television debate, Marwaai—a lupus survivor and recently awarded the Padma Shri, one of India's highest civilian honors—calmly sought to reason with Muslim clerics who hurled insults at her. The clerics were particularly opposed to "Surya Namaskar", a yoga sequence designed to greet Surya, the Hindu sun god, and the chanting of Hindu mantras. "It is not the worshipping of the sun and the moon," Marwaai responded as tempers frayed, denying they engaged in chanting. Unconvinced, a cleric said the set of physical movements in the Muslim prayer ritual offered enough exercise. The slow meditation does not increase the metabolic rate, Marwaai retorted. "Prophet Mohammed used to race with his wife." — AFP



A Saudi woman practices yoga.



Saudi women practice yoga.



Nouf Marwaai, 38, the head of the Arab Yoga Foundation, helps Budur Al-Hamoud with a yoga pose at her studio.



Yasmin Machri practices at a studio.



This picture shows a participant at a "Fashion Clinic" workshop mending his old jeans. — AFP photos



Participants at a "Fashion Clinic" workshop learning how to mend garments.



Hong Kong's new fight against fast fashion

Despite Hong Kong's reputation for rampant consumerism, a nascent movement against fast fashion is taking root in the city, with clothes-mending workshops and pop-up swaps growing in popularity, and designers parading recycled fabrics on the catwalk. From broken umbrellas to discarded curtains, no material is too shabby for designer Jesse Lee, who showcased his creations at a recent sustainable fashion show in Hong Kong. Lee realized that humble household goods could be the springboard for creativity when his family was throwing out an old sofa.

He turned the sofa's leather cover into a jacket and has since made clothes from old curtains and bed linen, as well as a raincoat using umbrella fabric. Lee also tries to make his designs unisex and adjustable so they can be easily shared. "If you don't feel like wearing this, you can give it to others and it doesn't matter if it is a boy or a girl," Lee told AFP. Global consumers purchased 60 percent more clothing in 2016 than in 2000 and only kept each item half as long, a report by McKinsey consultancy found.

Hong Kong alone sends 343 tons of textiles to the city's overloaded landfills every day and a 2016 report by Greenpeace found a sixth of clothes owned by residents were seldom or never worn after purchase. But Lee and others like him are hoping to capitalize on rising consumer awareness as shoppers become more conscious of the human

and environmental cost of fast fashion after high-profile scandals like the deadly 2013 collapse of a building in Bangladesh that housed several garment factories.

The tragedy, one of the worst industrial accidents in modern history, sparked global outrage and triggered a drive among activists to encourage shoppers to buy from local stores, rather than from large multinational fast fashion brands. Christina Dean, founder of Redress, says the tide is slowly turning and describes the industry as at a tipping point. The Hong Kong-based charity works to reduce fashion waste and hosted the recent show where Lee displayed his creations, alongside other designers who transformed vintage kimonos and bridalwear samples and even used silicone and rubber. "Many people are turning their backs and saying 'I have more clothes than I can possibly wear,'" she told AFP.

A stitch in time

Shocked by the volume of clothing and the pollution produced by major brands, Hong Kong designers Kay Wong and Toby Crispy founded "Fashion Clinic" to help people mend garments. They set up pop-up stalls at clothing stores providing repair and reshaping services and also hold workshops teaching basic needlework. "Fast fashion makes people dispose of their clothes so easily, because clothes are too cheap and it seems to cost nothing to toss out the old ones," Wong told AFP.

"After they learn stitching, they can repair many things, like worn-out shirts or socks," Wong said.

Jack Lam, 31, was learning to sew patches onto his torn jeans at a recent workshop, as curious shoppers looked on. "The patches look like new embellishments," he told AFP, adding that the jeans were now more valuable to him because he had fixed them himself.

Spinning yarn

While repair clinics, clothes swaps and second-hand shops are all doing their bit, some want to address the waste problem on an industrial scale. A cutting-edge "upcycling" spinning mill that turns discarded clothes into new yarns will go into full operation in the city in October, developed by the Hong Kong Research Institute for Textiles and Apparel (HKRITA). The 1,765 square-meter (19,000 square-foot) factory will sterilize, sort and turn used textiles into fresh fibre, processing three tonnes of textile waste each day.

Six workers will remove zips and buttons and categorize the fabrics before machines carry out automated color sorting and re-spinning. Mixed-fibre clothing will go through a high-tech treatment to separate the different elements. Edwin Keh, CEO of HKRITA, said the recycled yarn will be "as good as virgin materials", while the selling price will be 30 percent lower. The factory launch comes as mainland China moves to ban the import of most solid waste, including textile scraps, put-



A model on a catwalk wearing a jacket designed and made with material from discarded umbrellas.

ting pressure on Hong Kong to find new ways to deal with its trash. "Whereas China doesn't want to import other people's rubbish, they are very happy with importing yarns and fibres, so that's what we are going to do," Keh said. Keh hopes the new mill will serve as an inspiration for other cities. "If in a crowded city like Hong Kong we have come up with this solution to deal with our own waste, any city in the world should be able to have that kind of local solution." — AFP



PARIS NAMES ITS FIRST STREET AFTER A FASHION DESIGNER



In a city yet to name a back alley after Coco Chanel, Parisians stepped out yesterday to do their organic shopping at a street market named after fashion designer Sonia Rykiel. Hours earlier the city's mayor Anne Hidalgo—something of a fashionista herself—had declared Allee Sonya Rykiel open, with her label staging its Paris fashion week show between the twinkling lights of the market stalls. The "allee" is in the middle of a grand Left Bank boulevard where the late designer, who died in 2016, did her fruit and vegetable shopping. It is the first time the French capital has named any kind of thoroughfare after a fashion designer.

To celebrate, Rykiel's successor Julie de Libran staged a chi-chi Parisian market-themed show, with her models carrying baguettes or popping out for a bit of broccoli in lace nighties and a techno trenchcoats. The collection, with dresses inspired by the "petit filet" string shopping bags that are de rigueur among Paris' hipster "bobos", had a Saturday night-Sunday morning feel, with a cute terrier on a lead and De Libran's young son and his Labrador pup making a cameo. "Sonia Rykiel gave us a taste for freedom, she was the

most Parisian of Parisians," said Hidalgo. Indeed the designer opened her first shop a stone's throw away in Saint Germain des Pres just as French students rose up in revolt in May 1968.

But the authorities in the French capital would not be drawn on whether there were any plans for a Boulevard Karl Lagerfeld or Avenue Christian Dior. A street named after Chanel would be politically tricky in a city which mostly votes for the left because of the designer's "horizontal collaboration" during the Nazi occupation. Chanel spent much of the war in the Ritz hotel with her lover, German intelligence officer Baron Hans Gunther von Dinklage. — AFP



Models hold shopping bags at the end of the Sonia Rykiel Spring-Summer 2019 Ready-to-Wear collection fashion show in Paris. —AFP photos





Models present creations by Elie Saab during the Spring-Summer 2019 Ready-to-Wear collection fashion show in Paris.



Lifestyle | Features



In this file photo Rapper Kanye West (left) and TV personality Kim Kardashian attend The 57th Annual GRAMMY Awards at the STAPLES Center in Los Angeles, California. — AFP photos

KANYE WEST IS NOW YE, BUT UNCHANGED ON BACKING TRUMP



This file photo shows US singer Kanye West (right) and then-president-elect Donald Trump speaking with the press after their meetings at Trump Tower in New York.

Kanye West has decided that he now wants to be called Ye. But on political matters, nothing has changed for the pro-Trump rapper. “The being formally (sic) known as Kanye West. I am Ye,” he wrote on Twitter. Ye has long been a nickname for West, along with Yeezy, and he chose “Ye” as the title of his last album. He has previously said that he found a spiritual significance to “Ye”—the plural or formal version of the second-person pronoun in Middle English—as he so frequently read it in the Bible.

West—or, rather, Ye—announced the name change shortly before he appeared on “Saturday Night Live,” the widely watched television skit show. He performed with fellow rapper Lil Pump dressed as water bottles, drawing an overwhelmingly negative reaction on social media where a number of professed fans questioned his creative direction. West closed the show by singing a track off “Ye” while wearing one of President Donald Trump’s signature red “Make America Great Again” caps.

After the live show ended, West stayed on the microphone and gave an impromptu speech about politics,

again voicing his support for the president. “So many times I talk to a white person about this and they say, ‘How could you like Trump? He’s racist,’” West said, according to footage posted on Instagram by comedian Chris Rock. “Well, if I was concerned about racism, I would have moved out of America a long time ago.” He also accused the rival Democratic Party of seeking to keep people dependent on welfare payments and repeated his interest in running for president himself in 2020 — when Trump would face re-election.

His speech was met with a smattering of applause but louder booing from the New York audience. West has stunned fans by becoming one of the few celebrities—as well as one of the only prominent African Americans—to support Trump. West went to visit Trump in 2016 shortly after the rapper disappeared to seek mental health treatment. His wife, reality television star Kim Kardashian, has gone twice to see Trump at the White House. West recently promised that a new album, called “Yahndi,” would come out on Saturday but no work immediately appeared. — AFP

US museum unveils massive expansion in praise of ‘slow art’

It may be the greatest art collection you’ve never heard of—until now. With a sprawling gallery space opening Thursday in a prosperous suburb of Washington, Glenstone has become one of the world’s biggest private art museums. At a time when museums are courting Instagram-hungry crowds and visitors have to elbow each other to catch a glimpse, Glenstone has carefully choreographed a journey in the opposite direction as part of its \$200 million expansion.



A view of the Pavilions, a new building at the Glenstone Museum, combining art, architecture and landscape, during a media preview in Potomac.



A man walks past artist Andy Warhol’s ‘Large Flowers,’ as he tours the Pavilions.

Birdsong and crickets provide the soothing cadence to the 10-minute walk from the parking lot to the new building, along a gravel path carved into rolling hills dotted with wildflowers, sycamore and oak trees. “Split Rocker,” a giant flower-covered sculpture by the equally polarizing and famous Jeff Koons is perched atop a hill gazing toward the 204,000-square-foot (19,000-square-meter) Pavilions complex.

A water court of aquatic plants ringed by walls of glass provides the beating heart of the Thomas Phifer-designed building, flooded with natural light and shaped with individually poured blocks of gray concrete. The Pavilions’ 11 interconnected structures are embedded into the 230 acres (93 hectares) of this former foxhunting estate. “It’s all very carefully calibrated to allow for that prolonged experience,” said director Emily Rales, 42, who co-founded Glenstone with her husband Mitchell, a 62-year-old billionaire industrialist.

In an interview, she spoke of their “personal quest to find those quiet moments where you can really sit with a work of art and not feel rushed or pressured to move on.” The setting provides an experience that changes with the seasons and from dawn to dusk in what remains the Raleses’ (tax-exempt) backyard. Glenstone’s collection of post-World War II art is considered to be one of the best, including works by Louise Bourgeois, Roni Horn and Richard Serra, who has two

torqued steel sculptures on the grounds. In a radical departure from most other museums, the walls are barren of explanatory texts and some rooms have just a single work of art. Gray-uniformed guides, many of them in a young professionals training program, politely engage visitors in discussions about what lies before their eyes.

‘Here for you’
Brice Marden’s majestic “Moss Sutra with the Seasons” (2010-2015) — his only commissioned work—stands alone in a space designed in collaboration with the artist. Lit through clerestory windows, the painting features four monochrome panels inspired by seasonal colors, while a larger one in the center reveals mossy green calligraphic squiggles typical of Marden’s later years. A square, skylit room presents On Kawara’s “Moon Landing,” three large-scale black canvases each indicating in white script a key date during the July 1969 Apollo 11 lunar landing mission.

“We have made this commitment to artists by saying, look, we know that what you’re asking is



A visitor looks at “Untitled,” by artist Keith Haring, at the Pavilions, a new building at the Glenstone Museum, combining art, architecture and landscape, during a media preview in Potomac, Maryland.

tremendous and it’s difficult to do, but we’re here for you and we will do whatever we can to realize that vision for you,” explained Emily Rales, who studied art history at prestigious Wellesley College before directing New York’s Gladstone Gallery.

“That is very valuable for an artist working today.” There were 70 meetings with Robert Gober and his studio about his 1992 “Untitled” installation of large sinks with open taps set against a woodlands wallpaper with barred windows. Newspapers are strewn about the floor.

‘Champion of the underdog’
On the tombstone of Mitchell Rales’ father, a man who rose from a hardscrabble childhood in an orphanage to become a successful businessman, reads the inscription “Champion of the Underdog.” Glenstone espouses that same motto by presenting works the Raleses dub as “challenging.” The building’s largest room takes visitors on a trip through art history from 1943 to 1989 with 65 works by 52 artists.

Pulled from Glenstone’s holdings of some 1,300 pieces, they feature many women artists as well as less familiar works. There’s Abstract Expressionism and Japan’s Gutai, Brazil’s Neo-Concrete, Arte Povera, Minimalism and post-Minimalism. Works by Lygia Clark and Akira Kanayama can be seen near household names like Jackson Pollock and Mark Rothko.

In a separate gallery, visitors can take in a framed view of a hillside while sitting on a softly curved maple bench inviting quiet contemplation at nature’s altar. Glenstone has been open since 2006, but only received 10,000 visitors in its first seven years using a much smaller space designed by architect Charles Gwathmey. It can now accommodate up to 100,000 people a year, though it is initially limiting visits to 400 per day four days a week, with free online reservations required. — AFP



Visitors tour artist Michael Heizer’s “Collapse,” a sculpture of 15 steel beams arranged in a 16-foot-hole (4.9-meter), as they tour the Pavilions.

New York festival urges aid, equality amid security panic

The music and political worlds joined together Saturday to press for development aid, gender equality and voter participation, with a festival in New York’s Central Park marred by a security scare. An unofficial closing event following a week of hectic diplomacy at the UN General Assembly, the Global Citizen festival hands out free tickets to fans who pledge to take actions such as petitioning their governments to support efforts to end the most extreme global poverty.



US rapper Cardi B performs onstage during the 2018 Global Citizen Festival: Be The Generation in Central Park. — AFP

Halfway through an evening headlined by The Weeknd and Janet Jackson, panic erupted as fans shouted, “Gunsshots!” after hearing what was later revealed to be a falling barricade. Hundreds of spectators raced to leave, trampling over one another as they tried to squeeze through fences. Many lost their shoes and bags and some, including at least one child, were briefly separated from their companions, AFP journalists at the scene said. “We were trying to tell people to get up, get up, because we were crushing people under us,” said Paris Anthony, one of the fans. Fifteen people were hurt but all injuries were minor, a police spokesman said.

As Coldplay frontman Chris Martin took the microphone to encourage calm, numerous fans were in tears and others left entirely, with the audience notably thinner when the music resumed. The scare came almost one year to the day after a massacre of 58 people at a country music festival in Las Vegas.

Encouraging voting

In its seventh year at Central Park, Global Citizen—like this year’s General Assembly—paid tribute to anti-apartheid icon Nelson Mandela, who would have turned 100 in 2018. Global Citizen plans a major festival dedicated to Mandela and his anti-poverty vision on December 2 in Johannesburg headlined by Beyoncé and Jay-Z. While primarily focused on the

developing world, the latest Central Park festival also zeroed in on the United States—encouraging voters to turn out for November 6 midterm elections, in which President Donald Trump’s Republican Party risks losing control of Congress.

Cardi B, the fast-rising rapper who was performing her first concert since giving birth in June, urged young people to pay attention. “Last election, everybody took it as a joke—even me, I’m not gonna front. Because I thought, man, that person ain’t gonna win. And look where we’re at,” the 25-year-old Bronx native said in reference to Trump. Also rallying voters were screen legend Robert De Niro and, through a video message, former first lady Michelle Obama. “Voting is how we tell our government what we want, and what we don’t want. Put it another way—voting is how we hire and we fire our leaders!” De Niro said. In an unexpectedly timely appearance, US senators Jeff Flake and Chris Coons jointly addressed the festival to pledge bipartisan cooperation to preserve foreign assistance—which Trump wants to cut drastically.

Flake, a centrist Republican, a day earlier triggered a vote delay and FBI probe over sexual misconduct allegations against Trump’s Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh. The senator was visibly moved after women confronted him in an elevator and demanded he pay attention to their experiences with sexual assault. Flake was greeted at Global Citizen with cheers followed by a crowd chant of, “He’s the one who has the vote.” A smiling Flake said: “Feel free to join me in an elevator anytime.”

Pledges from Ireland, Norway

Officials attending Global Citizen put a priority on promoting equality for women and girls—seen as a critical front in the battle to eradicate extreme poverty. Norway said it would contribute a much-needed \$360 million to the Global Financing Facility, a World Bank-backed fund to support maternal and children’s health. “Let’s call on the governments of the world to join us. Let’s call on them to beat us,” said Nikolai Astrup, Norway’s Minister for International Development. Ireland’s deputy prime minister, Simon Coveney, announced that his country by 2030 would join the small club of nations to meet the UN goal of spending 0.7 percent of gross national income on foreign assistance.

Coveney said Ireland would spend at least 250 million euros (\$290 million) in the next five years on global education with a focus on easing the gender gap. Janet Jackson—playing a politically charged set that opened with her anti-racism song “The Skin Game” and included simulated domestic violence—told the crowd that she herself was well aware of physical and other abuse. “I am sick, I am repulsed, I am infuriated by the double standards that continue to treat women as second-class citizens,” Jackson said to applause. — AFP



US singer-songwriter Janelle Monae performs onstage during the 2018 Global Citizen Festival: Be The Generation in Central Park.



Serena Williams attends the 5th Annual Imagine Ball Honoring Serena Williams Benefiting Imagine LA Presented by John Terzian & Val Vogt at The Peppermint Club in Los Angeles, California. — AFP

Topless, singing Serena sparks internet breast cancer stir

Tennis superstar Serena Williams caused an internet sensation Sunday by posing topless for a video while singing “I Touch Myself” to raise awareness for breast cancer. In the Instagram video, Williams covers her breasts with her hands while singing a version of Australian band The Divinyls’ 1991 hit in support of Breast Cancer Network Australia. “This Breast Cancer Awareness Month I’ve recorded a version of The Divinyls’ global hit ‘I Touch Myself’ to remind women to self-check regularly,” wrote Williams on the post. “Yes, this put me out of my comfort zone, but I wanted to do it because it’s an issue that affects all women of all colors, all around the world. Early detection is key—it saves so many lives.”

The song was co-written by Divinyls Australian vocalist Chrissy Amphlett who died of breast cancer five years ago aged 53. “The music video is part of the I Touch Myself Project which was created in honor of celebrated diva. Chrissy Amphlett, who passed away from breast cancer, and who gave us her hit song to remind women to put their health first,” said the 23-time Grand Slam champion. The video was viewed more than 1.3 million times in the first 10 hours after it was posted early Sunday with fans lauding the tennis superstar for her bravery in performing the song. “Amazing Serena, important message and such a beautiful voice!” wrote one under the username deedpaula.

Another alshaze47 commented: “This is powerful!! I’m a Breast cancer survivor!!” The video appeared less than three weeks after her tempestuous US Open final defeat to Naomi Osaka, where Williams smashed a racquet and accused an umpire of sexism. Williams, who celebrated her 37th birthday four days ago, pulled out of this week’s China Open in Beijing to bring a premature end to her 2018 season, her first back on tour since giving birth to a daughter a year ago. — AFP

Classifieds

Monday, October 1, 2018

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Expected Weather for the Next 24 Hours

BY DAY: Hot with light to moderate north westerly wind to light variable wind, with speed of 08 - 32 km/h.

BY NIGHT: Fair with light variable wind becoming light to moderate north westerly wind, with speed of 06 - 28 km/h.

WEATHER WARNING			No Current Warnings	
STATION	MAX. EXP.	MIN. REC.	SFC. CHART 30/09/2018 0000 UTC	
KUWAIT CITY	42 °C	32 °C		
KUWAIT AIRPORT	42 °C	24 °C		
ABDALY	42 °C	25 °C		
BUBYAN	** °C	** °C		
JAHRA	42 °C	28 °C		
FAILAKA ISLAND	41 °C	29 °C		
SALMIYAH	41 °C	32 °C		
AHMADI	37 °C	32 °C		
NUWAISIB	40 °C	26 °C		
WAFRA	42 °C	23 °C		
SALMY	40 °C	24 °C		

4 DAYS FORECAST						
DAY	DATE	WEATHER	Temperatures		Wind Direction	Wind Speed
			MAX.	MIN.		
Monday	10/01	Hot	41 °C	25 °C	NW-VRB	08 - 32 km/h
Tuesday	10/02	Hot and Relatively humid specially over coastal areas	41 °C	22 °C	VRB-SE	08 - 30 km/h
Wednesday	10/03	Hot	44 °C	24 °C	NW-VRB	08 - 32 km/h
Thursday	10/04	Hot with a chance for rising dust over open areas	44 °C	26 °C	NW	12 - 42 km/h

PRAYER TIMES	
Fajr	04:21
Sunrise	05:40
Zuhr	11:38
Asr	15:02
Sunset	17:36
Isha	18:52

RECORDED YESTERDAY AT KUWAIT AIRPORT	
MAX. Temp.	42 °C
MIN. Temp.	24 °C
MAX. RH	28 %
MIN. RH	07 %
MAX. Wind	NW 32 km/h
TOTAL RAINFALL IN 24 HR.	0 mm

Hospitals

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

Clinics

Kaizen center	25716707
Rawda	22517733
Adaliya	22517144
Khaldiya	24848075
Kaifan	24849807
Shamiya	24848913
Shuwaikh	24814507
Abdullah Salem	22549134
Nuzha	22526804
Industrial Shuwaikh	24814764
Qadsiya	22515088
Dasmah	22532265
Bneid Al-Gar	22531908
Shaab	22518752
Qibla	22459381
Ayoun Al-Qibla	22451082
Mirqab	22456536
Sharq	22465401
Salmiya	25746401

EMERGENCY 112

Automated enquiry about the Civil ID card is **1889988**

CHANGE OF NAME

Nationality Indian, P.P No. N5195063, my name John Constance Peter Consalves to John Constance Consalves, father's name Peter Francisco Consalves to Pedro Francisco Consalves, mother's name Annie Francis Consalves to Anna Francisca Consalves. (C 5424) 1-10-2018

Airlines

Kuwait Airways	171
Jazeera Airways	177
Wataniya Airways	22 066 536
Turkish Airlines	1884918
American Airlines	22087425
Jet Airways	22924455
FlyDubai	22414400
Qatar Airways	22423888
KLM	22425747
Royal Jordanian	22418064/5/6
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
Bangladesh Airlines	22452977/8
Indian Airlines	22456700
Oman Air	22958787
Turkish Airlines	22453820/1
Aeroflot	22404838/9

Directorate General of Civil Aviation Home Page (www.kuwait-airport.com.kw) DIAL161 FOR AIRPORT INFORMATION

Arrival Flights on Monday 1/10/2018				Departure Flights on Monday 1/10/2018			
Airlines	Flt	Route	Time	Airlines	Flt	Route	Time
FEG	441	Asyut	00:05	SAW	702	Damascus	13:30
THY	772	Istanbul	00:15	MSR	144	Doha	13:55
KAC	504	Beirut	00:50	KAC	611	Cairo	14:00
DLH	625	Dammam	00:50	UAE	872	Dubai	14:15
KAC	102	London	00:50	IAW	158A	Dubai	14:55
JZR	539	Cairo	01:00	KAC	673	Dubai	15:00
PGT	858	Istanbul	01:15	KNE	382	Taif	15:00
RJA	642	Amman	01:35	GFA	222	Bahrain	15:00
UAE	853	Dubai	01:40	FDB	060	Dubai	15:05
THY	1464	Istanbul	01:50	QTR	1079	Doha	15:15
KKK	1268	Istanbul	02:00	SVA	501	Jeddah	15:45
GFA	211	Bahrain	02:15	KAC	775	Doha	15:55
ETH	620	Addis Ababa	02:15	KAC	785	Jeddah	16:00
QTR	1086	Doha	02:30	KNE	530	Jeddah	16:00
JZR	651	Lahore	02:55	JZR	606	Kochi	16:00
JZR	607	Kochi	02:55	KAC	743	Dammam	16:05
KAC	418	Manila	03:05	KAC	563	Amman	16:10
ETD	305	Abu Dhabi	03:05	KAC	619	Doha	16:15
OMA	643	Muscat	03:05	ABY	128	Sharjah	16:15
KAC	382	Delhi	03:10	ETD	304	Abu Dhabi	16:20
MSR	612	Cairo	03:15	OMA	646	Muscat	16:20
PGT	860	Istanbul	03:25	KAC	615	Bahrain	16:40
QTR	1076	Doha	03:30	SAW	706	Dammam	17:00
JAI	572	Mumbai	04:00	FDB	052	Dubai	17:20
KAC	346	Ahmedabad	04:15	QTR	1073	Doha	17:25
JZR	609	Hyderabad	04:30	KAC	361	Colombo	17:35
KAC	784	Jeddah	04:30	UAE	858	Dubai	17:40
JZR	1541	Cairo	04:35	KAC	381	Delhi	17:45
FDB	069	Dubai	05:05	KAC	331	Trivandrum	17:55
DHX	170	Bahrain	05:10	KAC	283	Dhaka	18:00
THY	770	Istanbul	05:15	SVA	511	Riyadh	18:15
KAC	1544	Cairo	05:20	JZR	184	Dubai	18:20
JZR	603	Mumbai	05:25	GFA	216	Bahrain	18:20
KAC	344	Chennai	05:30	JZR	608	Hyderabad	18:25
KAC	332	Trivandrum	05:40	JZR	266	Beirut	18:30
JZR	561	Sohag	05:55	JZR	240	Amman	18:30
BAW	157	London	06:10	JZR	538	Cairo	18:35
KAC	284	Dhaka	06:25	KAC	345	Ahmedabad	19:20
KAC	204	Lahore	06:30	QTR	1081	Doha	19:20
KAC	678	Dubai	06:45	MSR	621	Cairo	19:30
KAC	302	Mumbai	07:00	GFA	218	Bahrain	19:50
JZR	143	Doha	07:20	FDB	064	Dubai	19:50
JZR	529	Asyut	07:30	ABY	124	Sharjah	20:00
KAC	354	Bengaluru	07:45	RJA	641	Amman	20:00
FDB	053	Dubai	07:50	JZR	552D	Alexandria	20:05
JZR	503	Luxor	07:50	JZR	602	Mumbai	20:30
KAC	358	Kochi	08:00	FDB	058	Dubai	20:30
KAC	384	Delhi	08:05	KAC	357	Kochi	20:30
UAE	855	Dubai	08:25	UAE	876	Dubai	20:35
IAW	157	Al Najaf	08:30	DLH	624	Dammam	20:50
ETD	301	Abu Dhabi	08:55	KNE	232	Riyadh	21:00
ABY	125	Sharjah	09:00	KAC	353	Bengaluru	21:00
QTR	1070	Doha	09:30	OMA	648	Muscat	21:05
FDB	055	Dubai	09:40	MEA	403	Beirut	21:15
IAW	157	Al Najaf	10:00	KAC	301	Mumbai	21:35
MSC	405	Sohag	10:15	QTR	1089	Doha	21:50
AXB	889	Mangalore/Bahrain	10:20	DHX	171	Bahrain	21:50
GFA	213	Bahrain	10:40	KAC	203	Lahore	22:00
MEA	404	Beirut	10:55	ETD	308	Abu Dhabi	22:05
SYR	341	Damascus	11:00	KLM	445	Bahrain	22:10
QTR	1074	Doha	11:00	KAC	1543	Cairo	22:15
JZR	165	Dubai	11:45	ALK	230	Colombo	22:20
SAW	701	Damascus	12:30	KAC	383	Delhi	22:25
RBG	553	Alexandria	12:30	UAE	860	Dubai	22:35
UAE	871	Dubai	12:45	JZR	604	Ahmedabad	22:40
JZR	125	Bahrain	12:55	KAC	783	Jeddah	22:50
MSR	610	Cairo	13:00	GFA	220	Bahrain	22:50
KAC	774	Riyadh	13:30	ETD	310	Abu Dhabi	23:00
JZR	779	Jeddah	13:45	QTR	1083	Doha	23:20
IAW	157A	Al Najaf	13:55	SVA	503	Jeddah	23:45
KAC	672	Dubai	13:55	JZR	560	Sohag	23:45
QTR	1078	Doha	14:10				



Greenpeace activists hold giant letters reading 'Stop Plastic' to protest against plastic waste on the Heroes Square in Budapest yesterday.— AFP

Israel frees French-Palestinian after 13 months without trial

JERUSALEM: Israel yesterday released a French-Palestinian lawyer held without charge for the past 13 months over unspecified allegations, his lawyer said. Salah Hamouri, 33, was freed at Jerusalem police headquarters after being brought from his cell in a prison in southern Israel's Negev desert. Attorney Mahmud Hassan told AFP that Hamouri was forbidden to take part in demonstrations, protests or celebrations of his release for a period of 30 days and required to post a bond of 3,000 shekels (\$825).

He was arrested at his home in Israeli-annexed east Jerusalem on Aug 23, 2017 and subsequently interned under what Israel calls administrative detention, which allows detention without trial for renewable six-month periods. Neither suspects nor their lawyers are informed of the reasons for arrests and Israel's Shin Bet domestic intelligence agency had no immediate comment when asked by AFP for the reasons behind Hamouri's detention.

"Freedom is an indescribable feeling," Hamouri told AFP after his release, while say-

ing he felt France had not done enough to push for it. "The detention system in Israeli prisons is often hard. The Israelis try everything to imprison our will, to isolate us from our society and our family." He said he had not been in contact with his wife or son during his detention, and that Israel had refused a visa request for his wife who lives in France.

Israeli authorities have in the past accused Hamouri of belonging to the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, which Israel, the United States and the European Union list as a terrorist group. Hamouri has denied it, according to his wife, contacted in France. French President Emmanuel Macron and Foreign Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian discussed his case several times with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, according to the French foreign ministry.

Israel says administrative detention is intended to allow authorities to hold suspects while continuing to gather evidence, with the aim of preventing attacks or security offences in the meantime. But the system has been

criticized by Palestinians, human rights groups and members of the international community who say Israel abuses the measure. Hamouri was born in east Jerusalem to a French mother and a Palestinian father.

Palestinian prisoner support NGO Addameer, which employed him as a field researcher, said he was first arrested and placed under administrative detention in 2001, aged 16. He was interned without trial for another five-month stretch in 2004, it said, then arrested again in 2005. Following that arrest, he was tried and convicted by an Israeli court on charges of plotting to assassinate Ovadia Yosef, a prominent Israeli rabbi and spiritual leader of the ultra-Orthodox Shas political party.

Hamouri was released in Dec 2011 as part of a swap of over 1,000 Palestinian prisoners for Gilad Shalit, a soldier held captive in Gaza for more than five years. He has always maintained his innocence. Addameer says more than 5,500 Palestinians are currently held in Israeli jails, including approximately 450 in administrative detention.— AFP



JERUSALEM: Salah Hamouri, a French-Palestinian lawyer, flashes the victory sign at his home in the village of Dahyat al-Barid in the occupied West Bank after being released from an Israeli prison yesterday.— AFP

Indonesia mourns as quake death...

Continued from Page 1

The government was left with little option but to promise it would reimburse owners. "Record everything taken, inventories it. We will pay for it all," said security minister Wiranto, who like many Indonesians goes by one name.

One video posted on YouTube showed people grabbing boxes of supplies from a truck. Television pictures showed scores of residents shouting "we're hungry, we need food" as soldiers distributed rations from a truck in one neighborhood, while footage from elsewhere showed people making off with clothes and other items from a wrecked mall.

One survivor, Adi, was hugging his wife by the beach when the tsunami struck on Friday. Like countless others he has no idea where she is now, or whether she is alive. "When the wave came, I lost her," he said. "I was carried about 50 meters. I couldn't hold anything. The water was spinning me around," he said. "This morning I went back to the beach, I found my motorbike and my wife's wallet." Others have centered their search around open-air morgues, where the dead lay in the baking sun - waiting to be claimed, waiting to be named.

Indonesian President Joko Widodo visited the region yesterday afternoon, urging a "day and night" effort to save all those who can be saved. But disaster agency spokesman Nugroho indicated sheer power of will may not be enough. "Communication is limited, heavy machinery is limited... it's not enough for the numbers of buildings that collapsed," he said. Still, as dire as the situation in Palu was, it was at least clear. In outlying areas, the fate of thousands is still unknown.

Indonesian Vice-President Jusuf Kalla said the final death toll in the north of Sulawesi island could be in the "thousands" since many regions have still not been

reached. Indonesia's Metro TV yesterday broadcast aerial footage from a coastal community in Donggala, close to the epicentre of the quake. Some waterfront homes appeared crushed but a resident said most people fled to higher ground after the quake struck. "When it shook really hard, we all ran up into the hills," a man identified as Iswan told the TV.

The 7.5-magnitude quake struck Friday, sparking a tsunami that ripped apart Palu's coastline. Save The Children program director Tom Howells said access was a "huge issue" hampering relief efforts. "Aid agencies and local authorities are struggling to reach several communities around Donggala, where we are expecting there to be major damage and potential large-scale loss of life," Howells said. The national disaster agency said it believed about 71 foreigners were in Palu when the quake struck, with most safe. Three French nationals and a South Korean, who may have been staying at a flattened hotel, had not yet been accounted for, it added.

Getting enough aid in may prove a problem. Satellite imagery provided by regional relief teams showed severe damage at some of the area's major ports, with large ships tossed on land, quays and bridges trashed and shipping containers thrown around. A double-arched yellow bridge had collapsed, its ribs twisted as cars bobbed in the water below. A key access road had been badly damaged and was partially blocked by landslides. "People here need aid - food, drink, clean water," said Anser Bachmid, a 39-year-old Palu resident.

Friday's tremor was also felt in the far south of the island in its largest city Makassar and on neighboring Kalimantan, Indonesia's portion of Borneo island. As many as 2.4 million people could have felt the quake, it is believed. The initial quake struck as evening prayers were about to begin in the world's biggest Muslim majority country on the holiest day of the week. As news of the scale of the disaster spread, the European Union announced 1.5 million euros in immediate aid. From the Vatican, Pope Francis offered prayers for victims.— Agencies

Arabia's King Salman on Saturday and they discussed efforts being made to maintain supplies to ensure oil market stability and global economic growth, Saudi state news agency SPA reported.

The call comes days after the US president called again on OPEC to boost crude output to cool the market ahead of midterm elections in November for US Congress members. Saudi Arabia is the world's top oil exporter and OPEC's de-facto leader. The kingdom, the only country with a significant spare capacity, is worried about the tight ability of other producers to raise output amid declining Iranian supplies. The resumption of the Neutral Zone's oilfields could add up to 500,000 barrels per day of oil output capacity to both Saudi Arabia and Kuwait.— Agencies

Trump advisor Conway reveals 'I'm a victim of sexual assault'

WASHINGTON: Kellyanne Conway, a senior advisor to US President Donald Trump and one of the most public faces of his administration, revealed yesterday that she has been a victim of sexual assault. Conway made the disclosure to CNN's Jake Tapper on his State of the Union news show, while defending Trump's embattled Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh. "I feel very empathetic, frankly, towards victims of sexual assault and sexual harassment and rape," she said, before pausing to clear her throat.

"I'm a victim of sexual assault. I don't expect Judge Kavanaugh, or Jake Tapper, or Jeff Flake, or anybody, to be held responsible for that. You have to be responsible for your own conduct," she added, visibly emotional. Tapper, who appeared to have been caught off-guard, offered his sympathies. "This is the first time I've ever heard you talk about something personal like that, and I'm sorry," he said. "I've just had it," she replied.

Tapper then noted that Conway continues to work for President Trump, though numerous sexual misconduct allegations have been lodged against him. But Conway, who had earlier in the interview argued that sexual assault was being used as a pretext to pursue political agendas, returned to the same theme. "Don't conflate that with this, and certainly don't conflate it with what happened to me,"



Kellyanne Conway

she hit back. "Don't always bring Trump into everything that happens in this universe. That's mistake number one."

Trump on Friday ordered a new FBI investigation into sexual assault allegations against his Supreme Court pick, as the Senate delayed a vote on Brett Kavanaugh's nomination to make way for the probe. The decision came a day after a dramatic hearing watched by more than 20 million people at which university professor Christine Blasey Ford accused the judge of pinning her down and assaulting her in the 1980s.

At least three women have now accused the 53-year-old conservative judge of sexual misconduct while drunk, both as a high school student and later at Yale University. Republicans see Kavanaugh as pivotal to their gaining control of the nine-member Supreme Court bench. Trump nominated him to replace Anthony Kennedy, who for years was a swing vote between four conservative and four liberal justices.— AFP

Amir, Saudi Crown Prince discuss...

Continued from Page 1

Khafji was shut in Oct 2014 for environmental reasons and Wafra has been shut since May 2015 due to operating difficulties. Any restart would come at a sensitive time for the oil markets as Washington presses Riyadh to increase oil production to bring crude prices down. US President Donald Trump called Saudi

Arabia's King Salman on Saturday and they discussed efforts being made to maintain supplies to ensure oil market stability and global economic growth, Saudi state news agency SPA reported.

The call comes days after the US president called again on OPEC to boost crude output to cool the market ahead of midterm elections in November for US Congress members. Saudi Arabia is the world's top oil exporter and OPEC's de-facto leader. The kingdom, the only country with a significant spare capacity, is worried about the tight ability of other producers to raise output amid declining Iranian supplies. The resumption of the Neutral Zone's oilfields could add up to 500,000 barrels per day of oil output capacity to both Saudi Arabia and Kuwait.— Agencies

Trump complains US 'subsidizing' foreign militaries

WHEELING, West Virginia: President Donald Trump on Saturday complained that the US is "subsidizing" the military of Middle East ally Saudi Arabia, as well as Japan and South Korea. The comment, at a West Virginia rally for local candidates of his Republican Party, follows similar jibes at European members of the NATO alliance. "When you have wealthy countries like

Saudi Arabia, like Japan, like South Korea, why are we subsidizing their military?" asked Trump, who pushes an aggressive "America First" policy on trade. "They'll pay us. The problem is nobody ever asks."

He added that he had spoken to Saudi Arabia's King Salman on Saturday to make the same point. Saudi Arabia and Japan are major buyers of US-made weaponry, and the US provides intelligence and aerial refueling support to a Saudi-led coalition fighting rebels in Yemen. Japan and South Korea host tens of thousands of American troops. Trump said the United States pays "about 60 percent" of South Korea's military.

Last year he suggested Seoul should pay for the \$1.0-billion THAAD anti-missile system that the US has deployed on South Korean territory.— AFP

Sports

New Zealand beat Argentina to win sixth Rugby Championship

Victory gave NZ an uncatchable seven-point advantage over S Africa

BUENOS AIRES: New Zealand won the Rugby Championship for the sixth time by beating Argentina 35-17 in Buenos Aires on Saturday as they put a stunning home defeat by South Africa behind them. The All Blacks led 21-3 at half-time before a sell-out 50,000 crowd and scored first in the second half through substitute Patrick Tuipulotu. Victory gave New Zealand an uncatchable seven-point advantage over South Africa ahead of their showdown in Pretoria next Saturday. New Zealand have 21 points, South Africa 14, Argentina eight and Australia five with one round remaining in the southern hemisphere championship.

A shock 36-34 triumph in Wellington this month gave South Africa a glimmer of hope that they could overtake New Zealand and win the competition a first time. But they failed to secure a bonus point as they ground out a 23-12 win over struggling Australia in Port Elizabeth earlier on Saturday. That result left the All Blacks needing a win to secure the title and they outscored the Pumas by five tries to two to collect a bonus point as well. No All Black was happier than fly-half Beauden Barrett who was successful with all four of his conversion attempts after missing four of six against the Springboks.

Argentina were first to score with star fly-half Nicolas Sanchez slotting an easy penalty after six minutes at the Estadio Jose Amalfitani. But New Zealand reacted swiftly to falling behind and within two minutes were ahead as winger Rieko Ioane scored the first of his two tries.

Fellow winger Waisake Naholo came into midfield and played a key role in a move continued by Ben Smith before Ioane cut inside to score and Barrett converted.

SONNY BILL BINNED

Sanchez seemed certain to cut the gap to a single point from a close-range penalty but, to the amazement of the crowd, fluffed it. Naholo changed from creator to scorer on 17 minutes, stretching to dot the ball down on the line after the scrummaging weakness of the Pumas was laid bare. Barrett added the extra points and the world champions were 14-3 ahead midway through the half. Ioane struck again with 30 minutes gone, scoring a try that infuriated the home crowd. Codie Taylor appeared to knock the head of Bautista Delguy, but big-screen replays showed the New Zealander had been pushed first by an Argentine. French referee Mathieu Raynal correctly awarded a try and Barrett converted from the touchline. In-form Delguy was forced to retire after the accidental blow and Sebastian Cancelliere took his place on the right wing. Argentina finished the first half strongly after All Black Sonny Bill Williams was sin-binned, but could not translate territory and possession into points and the All Blacks led 21-3 at half-time.

Sanchez wasted an early second-half chance to reduce the deficit when his penalty intended for unmarked winger Matias Moroni fell short and into the welcome hands of Naholo instead. The Pumas were being let down at the set pieces with the All Blacks making life miserable for the South Americans at the scrums. Both teams scored two tries during the second half with Tuipulotu and Anton Lienert-Brown crossing for New Zealand and Barrett and Richie Mo'unga converting. Tomas Cubelli and Emiliano Boffelli were the Argentine scorers and Sanchez added the conversions. — AFP



BUENOS AIRES: New Zealand's All Blacks players celebrate with the trophy after winning the Rugby Championship 2018 edition after defeating 35-17 to Argentina's Los Pumas at Jose Amalfitani stadium in Buenos Aires, Argentina on Saturday. — AFP

Dodgers clinch playoff berth, tied atop NL West

SAN FRANCISCO: The Los Angeles Dodgers clinched a playoff spot for the sixth consecutive season Saturday afternoon, using an RBI triple from Manny Machado to break an eighth-inning tie en route to a 10-6 victory over the host San Francisco Giants. The Dodgers overcame a rare subpar effort from Clayton Kershaw to officially eliminate St. Louis from contention in the National League wild-card race. The Cardinals had won earlier in the day against the Chicago Cubs to temporarily stay alive. Later in the evening, Los Angeles tied Colorado atop the NL West after the Rockies fell at home against Washington. The winner of the division will face Atlanta in the NL Division Series, while the runner-up will meet the Cubs or Milwaukee in the wild-card game on Tuesday night. After the Giants had rallied into a 5-5 tie with a two-run fifth inning against Kershaw, the Dodgers got their go-ahead run in the eighth after Chris Taylor led off with a single off Mark Melancon (1-4). Two outs and a wild pitch later, Machado went the other way for a triple high off the wall in right field, easily plating Taylor with the go-ahead run.

Nationals 12, Rockies 2

Trea Turner and Juan Soto homered, and Washington knocked Colorado out of sole possession of first place in the National League West with a big win at Denver. Nolan Arenado and Carlos Gonzalez homered for the Rockies, who suffered their first loss in nine games. Rockies outfielder David Dahl went 0-for-3, ending his homer streak at five games.

Cardinals 2, Cubs 1

Right-hander Miles Mikolas remained unbeaten in September with eight strong innings, but St. Louis was later eliminated from postseason contention despite its victory at Chicago. Matt Carpenter broke a 1-1 fifth-inning tie with an RBI single for the Cardinals, who were seeking a return to the postseason after a two-year absence. With the loss, the Cubs are now tied with Milwaukee in the duel for the National League Central title. The Brewers edged Detroit later in the evening.

Brewers 6, Tigers 5

Christian Yelich hit two home runs, including a go-ahead solo shot, as Milwaukee moved into a first-place tie in the National League Central with a tight win over visiting Detroit. Yelich, who drove in three runs, also homered in the series opener on Friday. His upper-deck blast off Daniel Stumpf (1-5) gave the Brewers a 6-5 lead in the seventh. Erik Kratz drove in two runs, and Jonathan Schoop added two hits, a run scored and an RBI. Joakim Soria (3-4) tossed a scoreless inning of relief for his second victory in as many games. Jeremy Jeffress struck out the side in the ninth to notch his 15th save.

Yankees 8, Red Sox 5

Rookie Gleyber Torres hit the record-setting 265th home run of the season in the fourth inning for New York in a win at Boston. Torres hit the homer into the right-center-field seats with two outs in the fourth inning when he drove a 1-1 fastball from Eduardo Rodriguez (12-5) into the Boston bullpen above the short right-center-field wall. Torres' drive broke the previous record set by the 1997 Seattle Mariners, who were led by Hall of Famer Ken Griffey Jr.'s 56 homers. Giancarlo Stanton and Greg Bird delivered RBI doubles before Torres homered as the Yankees reached 100 wins for the first time since 2009 and 20th time in team history. Stanton later added his 38th homer leading off the seventh against Steven Wright.

Mets 1, Marlins 0 (13 innings)

Longtime Mets third baseman David Wright played in his final major league game and went 0-for-1 with a walk before exiting in the top of the fifth of New York's 13-inning win over visiting Miami. Austin Jackson's walk-off RBI double scored Michael Conforto and finally capped a marathon that lasted four hours and 14 minutes. Wright jogged out to third base for the fifth, but manager Mickey Callaway exit-

ed the dugout to pull Wright for Amed Rosario. A teary-eyed Wright waved to all sections of Citi Field and hugged teammates standing in front of the dugout before heading down the steps. He exited for one more curtain call before disappearing into the clubhouse.

Twins 8, White Sox 3

Johnny Field doubled and singled in a six-run second inning, propelling Minnesota past Chicago at Minneapolis. Right-hander Kyle Gibson (10-13) became a double-digit winner for the fourth time in the last five seasons, limiting the White Sox to one run and three hits in six innings. He struck out seven. Gibson struck out Yoan Moncada and Yolmer Sanchez to start the game, bringing the White Sox's single-season whiff total as a team to a record 1,572. Milwaukee had set the previous mark last year.

Astros 4, Orioles 3 (Game 1)

Carlos Correa lined a tiebreaking double in the top of the ninth inning to give Houston the victory over host Baltimore in the first game of a doubleheader. The game was tied at 3-3 when the Astros started a two-out rally against Baltimore left-hander Sean Gilmartin (1-1). George Springer drew a walk, and Correa then lined a 3-1 pitch into the gap in right-center. Springer was able to score from first without drawing a relay throw. Will Harris (5-3) threw a scoreless eighth inning and took the victory. Hector Rondon came on in the ninth and closed it for his 15th save.

Astros 5, Orioles 2 (Game 2)

Myles Straw, Brian McCann and Jake Marisnick all homered as Houston swept its doubleheader at Baltimore. Astros starter Dallas Keuchel went just three innings in his final start of the season. He gave up one run and came away with a no-decision as the Astros apparently were getting ready for the playoffs and wanted others to throw-six pitchers worked overall in this game. Brad Peacock (3-4) threw a scoreless fourth inning and earned the victory. Ryan Pressly took care of the ninth for his second save, and he now has a scoreless streak of 21 straight games.

Rays 4, Blue Jays 3

Austin Meadows hit the go-ahead home run in the seventh inning. C.J. Cron also had a solo shot and Tampa Bay edged Toronto at St. Petersburg, Fla. Rays starter Blake Snell struck out 10 in five innings, allowing one run, three hits and four walks, but did not factor in the decision. A leading candidate for the American League Cy Young Award, the left-hander lowered his ERA to 1.89 for the season. Sergio Romo struck out three to earn his 25th save of the season despite allowing a pinch-hit home run to Reese McGuire with one out in the ninth. Rays pitchers had 18 strikeouts.

Reds 3, Pirates 0

Michael Lorenzen pitched 5 2/3 scoreless innings, and Eugenio Suarez homered to lead Cincinnati past visiting Pittsburgh. Relievers David Hernandez (1 1/3 innings), Jared Hughes (one inning) and Raisel Iglesias (one inning, 30th save) joined Lorenzen (4-2) in putting together a six-hit shutout for Cincinnati, which ended a six-game losing streak. Pirates starter Jameson Taillon (14-10) struck out seven and walked none in six innings. He allowed three runs and seven hits. He finished his season with a string of 22 straight starts allowing three earned runs or fewer.

Phillies 3, Braves 0

Cesar Hernandez drove in two runs with a bases-loaded single in the seventh inning as Philadelphia snapped a nine-game losing streak with a shutout of visiting Atlanta. The outburst was enough to give the win to starting pitcher Aaron Nola (17-6). The right-hander fired seven shutout innings, allowing two hits and four walks. He struck out eight. Nola finished the season with 224 strikeouts. Hector Neris pitched the eighth inning, and Seranthony Dominguez worked the ninth to earn his 15th save in 19 opportunities.

Royals 9, Indians 4

Adalberto Mondesi smacked a tiebreaking three-run home run in the sixth inning, and Kansas City went on to beat visiting Cleveland. Whit Merrifield went 2-for-4 with a two-run double to match his career-best hitting streak of 19 games. Merrifield also stole two bases to take over the major-league-lead with 44 as the Royals won for the fifth time in six games. Jose Ramirez went 3-for-4 with a homer, and Melky Cabrera had two hits for the American League Central champion Indians. — Reuters



SAN FRANCISCO: Manny Machado #8 of the Los Angeles Dodgers tags out Gorkys Hernandez #7 of the San Francisco Giants while attempting to steal second base in the bottom of the second inning at AT&T Park on Saturday in San Francisco, California. — AFP

Qualitynet announces its partnership with Pro-Vision Sport Management until 2021

By Nawara Fattahova

KUWAIT: As part of its social responsibility and support for sports and social events, Qualitynet announced extending its partnership with Pro-Vision Sport Management until 2021. This was announced during a press conference held yesterday at its headquarters. Kuwait's number one ICT, data, Internet and enterprise services provider, Qualitynet has extended its partnership with Pro-Vision Sport Management for three years. The robust relationship between the two companies was established in 2016 and has continued every year.

Mohammed Nizar Al-Nusif, CEO of Qualitynet, said: "We are excited to be partnered with Pro-Vision Sport Management for another three years. Their commitment to excellence and social services are qualities in a brand that we proudly associate with. This is clearly exemplified through their mission to make sport a valued lifestyle choice in the lives of the local community."

Qualitynet encourages people to practice sports. "We sponsor various sports and social events for adults and kids, in addition to other events. These activities include walkathons, marathons, triathlons and many other activities, he added. "Here at Qualitynet, we place importance on seeking ways to position ourselves as one of the leading companies in Kuwait that provides outstanding services. With support from companies like Pro-Vision Sport Management, we are certain that we will be able to achieve this objective," concluded Nusif.

Ahmed Al-Huzami, CEO of Pro-Vision Sport Management, said they are excited to extend this partnership and work with Qualitynet. "Qualitynet has surpassed our expectations with regards to placing focus on building and evolving our relationship," he noted. "We are grateful for their contribution as a partner for several of our events in the past and are looking forward to what's in store in the future. We are confident that it is going to be a fruitful and prosperous venture with great results and contribution to the sporting community," Huzami added.



"We believe the private sector plays a key role in organizing sports events for the community. The support of Qualitynet is motivating and encouraging us to continue organizing sports events on this high quality level. The number of participants in these sports events greatly increased during the past few years, which shows the success of these events," stressed Huzami. Qualitynet will be featured as a partner in all upcoming Pro-Vision owned events such as Flying Start Triathlon, Battle of the East, Saracen Race, Gulf Bank 642 Marathon, Enduro MTB Race and Gulf Run Karting Endurance.

Sports

Hamilton wins Russian Grand Prix to surge 50 points clear

Vettel third for Ferrari, now 50 points behind

SOCHI: Valtteri Bottas did as he was told and moved aside to let Mercedes team mate Lewis Hamilton win the Russian Grand Prix and surge 50 points clear in the Formula One championship yesterday with five races remaining. The victory was a landmark 70th for the Briton, whose fifth title now looks only a matter of time and who is 21 wins behind the all-time record of 91 held by seven times champion Michael Schumacher. Hamilton's closest rival Sebastian Vettel finished third for Ferrari with Bottas, who started from pole position and was told to let Hamilton through after 25 of the 53 laps, securing the Mercedes one-two.

"It doesn't feel great. Naturally, Valtteri has been an incredible team player today," said Hamilton after one of his more controversial wins. In a race with little real drama, Max Verstappen celebrated his 21st birthday in style by steering his Red Bull from the back to the front, dropping back to fifth after finally pitting with 10 laps to go. Mercedes remain unbeaten in Russia, yesterday being their fifth win in Sochi since the Olympic Park circuit first appeared on the calendar in 2014. Hamilton has now won eight races this season.

The Briton, who would not have been able to switch places with Bottas had he not pulled off a slick overtake on Vettel after dropping behind at the pitstops, stayed in the car for some time after he parked up at the finish.

He then went over to thank Bottas and commiserate. At the podium ceremonies, with Russian president Vladimir Putin doing the honours, Hamilton manoeuvred the Finn onto the top step alongside him.

"It's actually quite a difficult day," explained the Briton. "He was a real gentleman to let me by. Usually I'd be elated but I can understand how difficult it was for Valtteri."

DIFFICULT DAY

The Finn, without a win this season, had asked the team over the radio, more in hope than expectation, in the closing laps whether the order might change back. "Is this how we are going to finish the race?" he asked, before the answer came back in the affirmative.

"Valtteri this is Toto. Difficult day for you and a difficult day for us," said team boss Toto Wolff, whose finger had been captured by the world television feed hovering over the 'tactics' button before the order was given. "Let's discuss it afterwards when we come together and we'll explain things," Wolff later told reporters he took full responsibility for the decision and would rather be the bad guy in Russia than the idiot, should misfortune strike in coming races, at the end of the season. Bottas had stopped first in the race, with Vettel following a lap later. Hamilton then came in and returned, to some bemusement, a fraction behind his German rival. "Guys, how did that happen?" he asked over the radio, before regaining the fourth place on lap 16.

With Verstappen running a long first stint, Bottas was second and Hamilton third with some signs of tyre blistering while Vettel was closing in. Mercedes then decided to take action into their own hands. Force India also invoked team orders to give Sergio Perez a chance to attack Kevin Magnussen's Haas but later reversed the positions in favour of Esteban Ocon when the Mexican failed to get past the Dane. Kimi Raikkonen finished fourth for Ferrari, after leading briefly when he stayed out longer before his stop, followed by Verstappen and Red Bull team mate Daniel Ricciardo. Charles Leclerc, who will be racing for Ferrari next season, was seventh for Sauber and Magnussen eighth, ahead of Ocon and Perez. Both Toro Rossos spun early on and retired. —Reuters



SOCHI: Winner Mercedes' British driver Lewis Hamilton (R) and second placed Mercedes' Finnish driver Valtteri Bottas celebrate during the podium ceremony for the Formula One Russian Grand Prix at the Sochi Autodrom circuit in Sochi yesterday. — AFP



—Photos by Yasser Al-Zayyat

Kuwait ice hockey players gear up for winter sports

By Ramona Crasto

KUWAIT: As the news of the Falcons winning an amateur Hong Kong tournament reached Kuwait, Fuhaid Al-Ajmi, a former ice hockey player and current President of the Kuwait Winter Games Club, reminisced about the first international tournament where Kuwait left an international imprint – a tournament in Glasgow in 1993. Since then, it has been a journey filled with trophies and lessons on how to do better in the next game. After rejoining the International Ice Hockey Federation in 1999, the national ice hockey team of Kuwait made their international debut at the Asian Winter Games, where although they lost, they did not lose hope. Kuwait was the first Arab country to raise its flag at the Asian Winter Games.

"All the members of the Winter Sports Club are former ice hockey players, so we understand the needs of players and do our best to provide them with all the equipment and training necessary. I retired in 2000. When we played back in the 90s, we lacked support, although we do not blame our losses on anyone but ourselves. We wish we had more support, so we hope to provide the players with as much assistance as possible," Ajmi told Kuwait Times.



"After the win at the Hong Kong invitational amateur ice hockey tournament, we will try to use this title to improve and establish new winter games in Kuwait. The club has already started five such games, namely, ice hockey for both men and women, figure skating, curling, skiing and speed skating," Ajmi added.

After recently acquiring full membership at the IIHF, Kuwait will be able to vote in the elections of the governing body and the selection of the countries that bid

to host world championships. "We've pledged to make things easier and better for the upcoming generations participating in these sports. We recently opened a school for ice hockey for kids aged from 4 to 14, who were sent to Sweden for training," said Vice President Khaled Al-Mutairi.

In 1992, Kuwait was expelled from the IIHF due to lack of activity. Since then, Kuwait has hosted the Arab Cup as well as the Challenge Cup of Asia, where

Kuwait came in 2nd and 4th place respectively. "When we first started playing after the invasion, we didn't have proper uniforms, gear or equipment to play in. Surely, the sports scene was different back then compared to how it is now. We now have a completely equipped club with a rink to practice, gym to maintain fitness, which is very important in sports, and the latest gear ready to use according to age and size," Mutairi added.

From Syria to Innsbruck, Syrian cyclist makes remarkable journey

INNSBRUCK: Ahmad Badreddin Wais fled the war in Syria four years ago and a long and tortuous journey has led to a place on a professional cycling team and a fresh attempt at the world championships.

Wais, 27, was a student in Damascus in 2014 when he left Syria, travelling through Lebanon, Turkey and Greece before eventually finding refugee status in Switzerland. Flying past the finish line of the men's world championships time-trial with its dramatic Alpine backdrop, Wais looked just like any other competitor, except for the word Syria written on his red, white and black bodysuit.

"That was a really tough race," he told AFP at the finish line, "and I was really worried about that climb. For a small team the logistics are difficult," he said as he was greeted not by a team manager but by his friend, Swiss cyclist Marlen Reusser, who came 17th in the women's event the day before.

Wais was only able to train along the route once, since arriving in the Austrian city of Innsbruck, where he is staying at an Airbnb apartment to keep to his limited budget. It was his second taste of the worlds, having competed for the first time in Bergen, Norway, last year. Asked how it felt to wear the Syrian national colours, a cloud of worry crossed his face. "I want to say to everyone in the world, for our young people who are growing up and learning or training for something, well they need peace to do that," he said. "We hope to stop the war one day soon, for all Syrians." "I am here to say to people there is not just war in my country, there is also sport for example, we are hoping for peace in Syria and the rest of the world too," he said. Wais said he was happy that some of his compatriots at home were once again able to enjoy sport—the domestic football league has recently restarted.

"Everyone in Syria was happy when the national football (league) came back, it was a relief," he said. "Believe me I have had many hard situations and I can tell you it's the same for most people in Syria," he said. Wais eventually placed 53rd on the day from a start list of 58, covering the 52.1 kilometres in 1hr 18min 33sec, about 15 minutes slower than the new world champion, Australia's Rohan Dennis. Elite riders at the world championships will have had a chance to do a full practice route around 10 times, whereas Wais covered it just the once. But he is looking forward to a new season and has what his friend Reusser called a "good sponsorship deal" and a contract with the VIB Sports team. —AFP



AUSTRIA: Ahmad Badreddin Wais of Syria competes in the Men's Individual Time Trial (ITT) road race between Rattenberg and Innsbruck during the UCI Cycling Road World Championships on September 26, 2018 in Austria. — AFP

Sports

La Liga wide open as Real, Barca, Atletico stumble

Real Madrid failed to win for the third time in four league outings

BARCELONA: Spain's biggest three clubs, Real Madrid, Barcelona and Atletico Madrid, find themselves in the bizarre situation of having made poor starts to the campaign by their usual high standards while not losing any ground in the La Liga title race.

Champions Barca dropped points for the third game in a row on Saturday when they salvaged a 1-1 draw at home to Athletic Bilbao with a late equaliser. Even after drawing at home with Girona and sliding to a shock 2-1 defeat at minnows Leganes during the week, Barca remain on top of the standings on goal difference.

That is because Real Madrid failed to win for the third time in four league outings, drawing 0-0 with Atletico Madrid on Saturday. "Leaders, despite everything," said the front page of the Barcelona-based newspaper Sport.

Real have the same number of points as they did after seven games last season. Yet whereas they were seven points adrift of Barca at this stage of the last campaign, which they finished an astonishing 17 points off the pace, now they are locked on 14 points with the Catalans at the summit.

No team has led the La Liga standings with such a low number of points after seven games since the 1993-94 season. Real and Barca's twin struggles contrast with their ruthless form of a few years ago, with Real sweeping to the 2011-12 title with 100 points and the Catalans racking up a century of points the following season.

Atletico, the only serious challenger to the duopoly of Real and Barca in the last 14 years and who won the title in 2014, have made their worst ever start to a season

under coach Diego Simeone in taking 12 points from seven games.

They remain, however, only two points behind their usual rivals, sitting fourth. Sevilla have benefited the most from the stumbling form of the usual suspects and are currently third after winning three games on the bounce, including thrashing Real 3-0 last Wednesday. Surprise package Alaves, meanwhile, could join Real and Barca at the top of the table if they beat Levante.

Real coach Julen Lopetegui remained calm despite his side's worrying form in front of goal, scoring only twice in four games. Daily Marca remarked that the European champions have "forgotten how to score".

"The season is going to be very tough and very long," said Lopetegui after the 0-0 draw with Atletico. "We don't focus on our rivals, we focus on ourselves. We're only seven games into the season and everything is to play for. I'm happy because the team showed pride, personality and played good football."

Barca defender Jordi Alba, meanwhile, was fiercely critical of his side after they took two points from a possible nine. "That's three games we haven't won, it's clear that we need to change things to start winning again," he said. "We're not relaxed at all, we have to look at many aspects of our game. But this has only just begun, despite not winning, we're still at the top of the table and that means the league is very equal."

"Teams that you would think cannot beat you are doing so. We have to change a lot of things and each of us has to give 100 percent." — Reuters



MADRID: Real Madrid's Brazilian forward Vinicius Junior (C) vies with Atletico Madrid's Spanish midfielder Koke (L) and Atletico Madrid's Spanish midfielder Saul Niguez during the Spanish league football match between Real Madrid CF and Club Atletico de Madrid at the Santiago Bernabeu stadium in Madrid. — AFP

Perfect PSG brush aside Nice to equal Ligue 1 record

NICE: Paris Saint-Germain cruised to a 3-0 victory at Nice on Saturday to equal the record of victories from the start of a French top division season. Neymar, who ended the game with a bloodied mouth, scored twice as PSG opened the season with eight straight wins, a feat that had only been achieved once, by Lille in 1936. "It's unbelievable, because the preparation has been very difficult," said PSG coach Thomas Tuchel. "The team is improving all the time." With 24 points, PSG, chasing a sixth French title in seven seasons, are sure to end the weekend at least eight points clear of their closest challengers.

PSG have lost this season, in the Champions League, and with Red Star Belgrade visiting Parc des Princes on Wednesday, coach Thomas Tuchel left Marco Verratti and Edinson Cavani on the bench and also experimented again with a back three.

"With three games in a week, we

needed tactics and a structure to play away to Nice who are very strong with the ball," said Tuchel. "We had to make sure that we ran as little as possible after the ball." PSG dominated from the start. Nice goalkeeper Walter Benitez turned away early efforts from Adrien Rabiot and Kylian Mbappe. Then Angel di Maria hit a post. In the 22nd minute, Christopher Nkunku surged down the right and slid the ball to Mbappe, who completely missed his shot. The ball was retrieved by Moussa Diaby who rolled it to Neymar and the Brazilian curled his shot into the net from 22 metres.

PSG wasted several chances before half-time and in the 44th minute Mbappe set up Neymar, who netted from close range only for VAR to show a marginal offside. Nice coach Patrick Vieira threw on Mario Balotelli for the second half, but any hopes of a fightback were quickly punctured. A minute after the restart, Di Maria released Mbappe who raced through the visiting defence and evaded Benitez and one defender. When his shot struck another Nice player, the ball fell to Nkunku who popped it into the goal.

Nice finished the game with 10 men. Wylan Cyprien, a first-half substitute, earned a second yellow for whacking Neymar in the face with an elbow while leaping for a header. Cyprien went off, Neymar continued, holding a bandage to his bleeding mouth.

In the dying seconds, Mbappe again



NICE: Nice's French forward Allan Saint-Maximin (L) vies with Paris Saint-Germain's French defender Presnel Kimpembe during the French L1 football match Nice (OGCN) vs Paris (PSG) on Saturday at "Allianz Riviera" stadium in Nice, southern France. — AFP

burst clear and squared the ball to Neymar who tapped in his second. In Saturday's late games, Lyon, who started the weekend in second place, missed a penalty and could only draw at home to Nantes, 1-1. Lyon, who host Shakhtar Donetsk in the Champions League on Tuesday, took the lead with a goal by Houssem Aouar after 22 minutes but Gabriel Boschilia levelled for the visitors, who are second from bottom, in the 62nd minute. With nine minutes left, VAR

showed Matt Miazga, an American defender on loan to Nantes from Chelsea, holding Aouar. Ciprian Tatarusanu saved Nabil Fekir's penalty.

Last-place Angers, who started the weekend with one point from seven matches, gained a first victory, away to mid-table Angers. Nicolas Benezet scored the only goal in first-half added time, finishing off a counter attack by sliding a cross-shot through goalkeeper Ludovic Butelle's legs — AFP



Matches on TV

(Local Timings)

ENGLISH PREMIER LEAGUE	
Bournemouth v Crystal Palace	22:00
beIN SPORTS HD 2	
SPANISH LEAGUE	
Celta de Vigo v Getafe	22:00
beIN SPORTS HD 3	
ITALIAN CALCIO LEAGUE	
Sampdoria v Spal	21:30
beIN SPORTS HD 4	

Valverde clinches coveted world road race crown

INNSBRUCK: Veteran Spaniard Alejandro Valverde ended years of frustration to win the world championships road race yesterday after outpacing France's Romain Bardet and Canada's Michael Woods in a thrilling sprint for the finish line.

The trio had boosted their victory chances after crossing the summit of the notoriously difficult Hottinger hill 'Hell' climb, featuring one steep section at a whopping 29 percent gradient, to leave key rivals in their wake.

And despite being joined with a little over one kilometre to go by Dutchman Tom Dumoulin, Valverde held his nerve inside the final metres to race unchallenged to the finish line, where he beat Bardet by a bike length.

A breathless Valverde, who finished runner-up in 2003, broke down with the emotion of finally securing the rainbow jersey—arguably the most prestigious prize in the sport. "It's incredible, after all these years, struggling for the world title and to finally get it," he said.

"I knew I had no margin for error and that it was up to me to take my own destiny in hand," he said. "Words can't describe how grateful I am for the effort of the whole Spain team and the work they did too."

As soon as the quartet came into the final kilometre the Spaniard had looked the most likely to win. Both Bardet and Woods are stronger climbers while all-rounder Dumoulin also lacks Valverde's top-end finishing speed.

"I knew I was possibly the strongest and was waiting for someone to make a move," he said. Pre-race favourite, Julian Alaphilippe of France, Briton Adam Yates and Italy's Vincenzo Nibali and the last of the Colombians were dropped on the steep gradients of the final climb.

"I have no excuses," said Alaphilippe, who claimed the King of the Mountains' polka dot jersey at the Tour de France. "The last climb had me, my legs just couldn't take it. I'm bitterly disappointed, but very happy for Romain (Bardet)."

Three-time and defending champion Peter Sagan had few hopes of winning a fourth title on the hilly circuit and after the fourth of seven ascensions of the climb the Slovakian called it a day. The race started in the pretty town of Kufstein, where the temperature sat just above zero as the riders set off through the lush Inn valley. Soon, an 11-man breakaway formed and opened a gap of almost 20 minutes. The two final heroic survivors of the original eleven, Kasper Asgreen of Denmark and Vegard Stake Laengen of Norway were eventually overtaken 22km out.

The peloton had upped the pace to catch the escape and with around 20km to go some of the pre-race favourites started to flag. Irish hope Dan Martin, whose wife recently had twins, began to struggle ahead of the last lap, then Simon Yates and Michal Kwiatkowski quickly buckled too. —AFP

Crown Prince shooting tournament kicks off Wednesday

By Abdellatif

KUWAIT: HH The Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah will start Wednesday evening with the official training on the 10 meter air pistol and rifle, while competitions in all disciplines will continue until Saturday.

Kuwait Shooting Sport Club Assistant Secretary Eng Mohammad Misfer Al-Ghurba said board members and shooters express their gratitude and appreciation for HH the Crown Prince care of the shooting sport, which had made many achievements will be maintained and added on because of his support.

Head of the shotgun referees committee Hamad Al-Ruwaisan said competitions will start as scheduled and preparations, meetings and refresher courses for the tournament that declares the local season open. He said the tournament normally witness strong competitions between shooters at all levels. Meanwhile head of the pistols and rifles referees committee Abdallah Barakat said it is important to prepare early for the tournament to be informed with the latest changes in the international law. The competitions will include the 10 meter pistol and rifle for men and women, 50m rifle (3 positions) for men, 50m pistol for men. Barakat thanked the Board of Directors for providing all that is necessary for referees to carry their duties as required.



Mohammad Misfer Al-Ghurba

Are Man United and Mourinho nearing end of the road?

LONDON: Manchester United are a club in crisis and Jose Mourinho is seemingly powerless to prevent a slide into mid-table mediocrity for the 20-time English champions. The Old Trafford hierarchy preened this week after the latest financial results showed the club had earned revenue of more than half a billion pounds for the third year running.

But United, who finished a distant second behind Manchester City last season, are going backwards on the pitch—licking their wounds after their worst start to a league campaign for 29 years. Mourinho's men travelled to the London Stadium on Saturday boasting an enviable record against West Ham but came away chastened after a 3-1 defeat killed off any realistic hopes of a Premier League challenge before the end of September.

Languishing nine points behind leaders City, they now face a battle even to qualify for the lucrative Champions League, a prospect that will give the money men sleepless nights. Former Manchester United defender Rio Ferdinand said the club face some "big decisions" over the manager's future after the listless display in the capital. "There are some big decisions to be made at United now," he said. "There will be conversations at the top level, about the future of the manager and the squad, because the basics are not being done. There has to be something said."

United's build-up to the match against West Ham was overshadowed by the growing rift between Mourinho and Paul Pogba, who was stripped of the vice-captaincy before their League Cup exit against Championship side Derby in midweek. It came after the French World Cup winner implicitly criticised his manager's tactics, imploring United to attack more and as rumours continued to swirl linking him with a move to Barcelona. It is difficult to see how both

player and manager can work together in the long term after such public displays of disunity.

United are anxious to hang on to one of the world's most marketable players but all the signs are that they are sticking with Mourinho for now despite their desperately poor start to the season, which has seen them muster just 10 points from seven games.

Pogba gave another under-par performance against West Ham but he was not the only player to disappoint in the late September sunshine. United are lacking in ideas, short of inspiration and shape, with many of the players looking like square pegs in round holes.

Manchester City and Liverpool have a definable ethos and way of playing but United—for so long the standard bearers of swashbuckling forward play under Alex Ferguson—are painfully lacking in identity in Mourinho's third season at the club.

They have a clutch of top players including Pogba, Nemanja Matic, Romelu Lukaku and Alexis Sanchez—who was left out of the squad against West Ham. United have backed Mourinho heavily in the transfer market but their policy has been scattergun, with January signing Sanchez failing to recreate his Arsenal form at Old Trafford. Mourinho did not look too despondent after Saturday's result but his attempts to shift the blame for two of United's goals onto the officials failed to take the spotlight off his under-performing players.

United appeared to have turned the corner after a poor start to the season, winning three away games on the bounce. But a disappointing draw against promoted Wolverhampton Wanderers last week came before the Derby setback. United's hierarchy may appear relatively sanguine despite the poor run but how long can they afford to wait before they reach crunch point? Defeat on penalties in the League Cup leaves only two competitions left that they can win barring a miracle in the Premier League—the FA Cup and the Champions League—and victory in Europe looks an unlikely prospect.

United are already onto their third manager since Ferguson retired as a Premier League champion in 2013. The club used to pride itself on its stability during the Ferguson years as other clubs chopped and changed but they have to pull themselves out of their current spiral of decline. Will they stick or twist? —AFP

25 New Zealand beat Argentina to win sixth Rugby Championship



26 Hamilton wins Russian Grand Prix to surge 50 points clear



27 La Liga wide open as Real, Barca, Atletico stumble



Europe beat US to reclaim Ryder Cup

To beat Tiger, for the pivotal point, it's the best feeling of my life: Rahm



SAINT-QUENTIN-EN-YVELINES: The European team pose with the trophy after winning the 42nd Ryder Cup at Le Golf National Course at Saint-Quentin-en-Yvelines, south-west of Paris, yesterday. —AFP

SAINT-QUENTIN-EN-YVELINES: Europe's finest golfers, sparked by a record-setting victory for Italy's Francesco Molinari, recaptured the Ryder Cup yesterday, denying a dramatic United States fightback to complete an emotional 17.5-10.5 upset victory.

Reigning British Open champion Molinari defeated five-time major winner Phil Mickelson 4 and 2 as Europe took an insurmountable edge over the favoured Americans in the biennial team showdown at Le Golf National.

"It was amazing," Molinari said. "It's an incredible achievement. We did just an amazing job." In the process, Molinari—who had been winless in six prior Ryder Cup matches—became the first European and only the fourth player ever to go 5-for-5 in a Ryder Cup and did so just two months after hoisting the Claret Jug.

"It feels great but it's not about me," he said. "It was about time to have them but it's about the group not the individual. 'I couldn't even dream of a summer like this.'"

Europe had seized a 10-6 edge in Saturday's four-

some and fourballs matches and got the points they needed to swipe the trophy after an early US surge. Every European player won at least once in the event.

"The altitude they had was unbelievable," Europe captain Thomas Bjorn said. "There was a moment when I thought this was going a little bit wrong but when we got our momentum going it went very quickly."

It turned out to be the most lopsided European triumph since an 18.5-9.5 victory at Ireland's K Club in 2006. The US team needed to match the greatest last-day comebacks in Ryder Cup history by taking eight singles points to keep the Cup, but there was no French magic like Europe's 2012 'Miracle at Medinah' or the Americans' 1999 victory in the 'Battle of Brookline'.

"Their captain did a better job than I did," US captain Jim Furyk said. "Their players played better. We just have to tip our caps." The Americans, who haven't won in Europe since 1993, lead the all-time rivalry 26-14 with two drawn but the Europeans' ninth victory in the past 12 attempts gave them an 11-8 with one drawn edge since

expansion from a British-Irish squad after 1977.

Americans pulled within 10.5-9.5 before Europe's first singles victory by Danish rookie Thorbjorn Olesen, who beat three-time major winner Jordan Spieth 5 and 4. Spain's Jon Rahm followed by downing Tiger Woods 2 and 1, keeping the 14-time major champion winless in four matches this week and snuffing out any US momentum.

'BEST FEELING OF MY LIFE'

Rahm, who led after all but one hole, pumped his fists and screamed with joy after his winning four-foot birdie putt left Europe two wins from victory. "To beat Tiger, one of the greatest players of all time, for the pivotal point, it's the best feeling of my life," Rahm said.

England's Ian Poulter, Europe's wildcard talisman, birdied the 18th hole to beat world number one Dustin Johnson 2-up and put Europe on the brink. That set the stage for Molinari to clinch the win, making his 5-for-5 history after Mickelson found water at 16 and conceded, setting off a champagne-spraying celebration. Only

Americans Larry Nelson in 1979 and Arnold Palmer and Gardner Dickinson in 1967 had gone 5-for-5 in 41 prior Ryder Cups.

Spain's Sergio Garcia, last year's Masters champion, also made history, beating Rickie Fowler 2 and 1 to reach 25.5 career Ryder Cup points, breaking Nick Faldo's old mark of 25. He credited team spirit with helping the feat.

"The feeling we have with each other and how well we connect, it just makes it a little bit easier," Garcia said. Matches stood on a knife's edge deep into the afternoon as tension built across the back nine.

Four-time major winner Rory McIlroy found the same bunker twice and water to lose the 18th hole and his match 1-up to US rookie Justin Thomas.

Third-ranked Brooks Koepka, this year's US Open and PGA Championship winner, halved with England's Paul Casey in a match neither led by more than 1-up.

Webb Simpson beat Justin Rose 3 and 2 and US rookie Tony Finau ripped Tommy Fleetwood 6 and 4, ending the Englishman's bid to match Molinari's 5-for-5 feat. —AFP

Cardiff stay in bottom three after loss to Burnley

CARDIFF: Cardiff City missed a chance to move out of the Premier League's bottom three by conceding two poor goals in a 2-1 home defeat by Burnley yesterday. The visitors' Icelandic international Johann Berg Gudmundsson headed the opening goal in the 52nd minute from Charlie Taylor's cross but eight minutes later Josh Murphy, who had earlier hit a post, scored a deserved Cardiff equaliser. Weak defending allowed Welsh

international Sam Vokes to head the winning goal from Gudmundsson's volleyed cross. A fourth successive defeat left promoted Cardiff second bottom with two points from seven games while Burnley's first away win pushed them into mid-table.

The home side's direct style nevertheless troubled Burnley throughout, particularly from set pieces, leading to one disallowed goal and a clearance off the line before half-time. The long throws and heading ability of skipper Sean Morrison were particularly dangerous. In the 10 minutes before half-time, Morrison twice won headers from corners at the far post to create a good opportunity. He was penalised for a foul, however, before Murphy flicked the ball past Joe Hart and when he headed square again, substitute Kevin Long cleared off the line from Callum Paterson.

Before that Murphy, cutting in from the left, hit the outside of a post. By the interval

Cardiff had had 10 attempts on goal to Burnley's one—they finished with 19 against three—but a lack of concentration led to them falling behind early in the second half.

Taylor was allowed to latch onto a quick throw and cross to the far post where Gudmundsson squeezed his header past goalkeeper Neil Etheridge. Murphy equalised with a composed side-footed effort from 15 metres for his first Premier League goal since a 12 million pound (\$15.63 million) transfer from Norwich City. He then forced Hart into a fine save from a dipping shot. But slack defensive work allowed Gudmundsson to volley a cross and Vokes to glance in a stooping header for another Burnley win to follow last week's 4-0 success against Bournemouth.

"Back-to-back wins is massive," said Vokes. "We needed it after a tough start to the season. We knew it would be tough and it was a battle. We came out in the second half and played a bit more." — Reuters



CARDIFF: Burnley's English midfielder Jack Cork (C) takes on Cardiff City's English midfielder Joe Ralls (R) during the English Premier League football match between Cardiff City and Burnley at Cardiff City Stadium in Cardiff. — AFP