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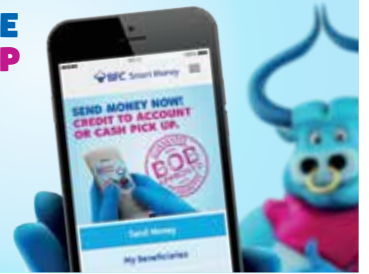
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Naval facility key to ties and security: CP

HRH Crown Prince attends Lord High Admiral's Parade at Britannia Royal Naval College

DT News Network
Manama

His Royal Highness, Crown Prince, Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa yesterday hailed the establishment of Britain's new Naval Support Facility in the Kingdom as a major boost to Kingdom's long-standing ties with the Royal Navy which span over 200 years.

Navies, HRH the Crown Prince said, serve as an essential component of any nation's security architecture.

"Through their monitoring and patrols, they can readily identify and neutralise threats and ensure that trade routes remain open and secure. They also stand ready to respond to conflict scenarios and humanitarian missions at a moment's notice," said the Crown Prince.

The came as the Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Prime Minister attended the Lord High Admiral's Parade held at the Britannia

Royal Naval College (BRNC) in Dartmouth

The event marked the commissioning of 152 officer cadets representing 20 different nationalities. Officer cadets from Bahrain, United Kingdom, Saudi Arabia, Albania, Egypt, Iraq, Lebanon, Singapore and Sri Lanka took part in the Lord High Admiral's Parade, a signature event at the BRNC college.

"The challenges are real, your resolve is in no doubt, this is your time," Prince Salman told the young officers as he presented intake's winners with prizes and congratulated the newly-commissioned officers.

Addressing the ceremony, HRH the Crown Prince acknowledged the proud history of the Royal Navy, which, Prince Salman said, has been at the forefront of the United Kingdom's global role for over four centuries.

"We are proud that these ties have been bolstered and strengthened

with the establishment of its new Naval Support Facility, the Royal Navy's first overseas establishment for over fifty years," stressed Prince Salman.

Following the Parade, Captain Jolyon Woodard hosted a navy reception during which His Royal Highness met a group of young officers and this intake's prize winners.

Speaking on the occasion, HRH CP told that cadets that the "challenges you'll face will be varied, they will often be complex and, once overcome, they will be incredibly rewarding."

"As officers, the responsibility to those under your command will be paramount. Armed forces demand strong, thoughtful, and considered leadership."

His Royal Highness praised the Commanding Officer of BRNC, Captain Jolyon Woodard ADC Royal Navy, and all his staff for the tremendous work and support they provided to the cadets during their time at Dartmouth.



HH Shaikh Nasser
launches "Istijaba"
Programme P 04



His Highness Shaikh
Khalid visits Dana
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US blames Syria for
delaying inspectors
P 02



Syria gives ISIS
48 hours to surrender
P 08

Caring for children with autism

His Highness Shaikh Khalid visits Dana Centre

Manama

His Highness Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al-Khalifa yesterday stressed Bahrain's commitment to providing permanent treatment and appropriate learning environment to all individuals in the community "especially kids with autism and learning difficulties."

This came as the First Deputy President of the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports, President of Bahrain Athletics Association, Honourary President of Bahrain Challengers Sports Federation visited Dana Centre for special education as part of World Autism Day activities.

His Highness attended the classes at the centre with kids as he was briefed by the officials about the programmes offered by the centre using modern teaching methods.

Confirming Bahrain's efforts in this regard, Shaikh Khalid highlighted His Majesty the King's instruction to continue projects to provide the kids appropriate treatment and space.

His Highness appreciated the efforts of the centre and wished them more successes in their endeavours.



US blames Syria for delaying inspectors

They are trying to clean up the evidence, says US Defence Secretary

US Defence Secretary Jim Mattis said on Wednesday that the Syrian government was responsible for delays in inspectors reaching sites of a suspected chemical weapons attack, a strategy they had used in the past.

"We are very much aware

of the delay that the regime imposed on that delegation but we are also very much aware of how they have operated in the past and seal what they have done using chemical weapons," Mattis said before the start of a meeting with his counterpart from Qatar.

"In other words, using the pause after a strike like that to try to clean up the evidence before the investigation team gets in. So it's unfortunate they were delayed," Mattis added.

Mattis had pushed back against a report on Wednesday saying he had unsuccessfully

urged President Donald Trump to seek congressional approval ahead of last week's air strikes in Syria.

Citing anonymous military and administration officials, the New York Times said Mattis had recommended Trump get a green light from lawmakers

before launching Friday's cruise missile barrage against three targets the Pentagon said were tied to Syrian President Bashar al-Assad's chemical weapons program. "I have no idea where that story came from," Mattis told reporters.

"I found nothing in it that I

could recall from my own last week's activities." Chemical weapons inspectors are waiting to go into Douma, near Damascus, to probe allegations of a chemical gas attack on April 7 that prompted last week's US-led response. (Al Arabiya)

Tremors from quake in Iran rattle residents in Bahrain

Manama

Residents yesterday felt mild tremors across the cities of the Kingdom as a magnitude 5.7 earthquake struck Iran's southern province of Bushehr, which is home to a nuclear power plant.

The Bahrain Seismic Station of the Meteorological Directorate said it detected the quake at 9:34 am yesterday. The quake was recorded 243 km northeast of Bahrain, with a magnitude of 5.7 Richter scale and the epicentre was at 41.8 km depth.

The U.S. Geological Survey recorded a magnitude of 5.5, while Iranian state television, citing officials, described it as a magnitude 5.9 quake. Experts say varying magnitudes are common immediately after a quake.

Immediately after the tremor, people in Bahrain, and Saudi Arabia took to Social media to share their experience. Netizens said they felt the quake and evacuated from high-rise buildings. Media reports said people in Kuwait city also felt the tremor.

The UAE's National Centre of Meteorology (NCM) reported as having no effect from the quake in

the country despite residents feeling the tremors.

A *Gulf News* report said that residents in Dubai evacuated from buildings after feeling tremors from the quake in Iran.

According to Iranian Red Crescent society, the quake's epic centre was in a sparsely populated area. No casualties were reported.

Telegram news channel of Iran's state television, quoting Mahmoud Jafari, project manager at the Russian-built Bushehr nuclear plant, said the quake hardly affected the activity of the plant.

Semi-official *Fars news* agency also later reported that the quake did not affect routine operations at the plant.

Bushehr has a 1,000-megawatt reactor built by Russia that became operational in 2011 and reached full capacity the following year.

Iran's semi-official *Tasnim news* agency said: "The quake hit the Kaki area in the province this morning."

Many houses in rural parts of the province are made of mud bricks, which have been known to crumble easily in quake-prone Iran. Iran sits on major fault lines and is

5.7 quake struck Iran's southern province of Bushehr

Bushehr has a 1,000-megawatt reactor built by Russia

Quake did not affect routine operations at the plant.

Tremors felt in Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, UAE and Kuwait

No reports of casualties or damage



Workers stand in front of the Bushehr nuclear power plant (file picture) Courtesy of Reuters

vulnerable to near-daily earthquake.

In 2003, a 6.6-magnitude

quake flattened the historic city of Bam, killing 26,000 people.

In November, a major 7.3 magnitude quake struck a mountainous region of Iran near the Iraqi border, killing over 530 people and injuring thousands. (Agencies)

Blast: 3 gets life sentence

Manama,

The High Criminal Court yesterday sentence three suspects to life in jail for their involvement in an explosion on Budaiya Highway.

Terror Crime Prosecution Chief, Attorney General Ahmed Al-Hammadi said the court convicted them on charges of attempted murder, training on the use of explosives, making, possessing and using explosive devices and causing damages.

The court revoked the citizenship of two of them and confiscated the seized items.

According to court files, the incident that led to the arrest occurred when the public prosecution was notified regarding a strange-looking object placed at Al-Qadam traffic light and an explosion on Budaiya Highway, near the area of Abu Saiba.

The suspects confessed to investigators regarding their role in the incidents. A notice was issued for the third accused.

The Public Prosecution based its charges on the victims' testimonies, the seized items, the accused's confessions and the technical and medical reports.

Facebook to put 1.5bn users out of new EU privacy law

San Francisco

If a new European law restricting what companies can do with people's online data went into effect tomorrow, almost 1.9 billion Facebook Inc users around the world would be protected by it. The online social network is making changes that ensure the number will be much smaller.

Facebook members outside the United States and Canada, whether they know it or not, are currently governed by terms of service agreed with the company's international headquarters in Ireland.

Next month, Facebook is planning to make that the case for only European users, meaning 1.5 billion members in Africa, Asia, Australia and Latin America will not fall under the European Union's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), which takes effect on May 25.

The previously unreported move, which Facebook confirmed to Reuters on Tuesday, shows the world's largest



online social network is keen to reduce its exposure to GDPR, which allows European regulators to fine companies for collecting or using personal data without users' consent.

That removes a huge potential liability for Facebook, as the new EU law allows for fines of up to 4 percent of global annual revenue for infractions, which in Facebook's case could mean billions of dollars. The change comes as Facebook is under scrutiny from regulators and lawmakers around the world.

Leadership offers condolences to Amir of Kuwait

Manama

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al-Khalifa sent a cable of condolence to the Amir of Kuwait His Highness Shaikh Sabah Al-Ahmed Al-Jaber Al-Sabah on the death of Shaikh Fadhel Daij Al-Salman Al-Sabah. In the cable, HM the King prayed to Allah the Almighty to rest the soul of the deceased in eternal peace.

Similar cables of condolences were sent by His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al-Khalifa, Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Prime Minister and His Royal Highness Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa.

HRH the Crown Prince and HRH the PM prayed to Allah the Almighty to rest the soul of the deceased in eternal peace. Prince Salman sent two other cables of condolences to Crown Prince His Highness Shaikh Nawaf Al-Ahmed Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and Prime Minister HH Shaikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah.

HRH the Premier also sent similar cables to the Crown Prince, HH Shaikh Nawaf Al-Ahmed Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and to the Prime Minister, HH Shaikh Jabir Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah.

Focus on sports

Shaikh Nasser launches "Istijaba" programme



DT News Network Manama

His Highness Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa yesterday launched "Istijaba" (Response) a programme designed to produce a new vigour in the sports sector of Bahrain.

'Response', Shaikh Nasser, the Representative of His Majesty the King for Charity Works and Youth Affairs, Chairman of the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports, President of Bahrain Olympic Committee, said, will create a new march for Bahraini sports as it coincides with the vision of the wise leadership for developing Kingdom's sports sector and exploiting its great resources to advance the youth of Bahrain.

The move also falls in line with the reform project led by His Majesty King Hamad Bin Isa Al Khalifa and the vision of HRH Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Prime Minister for the development of governmental sectors.

The event was held in the presence of HH Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the First Deputy President of the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports, President of the Bahrain Athletics Association, Royal family members, ministers, ambassadors and officials in the Kingdom.

"We view Bahraini sports in a modern way as an

important industry at the current time," said Shaikh Nasser stressing that to ensure the success of this industry and its output, "we must manage the available resources in a proper way by relying on investment opportunities and activating the marketing aspect."

It is worth noting that HH Shaikh Nasser had issued Decree (1) for the year 2018 to form a Committee for Coordination, Implementation and Follow-up specialised in the development of youth and sports sectors. The move also resulted in signing several agreements between the Ministry of Youth and Sports, the Bahrain Olympic Committee and private companies and institutions.



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Spreading joy and happiness



RCO holds Orphan Day Festival at the Marina Mania

Spreading joy and happiness in the lives of less privileged, the Royal Charity Organisation (RCO) held Orphan Day Festival at the Marina Mania yesterday. The event, held on the First Friday of April every year according to the Arab League, has attracted 400 persons from RCO's affiliates. The festivity, in line with RCO's social care efforts, featured various beach games, sports activities, workshops and a food festival. RCO extended sincere thanks to the event's sponsors, as well as the Ministry of Interior and Ministry of Health for their efforts to ensure the success of the festival.

Tubli wastewater plant expansion plans discussed

Manama

Expansion plans of the Tubli Wastewater Treatment Plant, funded by GCC Development Programme for Bahrain, were discussed yesterday.

Tubli Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion project, co-funded by Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, includes the construction of four building funded by Saudi Fund for Development (SFD).

Works, Municipalities Affairs and Urban Planning Ministry Undersecretary for Works Affairs, Ahmed Abdulaziz Al-Khayyat, said that final designs had been completed and the tender documents had been prepared, noting that the project was put out to tender on February 7.

SFD representative, Mohammed bin Abdulaziz Al-Hussain, lauded the existing cooperation with the Ministry of Works and stressed the need to expedite the signing of contracts and begin the implementation of the fourth expansion of the Tubli Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Phase 4 will accommodate the increased flow of wastewater with an average daily flow capacity of 200,000 cubic metres/day to reach a full average daily flow capacity of 400,000 cubic metres/day.

He stressed SFD's readiness to provide all kinds of support for such a vital project for Bahrain, as well as to remove any potential obstacles to ensure that the project would be completed according to schedule.

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CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

| In United States Dollars ('USD') | 31 Dec 2017 (Audited) | 31 Dec 2016 (Audited) |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| ASSETS | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | 4,220,604 | 4,962,758 |
| Statutory deposits | 8,959,013 | 6,759,898 |
| Deposits more than 3 months | 13,188,688 | 18,142,842 |
| Investments | 10,789,190 | 10,131,083 |
| Contributions receivable | 19,009,726 | 18,337,248 |
| Receivable from takaful and retakaful companies | 2,909,272 | 1,970,932 |
| Deferred acquisition cost | 3,574,577 | 3,750,082 |
| Deferred retakaful share of contribution | 9,319,384 | 11,850,516 |
| Retakaful share of outstanding claims | 15,911,975 | 17,378,491 |
| Property and equipment | 647,463 | 815,822 |
| Other assets | 3,622,593 | 4,210,649 |
| Total assets | 92,152,485 | 98,310,321 |
| LIABILITIES, PARTICIPANTS' FUND AND SHAREHOLDERS EQUITY | | |
| Liabilities | | |
| Technical reserves | 61,219,973 | 61,454,491 |
| Payable from takaful and retakaful companies | 3,577,613 | 4,031,084 |
| Other liabilities | 9,389,029 | 8,722,788 |
| Total liabilities | 74,186,615 | 74,208,363 |
| Participants' fund | | |
| Accumulated deficit | (41,325,085) | (35,123,196) |
| Foreign currency translation reserve | 281,679 | 400,876 |
| Total of participants' fund | (41,043,406) | (34,722,320) |
| Equity | | |
| Share capital | 58,000,000 | 58,000,000 |
| Statutory reserve | 1,314,688 | 1,288,932 |
| Investment fair value reserve | 1,883,085 | 2,142,759 |
| Foreign currency translation reserve | (748,181) | (960,577) |
| Accumulated losses | (9,256,561) | (9,405,523) |
| 51,193,031 | 51,065,591 | 51,065,591 |
| Non-controlling interest | 7,816,245 | 7,758,687 |
| Total shareholder' equity | 59,009,276 | 58,824,278 |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES, PARTICIPANTS' FUND AND SHAREHOLDERS EQUITY | 92,152,485 | 98,310,321 |

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF INCOME

| In United States Dollars ('USD') | Year ended 31 December | |
|--|------------------------|--------------------|
| | 2017 (audited) | 2016 (audited) |
| Income | 31 Dec 2014 | 31 Dec 2013 |
| Wakala fee | 9,024,127 | 7,933,513 |
| Investment profit income | 463,574 | 612,750 |
| Mudarib share | 63,281 | 86,041 |
| Other income | 258,943 | 234,597 |
| Total income | 9,809,925 | 8,866,901 |
| Expenses | | |
| General and administration expenses | 9,552,362 | 8,891,587 |
| Total expenses | 9,552,362 | 8,891,587 |
| Profit / (Loss) for the year before contribution to KFAS | 257,563 | (24,686) |
| Contribution to KFAS | (2,381) | (4,646) |
| Zakat | (2,644) | (5,169) |
| NET PROFIT / (LOSS) FOR THE YEAR | 252,538 | (34,501) |
| Profit attributable to: | | |
| Owners of the parent | 174,719 | (186,382) |
| Non-controlling interests | 77,819 | 151,881 |
| NET PROFIT / (LOSS) FOR THE YEAR | 252,538 | (34,501) |

The Board of directors have approved the consolidated financial statements.

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF PARTICIPANTS' REVENUE AND EXPENSES

| In United States Dollars ('USD') | Year ended 31 December | |
|---|------------------------|--------------------|
| | 2017 (audited) | 2016 (audited) |
| Contributions | | |
| Gross contributions | 58,540,896 | 62,626,886 |
| Retakaful share of gross contributions | (15,297,627) | (27,152,905) |
| 43,243,269 | 35,473,981 | |
| Retained contributions | | |
| Unearned contributions adjustment | (1,306,248) | 3,372,486 |
| Net earned contributions | 41,937,021 | 38,846,467 |
| Policy issuance fee | 541,238 | 718,202 |
| Policy acquisition costs | (3,541,639) | (3,798,510) |
| Re-takaful discount | 2,605,873 | 3,119,762 |
| (394,528) | 39,454 | |
| Net acquisition costs/ discount income | 199,909 | 70,702 |
| Unearned acquisition costs / discount income adjustment-net | | |
| Net earned acquisition costs / discount income | (194,619) | 110,156 |
| Net earned revenue | 41,742,402 | 38,956,623 |
| Claims | | |
| Gross claims paid | 39,078,981 | 40,960,161 |
| Retakaful share of claims paid | (7,187,367) | (10,715,518) |
| Change in Outstanding claims - gross | 1,044,744 | 6,459,301 |
| Change in Outstanding claims - retakaful share | 1,587,043 | (6,727,780) |
| Transfer to technical reserves | - | (275,844) |
| 34,523,401 | 29,700,320 | |
| Net claims | 7,219,001 | 9,256,303 |
| Net earned revenue over net claims incurred | (9,024,127) | (7,933,513) |
| Wakala fee | (3,773,054) | (3,771,084) |
| General and administrative expenses under mudarib model | (1,060,951) | (158,396) |
| Provision for bad and doubtful debts | (6,639,131) | (2,606,690) |
| 631,432 | 1,222,840 | |
| Mudarib share | (63,281) | (86,041) |
| Other expense | (130,912) | (115,291) |
| DEFICIT FOR THE YEAR | (6,201,892) | (1,585,182) |

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY

| In United States Dollars ('USD') | Share capital | Statutory reserve | Foreign currency translation reserve | Accumulated losses | Investment fair value reserve | Total | Non-controlling interest | Total equity |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| 2017 | | | | | | | | |
| Balance at 1 January | 58,000,000 | 1,288,932 | (960,577) | (9,405,524) | 2,142,759 | 51,065,590 | 7,758,687 | 58,824,277 |
| Foreign currency translation reserve | - | - | 212,396 | - | - | 212,396 | 91,029 | 303,425 |
| Investment fair value reserve | - | - | - | - | (259,674) | (259,674) | (111,290) | (370,964) |
| Statutory reserve | - | 25,756 | - | (25,756) | - | - | - | - |
| Net profit / (loss) for the year | - | - | - | 174,719 | - | 174,719 | 77,819 | 252,538 |
| Balance at 31 December | 58,000,000 | 1,314,688 | (748,181) | (9,256,561) | 1,883,085 | 51,193,031 | 7,816,245 | 59,009,276 |
| 2016 | | | | | | | | |
| Balance at 1 January | 58,000,000 | 1,288,932 | (853,230) | (9,219,141) | 110,015 | 49,326,576 | 6,781,635 | 56,108,211 |
| Foreign currency translation reserve | - | - | (107,347) | - | - | (107,347) | (46,006) | (153,353) |
| Investment fair value reserve | - | - | - | - | 2,032,744 | 2,032,744 | 871,177 | 2,903,921 |
| Statutory reserve | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Net profit / (loss) for the year | - | - | - | (186,382) | - | (186,382) | 151,881 | (34,501) |
| Balance at 31 December | 58,000,000 | 1,288,932 | (960,577) | (9,405,523) | 2,142,759 | 51,065,591 | 7,758,687 | 58,824,278 |

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN PARTICIPANTS' FUND

| In United States Dollars ('USD') | Accumulated deficit | Foreign currency translation reserve | Total |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 2017 | | | |
| Balance at 1 January | (35,123,193) | 400,876 | (34,722,317) |
| Deficit for the year | (6,201,892) | - | (6,201,892) |
| Foreign currency translation reserve | - | (119,197) | (119,197) |
| Balance at 31 December | (41,325,085) | 281,679 | (41,043,406) |
| 2016 | | | |
| Balance at 1 January | (33,538,014) | 346,281 | (33,191,733) |
| Deficit for the year | (1,585,182) | - | (1,585,182) |
| Foreign currency translation reserve | - | 54,595 | 54,595 |
| Balance at 31 December | (35,123,196) | 400,876 | (34,722,320) |

Wide Angle



Joel Indrupati

Religion: Where is it taking us?

“A Muslim politician and a Jewish leader in Berlin are raising funds to fix a synagogue wrecked by Nazis in 1938.”

“Christian and Muslim neighbours came together in May 2017 to restore a Catholic church in Mosul, Iraq, that was damaged by ISIS”.

“When a mosque in Victoria, Texas, was burned in January 2017, local churches and a synagogue offered space for congregants to pray, and an online campaign raised over \$1 million to build a new mosque”.

The above three sentences, taken from page-8 of the latest issue of TIME magazine (dated 16 April 2018), show us an interesting aspect of human behaviour.

They display a strong value of human connection. They show us that it is possible for people of varied religious backgrounds to come together and to work together.

Over the centuries, we know, many wars have been fought on religious lines. And, of late, we have seen politicians using religion as a manipulating factor, twisting voter-favour, in one way or the other.

And that is why the question of whether religion causes divisions, or whether it actually helps in creating unity, is not an easy one to answer.

Each of our opinions could depend on multiple factors which, over the course of our time on earth, have contributed to our current stance.

Since our childhood, we have been exposed to a wide range of teachings. On our own religion, on others' religions, and on even how religion can benefit or harm humanity.

Some of us might believe, like how the German sociologist Karl Marx felt, that 'Religion is the opium of the masses'. And that being high on passion, people can wreck the lives of others who differ with them.

Some of us might believe, like the French scientist Blaise Pascal did, that 'there is a God shaped vacuum in each one of us which only God can fill'. And that we must all aspire to know Him more and to choose the moral path.

There might yet be some of us who believe, like the British Philosopher Bertrand Russel did, that agnosticism is the path to choose. And that we must all realize that God - if there is one - is not really knowable.

Most theologians and philosophers agree, however, on one fact. That religion has always been the driving force when it came to moral values. Since most religious teachings aim to set the path of man straight, telling him to shun evil and to choose good, the 'fear' of God has contributed to a healthy uplift of humanity.

Christians, Muslims, Buddhists, Hindus, Sikhs, Jains, Shintoists and Zoroastrians, whether they believe in one God or many, whether they believe in an after-life or nirvana, know that all our belief systems, ideologies and worldviews cannot be mutually inclusive.

And that is why it is remarkable that Bahrain has made a pioneering move, to offer us the opportunity to interact and investigate differing worldviews.

The setting up of 'King Hamad Global Centre for Peaceful Co-existence' here is likely to make this one of the world's leading meeting places for Dialogues, Conferences and Events related to religious freedom, interfaith-dialogue and peaceful co-existence.

Only dialogues and discussions can prepare the world to combat terrorism, extremism, violence and hate, and only then can we see mutual respect, love, peace, harmony and unity among all Faiths.

If two people can completely differ with one another on an ideology, and yet remain lifelong friends, then we can say that humans are amazing, and humanity is alive and active.

Peaceful coexistence is definitely possible. And it must be pursued. Always.

(The views and opinions expressed in this article are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the policy or position of this newspaper.)

Saudi cinema public screenings begin

Riyadh

Cinema lovers in the desert kingdom have long had to travel to Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates and beyond to enjoy a night at the movies.

That changed Wednesday, when the country's first new movie theatre in more than 30 years, an AMC Cinema, threw open its doors for a gala screening of the Hollywood blockbuster "Black Panther."

A VIP audience of government officials, movie industry insiders and at least one princess posed for selfies on a red carpet, collected their popcorn and took their seats in front of a 40-foot screen.

"Welcome to the AMC Cinema Riyadh," the company's chief executive, Adam Aron, said to hoots and applause. "This is a historic day for AMC. This is a historic day for your country."

The return of cinemas is part of a broad modernization drive by the kingdom's 32-year-old crown prince, Mohammed bin Salman, who aims to wean the economy from its dependence on oil production.

By developing the country's nascent entertainment industry, authorities hope to create job opportunities and make life more enjoyable. Wednesday's opening was one of the most anticipated events



on a calendar that now includes concerts by American rapper Nelly and Greek-born pianist and composer Yanni, food truck and comic-con festivals, dance performances and monster-truck rallies.

Movie theaters have been barred in Saudi Arabia since the early 1980s, when the kingdom began enforcing an austere version of Islam that frowns on most forms of entertainment and believes any mixing between unrelated men and women will corrupt public morals.

The only public cinema in operation was an Imax theater housed at a science center that shows educational films.

The Saudi authorities lifted the cinema ban in December and aim to have around 2,000

screens built by 2030, which they project will create more than 30,000 jobs.

International cinema owners and studios have been clamoring to get in on a market that industry experts say could generate \$1 billion a year in annual box-office receipts.

"The pent-up demand for going to cinemas I think will be beyond our imagination," Aron said in an interview last week.

The company, which is based in Leewood, Kan., and is the world's largest cinema operator, was awarded the first license to run movie theaters in the kingdom two weeks ago. It plans to have up to 40 theaters in 15 Saudi cities within five years, and up to 100 theaters in 25 cities by 2030.

Vox gets licence

Riyadh

Vox Cinemas, owned by Dubai's Majid Al Futtaim, has received a licence to operate cinemas in Saudi Arabia and will open a four-screen multiplex theatre in Riyadh in the "coming days", the company said yesterday.

Vox is investing 2 billion riyals (\$533 million) to open 600 screens in the next five years in the conservative Muslim kingdom, which lifted a nearly 40-year ban on commercial cinemas last year as part of broad social and economic reforms.

Aron said the biggest challenge was how quickly the Saudis wanted the first cinema to open.

Rather than attempt to build a theater from scratch, AMC converted a vacant concert hall in a partially built financial district of the capital that was under the control of its partner, Saudi Arabia's main sovereign wealth fund, the Public Investment Fund. Leather reclining seats were dispatched by air freight from the United States. The first laser projector arrived at the theater last week. Speakers were installed on Monday. (Reuters)

Missing Pets



CLARA - Female, 3 yrs, spayed, dark brown spot on right side/light brown spot on left side/three small light brown spots on back of neck, not wearing collar or ID tag, Hamad Town (roundabout 7 near Taekwondo), 15/4/18. **36361106**



CALVIN - Male Persian/Angora mix, 4 yrs, grey and white, neutered, microchipped, very shy, not wearing collar or ID tag, possibly STOLEN, Saar Saraya (near St Christopher School/Nakheel Ctr), BD100 REWARD for safe return, 15/12/17. **39180314**



KITTY - Female, 2 yrs, was very pregnant - so probably gave birth, not wearing collar or ID tag, indoor/outdoor cat, Janabiya (near Naya Mart/ Mercado), 25/2/18. **39262116**



KURO - Female, Saluki/Beagle mix (more Saluki), 1 year, all black except for patch on chest, spayed, microchipped, slipped out door, not wearing collar or ID tag as just had bath, Hidd (Road 1204 behind Little Pearl Nursery School), 7/11/17. **34110611**



BABOU - Male Coton de Tulear, 4 yrs, all white, microchipped, escaped after dog walk, likely picked up, wearing white necklace/no ID tag, Sakir Camps/ Dilmon Paradise area, BD200 REWARD for safe return, 1/1/18. **37199478 or 36446893**



ZEUS - Male Bengal, 11 yrs, neutered, microchipped, very picky eater, nervous cat, not wearing collar or ID tag, indoor cat - slipped out, possibly STOLEN, Umm Al Hassam, BD500 REWARD for safe return, 4/3/18. **39608777/35053060/39333377**

Bahrain to host GEC

GEC will bring together thousands of entrepreneurs

Helps to start new ventures around the world

Manama

Bahrain will host the next edition of the Global Entrepreneurship Congress (GEC) in April 2019, opening up new opportunities for regional and global businesses to boost cooperation.

GEC will bring together thousands of entrepreneurs, investors, researchers, policymakers and other startup businesses from more than 170 countries to identify new ways of helping founders start and scale new ventures around the world.

This was revealed during a transition ceremony held in Istanbul highlighting Bahrain's preparations for the event.

"This event comes in line with the country's growing interest to expand investment in entrepreneurship, by facilitating specially designed initiatives to support the growth of a robust entrepreneurial eco-system," Dr Ebrahim Mohammed Janahi Chief Executive of Labour Fund "Tamkeen," said.

A panel discussion was held

during the transition ceremony featuring the Bahraini delegation represented by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Tourism, Bahrain Tourism & Exhibitions Authority, Bahrain Economic Development Board "EDB" and the Labour Fund "Tamkeen".

Discussions focused on entrepreneurship and the economic diversity, as well as the economic regulations in Bahrain which allow startups to launch, expand and maintain sustainability.

Chief Executive Officer of Bahrain Tourism and Exhibitions Authority (BTEA), Shaikh Khaled bin Humood Al Khalifa participated in a panel discussion which revolved around the significance of the tourism sector and how it has become a major contributor to the national economy.

"We are currently working on several plans to develop new beach fronts and public beaches including the development of Bahrain Bay,



Chief Executive Officer of BTEA, Shaikh Khaled bin Humood Al Khalifa

Diving Centre, the Hospitality and Culinary institutes, the Galali beach project and Al Mutturith Island. The launch of the new exhibition and conference centre will positively impact various sectors, furthering

strengthening the Kingdom's position on the world tourism map," Shaikh Khaled told the forum.

"The Kingdom is also witnessing further enhancement to its tourism infrastructure, contributing 6.8% to

the country's non-oil GDP. Bahrain welcomed a total of 12.7 million tourists in 2017 which affirms the significant role of the sector in the Kingdom's economic diversification efforts," he added.



Chairman of the Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCCI) Sameer Nass alongside members of the board of directors received at Bait Al Tijjar yesterday the US Ambassador to Bahrain Justin Siberell. Nass congratulated the United States on the 242nd anniversary of their independence, and voiced his pride in the century-long relationship between Bahrain and the United States. Nass also underlined the \$3 billion trade level between both friendly countries, and the pivotal role of the Free Trade Agreement (FTA) in invigorating and streamlining trade. He voiced the keenness of the Bahraini private sector on stepping-up business with the U.S., and encouraged U.S. business owners and investors to venture in the Bahraini market. Siberell congratulated the new board of directors of the chamber, and voiced his readiness to consolidate efforts with the chamber in all endeavours that aim at streamlining and spurring business.

Trump-Kim summit site rumours swirl

Speculation is rife over the venue of a potentially historic summit between North Korea's Kim Jong Un and U.S. President Donald Trump



1 PANMUNJOM: One of most likely sites being discussed is **Joint Security Area (JSA)** – only spot along **Demilitarized Zone** where North Korean troops stand face-to-face with South Korean and UN Command forces

But some see JSA as symbol of Korean War rather than place for peace deal

2 PYONGYANG: North Korea's capital has seen previous bilateral meetings, including 2000 meeting between Secretary of State **Madeleine Albright** and **Kim Jong Il**

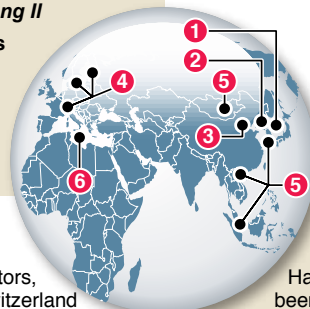
But many observers think summit in either Pyongyang or Washington is unlikely due to security concerns

4 EUROPE: Several countries with international reputations as mediators, including Finland, Switzerland and Sweden, have been raised as possible neutral locations for summit

Sweden has an embassy in Pyongyang and represents interests of U.S., Canada and Australia

6 INTERNATIONAL WATERS: In 1989, **George HW Bush** met Soviet leader, **Mikhail Gorbachev**, on Soviet cruise ship, **Maxim Gorky**, off coast of Malta

3 BEIJING: China is North Korea's main economic supporter, but has toughened up its dealings with Pyongyang in recent months



Meeting between **Kim Jong Un** and Chinese President **Xi Jinping** in Beijing on March 26 reaffirms close ties with North's biggest ally ahead of summit

5 ASIA: Other locations in Asia, including Singapore, Hanoi or Jeju Island have been raised as possibilities

Ulaanbaatar has held sensitive talks with North Koreans in the past and Mongolia maintains friendly relations with both sides



Pictures: AP, Wiki Commons
Sources: AP, Reuters, BBC

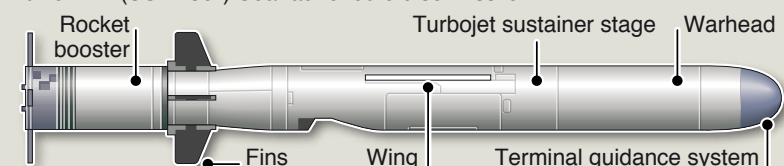
Russia's military assets in Syria

Russia has combat-tested more than 200 new advanced weapons systems in Syria since September 2015. Weapons deployed include long-range air- and sea-based Kalibr and Kh-101 cruise missiles. Russia's advanced weaponry will be demonstrated for the first time at Moscow's Red Square military parade on May 9.

The Russian Navy Kalibr-PL or Kalibr-NK, also known as SS-N-30, is a long-range cruise developed as part of the Kalibr ship-borne missile system. This weapon is intended to hit targets with pinpoint accuracy at ranges of up to 2,500 kilometres, equipped with a conventional warhead and flying at altitudes of 50 to 150 metres from the ground.

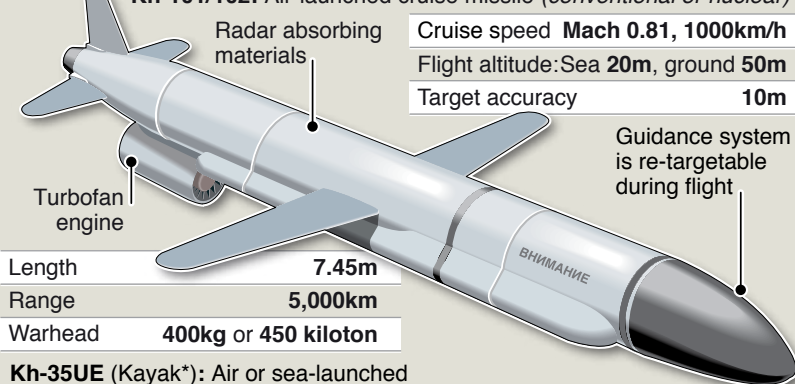
The Kalibr-NK cruise missile was combat-tested in October 2015, when four Russian ships launched 26 rockets against targets in Syria from the Caspian Sea, travelling 1,500km. Western intelligence was unaware of the existence of the Kalibr-NK missile at that time.

Kalibr-NK (SS-N-30*) Sea-launched cruise missile



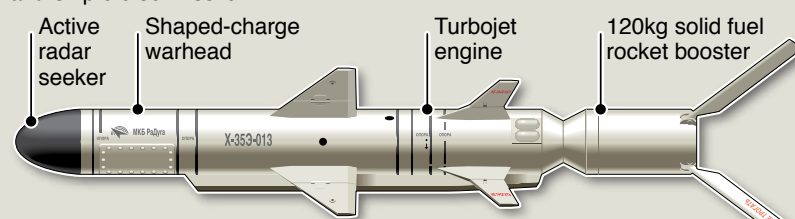
| | | | |
|---------|---------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Length | 8.2m | Cruise speed | Mach 0.8, 987km/h |
| Range | 2,600km | Flight altitude | 50m |
| Warhead | 400kg | Target accuracy | Within 3m |

Kh-101/102: Air-launched cruise missile (conventional or nuclear)



| | | | |
|---------|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| Length | 7.45m | Cruise speed | Mach 0.81, 1000km/h |
| Range | 5,000km | Flight altitude: Sea | 20m, ground 50m |
| Warhead | 400kg or 450 kiloton | Target accuracy | 10m |

Kh-35UE (Kayak*): Air or sea-launched anti-ship cruise missile



| | | | |
|---------|-------|----------------------|-------------------|
| Length | 3.75m | Cruise speed | Mach 0.8, 987km/h |
| Range | 260km | Flight altitude | 10-15m |
| Warhead | 145kg | Seeker lock-on range | 50km |

Sources: Global Security, Rosoboronexport *NATO designation

© GRAPHIC NEWS

ISIS given 48hrs to surrender



A convoy of pro-Syrian government fighters arrives in Syria's northern region (WSJ)

ISIS militants have been given 48 hours to agree to withdraw from an enclave they control south of Damascus, the pro-Syrian government newspaper al-Watan reported on Thursday.

"If they refuse, the army and supporting forces are ready to launch a military operation to end the presence of the organization in the area," it said.

The jihadist-controlled enclave is centered around the Palestinian Yarmouk camp and the al-Hajar al-Aswad area south of Damascus. The area is much smaller than the eastern Ghouta region where the Syrian government recently defeated insurgents.

A commander in the regional military alliance that backs the Syrian government said the Syrian army had begun shelling the jihadist enclave on Tuesday in preparation for an assault.

Yarmouk, some 8 km (5 miles) from the center of Damascus, was home to Syria's largest Palestinian refugee community before the Syrian war erupted in 2011. Although most residents have fled, the United Nations has said several thousand remain.

The Syrian government has recovered swathes of territory from rebels by letting them leave to other rebel-held parts of the country after years of siege and ferocious military assaults backed by Russia and Iran. Meanwhile, state television showed live footage of buses entering the town of Dumayr, northeast of Damascus, to bring out fighters and their families, while soldiers stood by the roadside.

Twenty buses would be used to transfer about 5,000 people, including 1,500 rebels, to north Syria after they surrendered their heavy weapons, Syrian TV said.

Iraq carries out strikes on targets in Syria

Baghdad

Iraq carried out air strikes on Islamic State positions in Syria a week after Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi said his country would defend itself from militant threats across the border.

Iraqi F-16 warplanes crossed into Syria to carry out the strikes after coordination with Syrian government. "Carrying out air strikes on Daesh gangs is because of the dangers posed by said gangs to Iraqi territories," Iraqi military said in a statement.

Joyalukkas, LuLu Hypermarket, Dajeej, Kuwait showroom inauguration



The showroom was inaugurated by Mohammad Ismael Safar Bahzad (Director, Joyalukkas, Kuwait), in the presence of Mohamed Haris (Regional Director, LuLu International Group, Kuwait) along with local dignitaries, VIPs and Joyalukkas Group Chief Executives

US hopes for success in nuke talks

Geneva

The United States hopes to reach agreement with Britain, France and Germany to address President Donald Trump's concerns about the 2015 Iran nuclear deal, Washington's disarmament ambassador said yesterday. U.S. disarmament ambassador Robert Wood said discussions with the three European powers were "intense" ahead of the May 12 deadline.



Britain's health minister in the dock

London

Health Secretary, Jeremy Hunt, is facing an investigation by a parliamentary watchdog over his failure to declare a property investment deal. Hunt, one of Britain's wealthiest politicians, apologized last week for failing to initially disclose his interest in a company set up to purchase luxury flats, saying it was an honest administrative mistake.



"No monetary union can exist without elements of convergence. The most important thing is not to react on such and such instrument at this stage, but to be sure that we share the same goals and to have a joint political objective,"

Emmanuel Macron,
French President on improving euro zone competitiveness

TESS – NASA's new planet hunter

TESS aims to outperform the crippled *Kepler* space observatory, which has found 30 potentially life-bearing exoplanets* in nine years

TESS – Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite (TESS)

- Fairing:** World's largest. Can carry payload size of school bus
- Thermal blankets**
- Solar arrays**
- Sun shade**
- Field of view**
- Finding planets:** TESS detects tiny changes in brightness caused by transit of planets across face of stars
- Four cameras:** Will scan area of space 400 times larger than that covered by Kepler
- Grid fins:** Fold up to stabilise first stage on descent for reuse
- TESS Tiles:** sky in 26 sectors
- KEPLER – Launch: Mar 7, 2009**
- Candidate exoplanets found: 2,245
- Confirmed exoplanets found: 2,342
- Confirmed exoplanets found, less than twice Earth-size and in habitable zone: 30
- Jul 2012:** One of four reaction wheels, used to maintain Kepler's position, breaks down
- May 2013:** Second reaction wheel fails
- May 2014:** K2 extension born, using limited maneuverability to scan smaller red dwarfs
- KEPLER MISSION**
- Candidate exoplanets found: 479
- Confirmed exoplanets found: 307
- Landing legs:** Fold down during descent
- SpaceX Falcon 9**

*Exoplanet is planet orbiting star outside our solar system
Sources: NASA, SpaceX Picture: NASA Satellites not shown to scale © GRAPHIC NEWS



London

Oil prices kept rising to their highest since late 2014 as U.S. crude inventories declined, moving closer to five-year averages

Brent crude futures LCOc1 reached \$74.74 a barrel, the highest since Nov. 27, 2014 — the day OPEC decided to pump as much as it could to defend market share, sending the price to a low of \$27 just over a year later.

Brent futures came off

slightly to \$74.40 a barrel by 1316 GMT, still up 92 cents from the previous close.

U.S. West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude futures CLc1 were up 53 cents at \$69.00. WTI had earlier hit \$69.56, its highest since Nov. 28.

The Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) and other major producers including Russia started to withhold output in 2017 to rein in oversupply that

had depressed prices since 2014.

OPEC and its partners will meet in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, on April 20. OPEC will then meet on June 22 to review its oil production policy.

Reuters reported on Wednesday that top oil exporter Saudi Arabia would be happy for crude to reach \$80 or even \$100 a barrel, which was viewed as a sign that Riyadh will not seek changes to the supply pact.

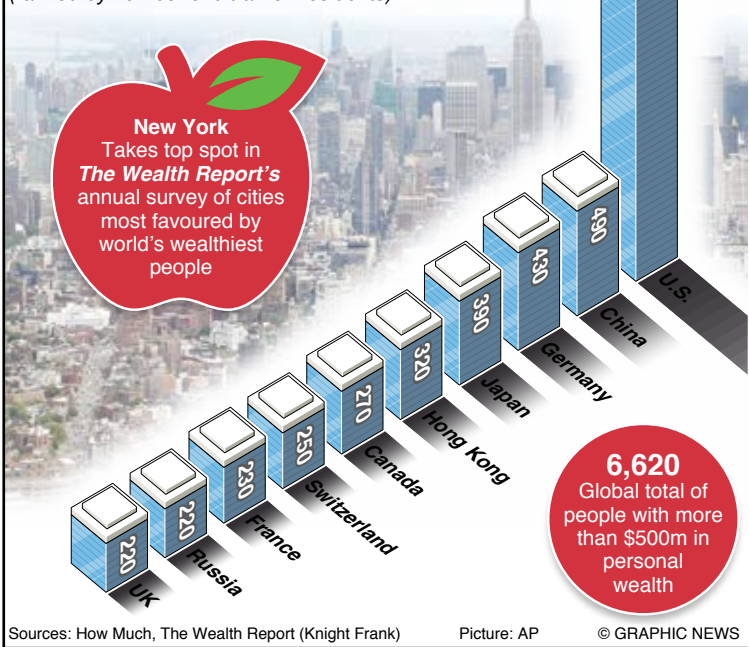
In the United States, the Energy Information Administration (EIA) said on Wednesday that commercial crude stocks fell close to the five-year average of about 420 million barrels.

Also supporting prices is the possibility that the United States might reimpose sanctions on Iran, OPEC's third-largest producer, which could result in further supply reductions from the Middle East. (Reuters)

Where the ultra-wealthy live

Ultra-rich people with personal fortunes of more than \$500m can afford to live wherever they want, but where are their favourite hotspots?

TOP 10 COUNTRIES
(ranked by number of ultra-rich residents)



Daimler open to buying small stake in Volvo cars

Frankfurt

Daimler is open to supplying Volvo with engines and could even take a small stake in the Swedish carmaker, Manager Magazin said, raising the possibility of increased cooperation between Mercedes-Benz and China's Geely.

Daimler could buy "a couple of percent" in Volvo Cars, Manager Magazin said on Thursday, without citing sources.

Volvo declined to comment and a Daimler spokesman said: "This is pure speculation which we will not

Daimler could buy "a couple of percent" in Volvo Cars, Manager Magazin said on Thursday, without citing sources

comment on."

The chairman of Volvo owner Geely, Li Shufu, stealthily built a \$9 billion stake in Daimler by the end of February,

seeking to forge an alliance with the German carmaker as a way to counter the threat from new competitors such as Tesla, Google and Uber. (Reuters)

Did You Know?



The shortest war on record was fought between Zanzibar and England in 1896. Zanzibar surrendered after 38 minutes.



BFC CURRENCIES EXCHANGE RATE

| COUNTRY/CURRENCIES | BUY | SELL |
|--------------------------|------------|------------|
| AUSTRALIA | 0.3007 | 0.2982 |
| BANGLADESH | 0.00472 | 0.00452 |
| CANADA | 0.3052 | 0.3020 |
| DENMARK | 0.0658 | |
| EGYPT | 0.0237 | 0.0219 |
| EURO | 0.4734 | 0.4709 |
| HONGKONG | 0.04967 | 0.04927 |
| INDIA | 0.00585 | 0.00578 |
| INDONESIA | 0.00002941 | 0.00002800 |
| IRAN TUMAN | 0.00010959 | |
| IRAQI DINAR | 0.000317 | |
| JAPAN | 0.00367 | 0.003600 |
| JORDAN | 0.5359 | 0.5351 |
| KOREA | 0.00040578 | |
| KUWAIT | 1.263 | 1.264 |
| MALAYSIA | 0.0996 | 0.0994 |
| NEW ZEALAND | 0.2796 | 0.2797 |
| NORWAY | 0.0508 | |
| NEPAL | 0.00395 | 0.00359 |
| OMAN | 0.98168 | 0.98301 |
| PAKISTAN | 0.00349 | 0.00327 |
| PHILIPPINES | 0.00748 | 0.00726 |
| QATAR | 0.10381 | 0.10404 |
| SAUDI ARABIA | 0.1006 | 0.10067 |
| SINGAPORE | 0.2923 | 0.2903 |
| SOUTH AFRICA | 0.03290 | 0.03280 |
| SRI LANKA | 0.00273 | 0.00242 |
| SWEDISH | 0.0480 | |
| SWITZERLAND | 0.3973 | 0.3943 |
| SYRIA | 0.001740 | 0.0017 |
| TAIWAN | 0.013600 | |
| THAILAND | 0.012260 | 0.012260 |
| TURKEY | 0.0991 | |
| UNITED KINGDOM | 0.5448 | 0.5419 |
| UNITED ARAB EMIRATES | 0.102850 | 0.102870 |
| UNITED STATES OF AMERICA | 0.37790 | 0.37800 |
| YUAN | 0.056800 | 0.056800 |

Rates are for indication purpose only. For firm rates or for currencies not listed above please call Bahrain Financing Company. Telephone: 17228888, Website: www.bfc.com.bh

GULF INTERBANK RATES

| COUNTRY | 1 US DLR | 1 UK STG | 1 SFR | 100 YEN |
|---------|----------|----------|--------|---------|
| BAHRAIN | 0.3770 | 0.5738 | 0.3897 | 0.3524 |
| KUWAIT | 0.2855 | 30.5428 | 0.2952 | 0.2669 |
| OMAN | 0.3849 | 0.3723 | 0.3979 | 0.3598 |
| QATAR | 3.6420 | 3.5229 | 3.7651 | 3.4044 |
| UAE | 3.6730 | 3.5529 | 3.7972 | 3.4334 |
| SAUDI | 3.7500 | 3.6274 | 3.8768 | 3.5053 |

Saudi market rises helped by oil gains

Oil prices at highest since late 2014

Miner Ma'aden leaps in Saudi Arabia

Al Rajhi Bank, Samba Financial Group gain sharply

Dubai Islamic Bank weighs on Dubai



Closing Bell

SAUDI rose 1.6pc to 8,277 points.

DUBAI fell 0.2pc to 3,082 points.

ABU DHABI gained 0.5pc to 4,707 points.

QATAR surged 1.6pc to 9,197 points.

EGYPT gained 0.4pc to 17,781 points.

KUWAIT edged down 0.1pc to 4,773 points.

OMAN rose 0.2pc to 4,760 points.

BAHRAIN edged down 0.04pc to 1,301 points.

Dubai
Saudi Arabia's stock market surged yesterday, bolstered by a pick-up in oil prices to their highest since late 2014.

The Saudi index finished in positive territory for a sixth straight day, gaining 1.6 per cent. Brent oil rose to nearly \$75 a barrel on a drop in U.S. crude inventories and after sources told Reuters that Saudi Arabia aims to push oil prices higher.

Al Rajhi Bank rose 2.9pc and Samba Financial Group 3.5pc, while Saudi Arabian Mining Co (Ma'aden) advanced by 6.1pc.

Saudi stocks have been gathering momentum in recent months as investors anticipate foreign fund

inflows when the kingdom joins emerging market indexes.

Al Sagr Cooperative Insurance registered its heaviest trade since February last year, closing 4.7pc higher, while Wala'a Cooperative Insurance gained 2.5pc after the companies said they would consider a possible merger.

The Qatari index rose by 1.6pc, driven by a 5.1pc climb in QNB after shareholders approved a previously proposed increase of its non-Qatari ownership limit to 49pc from 25pc and a rise in the amount a single investor can own to 5pc from 2pc.

Abu Dhabi's index closed

0.5pc up.

Dana Gas recovered from early losses to close flat. Shareholders have approved payment of a cash dividend for 2017, its first in several years. However, courts in Britain and the United Arab Emirates, ruling in the dispute over whether it must redeem \$700 million of Islamic bonds, have given conflicting rulings on whether it can legally make

the dividend payout.

Dubai's index finished 0.2pc down as Dubai Islamic Bank fell 2pc. The bank posted a 16pc increase in first-quarter net profit on Wednesday, broadly in line with a forecast by SICO Bahrain.

In Egypt, the blue-chip index rose 0.4pc, with Commercial International Bank, the biggest lender, adding 0.7pc. (Reuters)

China to speed up chip plans

Beijing

China is looking to accelerate plans to develop its domestic semiconductor market amid a fierce trade stand-off with the United States and a U.S. ban on sales to Chinese phone maker ZTE that has underscored the country's reliance on imported chips.

Senior Chinese officials have held meetings this week with industry bodies, regulators and the country's powerful chip fund about speeding up already aggressive plans for the sector, two people with direct knowledge of the talks told Reuters.



The talks underscore China's concern about its reliance on imported chips from global names such as Qualcomm Inc and Intel Corp, aggravated by a worsening dispute with

the United States centered on cutting-edged tech.

"In the last few days senior Chinese officials have met to discuss plans to speed up the development of the chip

industry," one person with knowledge of the talks said, asking not to be named because of the sensitivity of the matter.

China has already made the semiconductor market a key priority under its "Made in China 2025" strategy to cut reliance on foreign technologies and create its own domestic champions.

That goal has been given fresh urgency after a U.S. ban on sales of products - including chips - to Chinese phone maker ZTE Corp roiled the firm, which uses mainly U.S. chips in its smartphones. (Reuters)

Education is a shared commitment between dedicated teachers, motivated students and enthusiastic parents with high expectations.
-Bob Beuprez



CAMPUS

Campus@dt.bh

Friday, April 20, 2018

11

BIS holds investiture ceremony

The Investiture Ceremony of Bahrain Indian School (BIS) for the academic session 2018-2019 was held to assign responsibilities to the newly elected office bearers. The function was presided over by BIS Principal Saji Jacob in the presence of BIS Director Ritu Verma.

'The Investiture Ceremony sets the right tone for an academic year during which the young leaders not only learn to guide other students but also create models in leadership for others to emulate, reinstating the faith in the calibre and leadership of the future generation', said Principal Saji Jacob.

The newly elected students were conferred badges and sashes by the Director, Principal and Coordinator of the school. The Head Boy - Steve Chalil Biju and Head Girl - Amruta Phadke delivered speech, thanking the audience and conferred that they will fulfil the responsibilities as assigned to them.

Physical Education Teacher Hemanth administered the oath of office. Students pledged to serve the school and fulfil their duties to the best of their abilities. The Student Council also promised to take the school to new heights and resplendence.

The school management congratulated the children on getting elected for the leading roles and guided them to be impartial and honest in discharging their duties.



Oath by new office bearers

RCSIB, GAPIO host joint-research meeting



Participants during a photocall

Under the Patronage of Supreme Council of Health Chairman, Lieutenant General Dr Shaikh Mohammed bin Abdulla Al Khalifa, the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland - Medical University

of Bahrain (RCSI Bahrain) on Friday played host to a first joint-research meeting with the Global Association of Physicians of Indian Origin (GAPIO).

The event featured a series of keynote lectures, discussions and

poster presentations involving students and senior academic staff, as well as representatives of other institutions from around Bahrain and further afield, including American Mission Hospital, Arabian Gulf

University (AGU), the Indian Medical Association and Weston General Hospital in the UK.

Among the subjects under focus during the event were medical image processing for 3D printing; diabetes

and neuroprotection; sickle cell disease; humour aids in education; academic professional development; postdoctoral research and the significance of sigma receptors in breast cancer.

The main objective of

this event was to provide an opportunity for academics and healthcare professionals from RCSI Bahrain and the Indian medical fraternity in Bahrain to network and discuss ongoing research projects.



Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Prime Minister HRH Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa attended the Lord High Admiral's Parade held at the Britannia Royal Naval College (BRNC) in the United Kingdom, Saudi Arabia, Albania, Egypt, Iraq, Lebanon, Singapore and Sri Lanka



Deputy Prime Minister HH Shaikh Ali bin Khalifa Al Khalifa received Indian Ambassador Alok Kumar Sinha. The deputy PM praised the advanced cooperation ties in various fields, noting the ambassador's role in boosting them. They also reviewed various topics of shared interest.



Commander-in-Chief of BDF Field Marshal Shaikh Khalifa bin Ahmed Al Khalifa paid a field tour to several units. The Commander-in-Chief was informed about their achievements, as well as their procedures to enhance the level of combat and administrative readiness. He was also updated about the latest developments in these units at all levels.



Information Minister Ali bin Mohammed Al Romaihi received researcher Ibrahim Al-Timimi who presented him with two copies of his Masters theses which were obtained from France and the USA. The Information Minister congratulated him on his Masters Degrees, expressing appreciation of the efforts of the young national competencies to enhance their academic qualifications and obtain higher degrees.



Bahrain International Circuit hosted its annual staff party on Monday at Wyndham Grand Hotel in Bahrain Bay. BIC Chairman of the Board Arif Rahimi and BIC Chief Executive Shaikh Salman bin Isa Al Khalifa attended the event. They expressed their gratitude and appreciation to the staff for their hard work and commitment to the development of the circuit through the years.



Indian Islahi Center organised a Sports meet at Galali Club on 13th April. The event was a success.



... in Dartmouth. Crown Prince received the salute at the parade, which marked the commissioning of 152 officer cadets. 20 different nationalities were represented, with officer cadets on parade from Bahrain,

...ral BDF
to em-
ments



Labour and Social Development Minister Jameel Humaidan received the Chairwoman of the Bahrain Women Union Badriya Al Marzouq accompanied with some of the board members. They reviewed the Union's plans for the next phase, and ways of unifying the efforts between the various entities supporting Bahraini women.

Royal Court Minister Shaikh Khalid bin Ahmed Al Khalifa received Deputy Head of Legislation and Legal Opinion Commission, Dr. Mohammed Ahmed Mujbil, who presented a copy of his doctoral thesis from University of Cairo's Law College titled "Contesting Legislative Elections in Egyptian and Bahraini Constitutional Systems: A Comparative Study." The Royal Court Minister commended Dr. Mujbil's research efforts for this higher degree, wishing him more success.



The Sikh Community in Bahrain celebrated Baisakhi, the anniversary of the founding of the Sikh order (Khalsa) in 1699. More than 1,500 devotees gathered for special prayers at the Sikh Community Center in Salmabad. Indian Ambassador Alok Kumar Sinha and Shaikh Ahmed bin Hassan Al Khalifa were the chief guests for the event.



... it was a success and saw a good number of participants. DT News Editor-in-Chief Captain Mahmood Al Mahmood presented prizes to the winners of the meet.

CELEBS



Ellen DeGeneres @TheEllenShow
It's time for #SplittingUpTogether on the West Coast!
It's gonna be a real tweet.



Cumberbatch's message for youth on women

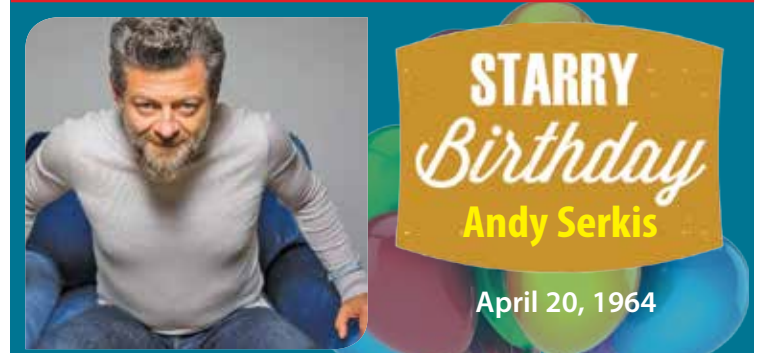


London **B**ritish star Benedict Cumberbatch has shared some powerful words for boys dating girls -- "respect, just respect".

He sat down with *YouTube* sensation Sophia Grace Brownlee to take on some of the biggest challenges facing teenagers, reports *people.com*.

Cumberbatch started off with how to deal with bullies. "As hard as it may seem, you have to meet it with love," he said.

"You have to try and empathise with hate. Not hate yourself, but you have to understand why people often want to damage other people is because they are damaged themselves. And if you could just turn that mirror around a little bit on them, then it might quell it slightly." (IANS)



STARRY
Birthday
Andy Serkis

April 20, 1964

British actor known for his motion capture and acting work as Gollum in the *Lord of the Rings* films. He also received acclaim for his depiction of the ape Caesar in the *Planet of the Apes* trilogy of the 2010s.

Collins starring in 'Titan'



Los Angeles **'O**kja' star Lily Collins has been cast in the survival thriller 'Titan'. The 29-year-old actor will play the role of a young musician in the film, which will be directed by Austin Bunn.

The story follows a strong-willed young musician on a quest to understand the life of her environmental activist older sister, who was killed years before in a tragic fall. Christine Vachon and David Hinojosa are producing.

Collins is currently shooting for the thriller 'Extremely Wicked, Shockingly Evil and Vile', co-starring Zac Efron. (PTI)

BAREILLES, GROBAN TO HOST TONY AWARDS



Los Angeles **M**usic artistes Sara Bareilles and Josh Groban will host the theatre industry's biggest awards ceremony Tony Awards.

Both artistes have become popular talent on the Broadway lately -- Bareilles wrote the score for the musical "Waitress" and her two stints in the lead role of the show charging notable sales increases for the production, while Groban spent several months in one of the title roles of "Natasha, Pierre and the Great Comet of 1812".

Bareilles also played Mary Magdalene in NBC's well-received live broadcast of "Jesus Christ Superstar", reported *variety.com*.

The nominees for this year's 72nd annual Tony Awards will be announced on May 1. (IANS)

Now you know it



American rapper Kanye West's album 'The College Drop-out' was aptly named after he dropped out of Chicago State University. *(thefactsite)*



PATTON PREDICTED MARKLE'S FUTURE

Los Angeles

Actress Paula Patton says she predicted that Meghan Markle would become a member of the royal family one day.

The "Warcraft" actress and her then fiance and singer Robin Thicke recruited the "Suits" actress to do the calligraphy on their wedding invitations in 2005, she thought she was "meant to be royal", reports *eonline.com*.

"I met her because she helped me with my wedding invitations. She had this beautiful writing. That moment I feel like I said something to her. Like, 'You are meant to be royal'... She was just so graceful and lovely, and actually really kind," said Patton.

Markle, who is set to wed Prince Harry next month, used to even teach calligraphy when she worked at Paper Source in Beverly Hills in 2004. *(IANS)*

TOP 10
Songs
this Week



1. Nice For What
Drake



2. God's Plan
Drake



3. Meant To Be
Bebe Rexha & Florida Georgia Line



4. Psycho
Post Malone Featuring Ty Dolla \$ign



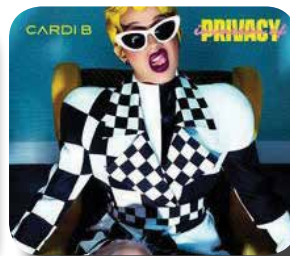
5. Look Alive
BlocBoy JB Featuring Drake



6. The Middle
Zedd, Maren Morris & Grey



7. Perfect
Ed Sheeran



8. I Like It
Cardi B, Bad Bunny & J Balvin



9. Freaky Friday
Lil Dicky Featuring Chris Brown



10. Finesse
Bruno Mars & Cardi B

(billboard)

London

Edgar Ramirez has been cast opposite Dwayne Johnson and Emily Blunt in Disney's 'Jungle Cruise'. The 'Bright' star will be playing a villain with a conquistador (soldiers and explorers of the Spanish Empire) background in the film, which will also star comedian Jack Whitehall, according to a report.

The film, a feature adaptation of Disney's theme park ride, follows a boat captain who takes his sister and her brother on a mission to find a tree believed to possess healing powers. Wild animals and a competing German expedition figure into the proceedings.

Johnson, who was recently seen in 'Rampage', will portray the role of the boat captain, while Blunt and Whitehall will play the sister and the brother. The project also serves as a reunion for Ramirez and Blunt, who earlier worked together on the 2016 thriller 'The Girl On the Train'. *(PTI)*



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HOW TO REACH US

"Out & About", a ready reckoner for the events taking place on the island.

To be included, please send the matter to the following email ID : news@dt.bh

OUT & ABOUT

FRIDAY SPRING FAIR BRUNCH

Date: Every Friday from April 6 until May 11 from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm
Venue: Four Seasons Hotel Bahrain Bay

Spring fairs bring forth many exciting memories to mind. Expect fun, excitement, vivacious colours, floral fragrances and comfortable weather. Every Friday, Bahrain Bay Kitchen's garden will be transformed into a welcoming hive of activity. Lounge in the open air while indulging in new seasonally influenced dishes. Children's hearts will be filled with a sense of delight as they enjoy plentiful fair-style games and activities. Discover pony rides, Ping-Pong, darts and train rides. Throughout these Friday afternoons of indulgence, sip on a refreshing iced tea, chilled milkshake or your desired beverage. The Spring Fair Brunch is a nod to everything that inspires weekend bliss.

RE/IMAGINE YOUR SATURDAYS

Date: Every Saturday from 12:30 pm until 3:30 pm
Venue: re Asian Cuisine by Wolfgang Puck Asian

Four Seasons Hotel Bahrain Bay invites you to discover the perfect Saturday Brunch at re/Asian Cuisine by Wolfgang Puck. Soak in the immersive views from the 50th floor and feast on mouthwatering Asian selections like Korean Fried Chicken Bao Buns, Wok Fried Shrimp Dumplings and Brisket Wontons for BD 19++.

26TH ANNUAL HERITAGE FESTIVAL - MEMORY OF MUHARRAQ

Date: 25 April - 5 May 2018, 5:00 - 9:30 pm
Venue: Events Tent By Arad Fort

Under the Patronage of his Majesty King Hamad Bin Isa AlKhalifa, the 26th Annual Bahrain Heritage Festival brings the island's unique culture to the forefront and showcases the variety and diversity of local heritage. The festival portrays the theme of "Memory of MuharrAQ" which features exhibition spaces, craftsmen, workshops, food vendors, and live traditional music. It also offers a chance to see some of Bahrain's finest craftsmen at work. A balanced mixture of contemporary and traditional products at the souq which is surrounded by Bahraini cafes and offers the visitor to experience flavours of the Kingdom.

DAR AL RIFFA AL-ODA

Date: 14 & 28 April 8:00pm
Venue: Dar Al Riffa Al-Oda

The Dar Al-Riffa Al-Oda will host a series of musical concerts that highlight the rich tapestry of Bahraini folk music. The newly inaugurated Dar Al-Riffa Al-Oda comprises of the conservation and rehabilitation of the existing original Dar in the old neighbourhood of East Riffa along with a contemporary extension that can accommodate larger performances and residency spaces, with the ultimate aim of enhancing Riffa's intangible heritage and the folk singing specific to that area.

THE 13TH SPRING OF CULTURE FESTIVAL

Date: February - April 2018
Venue: Different Locations

The 13th edition of the Spring of Culture Festival brings with it a treasure trove of surprises that cover the different interests and tastes of the culture and art audience. Hosted by the Kingdom of Bahrain's numerous cultural institutions, historical sites and landmarks, the festival's wide variety of events, programs and activities continue to build bridges of cultural communication between Bahrain and the rest of the whole world. This year's edition of the festival is part of the Bahrain Authority for Culture and Antiquities'

celebration of MuharrAQ, the Capital of Islamic Culture in 2018, in which it highlights the deep-rooted heritage and traditions of this ancient city, particularly the history of pearl diving, a glorious history whose details are revealed by the Pearling Trail, Bahrain's second site to be inscribed as UNESCO World Heritage site.

The festival kicks off in conjunction with Arab Tourism Day, an initiative which was adopted when Manama was the 2013 Capital of Arab Tourism to mark the anniversary of the birth of the Arab traveler Ibn Battuta.

ART EXHIBITION

Date: 8th April to 22nd April
Venue: Albareh Art Gallery

Enchained Dyads showcases the works of Annie Kurkdjian, a Lebanese artist who has exhibited extensively in her home country and in France, Jordan, and Bahrain. Her art questions the grand themes of life and death through the topics of religion and eroticism and reflects on their current state far removed from their early beginnings as central to humanity. The exhibition will run from Sunday 8th April to 22nd April at Albareh Art Gallery. Time: Saturday-Thursday, 10am-2pm and 4pm-8pm

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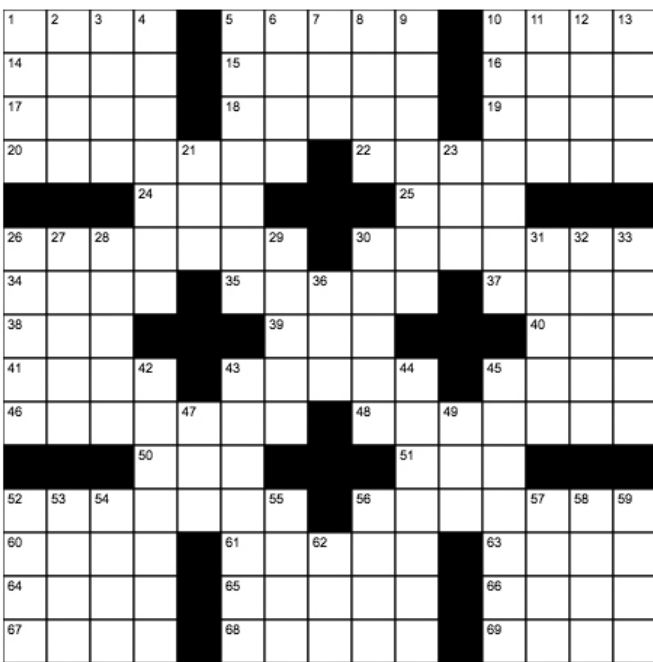
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Across

1- Coil; 5- Gillette razors; 10- Cushions; 14- Salt tree; 15- ___ say more?; 16- Joyce's land; 17- Dull; 18- Pertaining to birth; 19- Feminine ending; 20- Diary; 22- Real-estate dealer; 24- Put Down; 25- U-turn from SSW; 26- Like some mail; 30- Girl on film; 34- Slaughter of baseball; 35- Hang; 37- Hook's helper; 38- Red or White follower; 39- Be human; 40- I'm freezing!; 41- Inter ___; 43- Jack of "The Great Dictator"; 45- Senate position; 46- Sacred place; 48- Region in NW Italy; 50- Last: Abbr.; 51- ___ es Salaam, Tanzania; 52- Toy racer; 56- Vent in the earth's crust; 60- Zaire's Mobutu ___ Seko; 61- Chairman's hammer; 63- Pearl Buck heroine; 64- Political satirist Mort; 65- Muse of poetry; 66- Mont Blanc, par exemple; 67- Kill; 68- Attack; 69- Soviet news agency;

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION



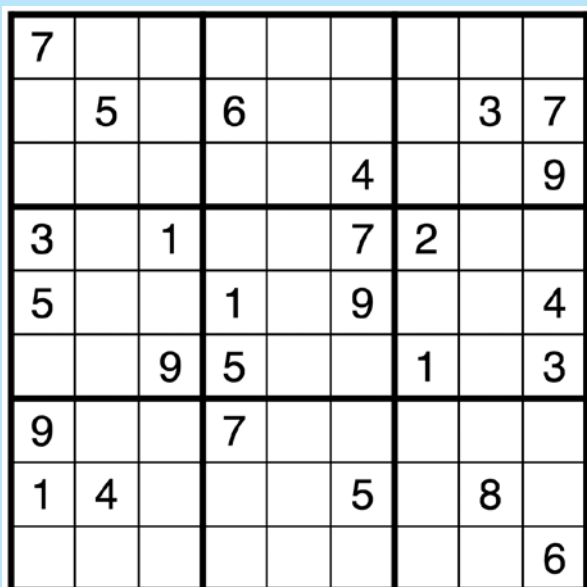
Down

1- "Shane" star; 2- Other, in Oaxaca; 3- Oil of ___; 4- Small stones; 5- Peeved; 6- Durable wood; 7- No longer working (abbr.); 8- Jewish month; 9- Absence of sound; 10- Kitchen gadgets; 11- ___ Misbehavin'; 12- Bond classic; 13- Psychic; 14- Dinghy thingy; 15- Hill dweller; 16- Flat-topped hills; 17- Name on a bomber; 18- Poison; 19- Fantasy; 20- Month of showers; 21- Cinder; 22- Caravansary; 23- Simmons rival; 24- Vessel built by Noah; 25- Sharply; 26- Power problems; 27- Phantom; 28- Garment worn over armor; 29- Pampering, briefly; 30- Guy's date; 31- Flat sound; 32- Sharon of "Boston Public"; 33- Dept. of Labor div.; 34- Infrequent; 35- Rejection power; 36- ___ breve; 37- Sleeps briefly; 38- Change for a five; 39- Wine container;

BEETLE BAILEY



SUDOKU



YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 6 | 1 | 5 | 9 | 4 | 8 | 3 | 7 | 2 |
| 9 | 2 | 8 | 5 | 3 | 7 | 6 | 4 | 1 |
| 7 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 6 | 8 | 9 | 5 |
| 1 | 8 | 9 | 6 | 7 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 3 |
| 5 | 3 | 4 | 8 | 9 | 2 | 1 | 6 | 7 |
| 2 | 7 | 6 | 3 | 5 | 1 | 9 | 8 | 4 |
| 4 | 6 | 1 | 7 | 8 | 3 | 5 | 2 | 9 |
| 3 | 9 | 2 | 4 | 6 | 5 | 7 | 1 | 8 |
| 8 | 5 | 7 | 1 | 2 | 9 | 4 | 3 | 6 |

How to play:

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

Your star today

(Mar 21st - Apr 20th)



The more you talk to people, the more successful you'll be. Everyone is a valuable resource, so tap in to this boundless well. Your agility with words and facts is impressive, so use it to your advantage. Friends are a source of great joy, and this is a wonderful time to be with them. For the most part, it doesn't matter what you're doing.

(Apr 21st - May 21st)



Be careful of people who talk a great deal and promise the world but have a difficult time delivering the goods. You might get trapped today if you rely on people who simply don't come through the way they said they would. Feel free to engage in social activities with partners, but don't sign any major business deals with them at this time.

(May 22nd - Jun 21st)



Your positive strength is especially noticeable today. You may find that you're radiating gloriously to the people around you. This is due to your polite, gentle, and peaceful nature. You're the jewel that isn't always noticed or appreciated as much as it should be. More than likely, you leave it up to others to make the first move. Consider being the instigator today.

(June 22nd - July 23rd)



Instead of digging deep into the barrel looking only for the misshapen, bruised, and rotten apples, concentrate on bringing up the shiny, bright red ones. This way you'll bring laughter and smiles to the company around you rather than miserable frowns. Whatever you bring to the surface will be distributed far and wide.

(July 24th - Aug 23rd)



Today there are many areas in which you can shine. You need only be yourself to win over the hearts of others. There is a graciousness to your manner that draws people close to you, whether or not you've ever noticed it before. Realize this, and know that it isn't a fluke. You need not take much action. It will come to you.

(Aug 24th - Sep 23rd)



If you're feeling needy today, you might consider seeking counsel from others. Close partners might make light of the situation, so if you're looking for deep metaphysical advice, you might want to look elsewhere. Most of all, pamper yourself with some relaxing downtime. This day is well suited for playing board games, watching a movie, or reading magazine.

(Sep 24th - Oct 23rd)



Get out in the fresh air today in whatever way suits your fancy. It's important to exercise your body with some brisk physical activity, or at least refresh your spirit with a ride in a convertible. This is a terrific time for you. You feel alive and joyous about your life. Join with others to recognize all that you have, and give thanks for your meal tonight.

(Oct 24th - Nov 22nd)



Making decisions today is apt to be nearly impossible for you. That's why you should leave them up to someone else. Walk with your partner so you don't have to really think about where you're going. Your job is to focus on the emotional side of things and make it safe for everyone to dream. Your loving, caring nature is a valuable commodity these days. Protect and cherish this gift.

(Nov 23rd - Dec 21st)



This is going to be one of those days when you get annoyed if someone takes too long to make up his or her mind about something. You aren't going to have the patience to abide anyone who continues to go over every single detail of an issue. You're more likely to want to simply make a decision, for better or worse.

(Dec 22nd - Jan 20th)



Use the power of words as an artistic medium to express yourself. You have a magic way with words that often goes unrecognized. Your sensual nature is poetic. You shouldn't deprive others of this talent, so show it off to the world. Perhaps you're moved to write a love poem to a partner who means a great deal to you. As trite as this may sound, it's actually very romantic.

(Jan 21st - Feb 19th)



Whatever you're working on at this time can be expanded tremendously with the help of a partner, especially a creative project or written work. Watch as one seed of an idea blossoms into a whole field of creativity. There is more than meets the eye as you find yourself soaring higher and higher. Remember that you're only restricted by your own imagination.

(Feb 20th - Mar 20th)



Take advantage of the lighthearted, flighty feeling of the day instead of getting annoyed by it. You can't hide in your bedroom forever. Well, you could, but you'd end up wasting away and no one would even notice. This is a good day to get out and have fun with friends. Make wishes for people instead of cursing them. Make connections.

Trump 'will quit Kim talks if not fruitful'



Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, left, listens as President Donald Trump speaks during a news conference at Trump's private Mar-a-Lago club

Washington

President Donald Trump said that although he's looking ahead optimistically to a historic summit meeting with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un he could still pull out if he feels it's "not going to be fruitful."

Trump said that CIA Director Mike Pompeo and Kim "got along really well" in their recent secret meeting, and he declared, "We've never been in a position like this" to address worldwide concerns over North Korea's nuclear weapons.

But speaking alongside Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe on Wednesday, after the allies met at Trump's Florida resort, he made clear that he'd still be ready to pull the plug on what is being

called an extraordinary meeting between the leaders of longtime adversaries.

"If I think that if it's a meeting that is not going to be fruitful we're not going to go. If the meeting when I'm there is not fruitful I will respectfully leave the meeting," Trump told a news conference. He also said that a U.S.-led "maximum pressure" campaign of tough economic sanctions on North Korea would continue until the isolated nation "denuclearizes."

Abe echoed the sentiment. "Just because North Korea is responding to dialogue, there should be no reward. Maximum pressure should be maintained," he said.

Trump has said his summit with Kim, with

whom he traded bitter insults and threats last year as North Korea conducted nuclear and missile tests, could take place by early June, although the venue has yet to be decided. It would be the first such leadership summit between the two nations after six decades of hostility following the Korean War.

Other than the threat posed to by North Korea's weapons of mass destruction, another issue overhanging the summit plans is the fate of three Americans detained there. Trump said that was under negotiation and there was a "good chance" of winning their release, but he wouldn't say whether that was a precondition for sitting down with Kim. (AP)

#PollToday



Do you think the talk between US President Donald Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong-un will be fruitful?

Yes No Cant Say



"The armistice that has dragged on for 65 years must come to an end. The signing of a peace treaty must be pursued after an end to the war is declared."

Moon Jae-in
South Korean President

Rest in sight

Japanese volcano erupts after 250 years



A volcano in southern Japan erupted for the first time in 250 years, spewing steam and ash hundreds of metres into the air, as authorities warned locals not to approach the mountain.

US Senate allows babies in chamber

In a rare move, the US Senate has voted unanimously to allow the babies of its members into the chamber.

Ex-911 operator jailed in US for hanging up

A former 911 operator in Houston, who hung up on people calling for emergency services, was sentenced to 10 days in jail and 18 months of probation.

Nigerian police recover stolen mace

Nigeria's police have recovered a ceremonial mace stolen from the country's parliament when at least three men burst onto the Senate floor and grabbed it while lawmakers looked on.

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Queen Elizabeth II wants son Charles to lead Commonwealth

London

Britain's Queen Elizabeth II said yesterday she hoped her son and heir Prince Charles would take on leadership of the Commonwealth, answering some who argue the position should be rotated around member states.

"It is my sincere wish that the Commonwealth will continue to offer stability and continuity for future generations and will decide

that one day the Prince of Wales should carry on the important work started by my father in 1949," the queen said at the formal opening of the Commonwealth heads of Government Meeting.

The meeting, taking place in Britain for the first time in 20 years, is seen as a chance to reconnect with former British colonies and revitalize the loose alliance of 53 Commonwealth countries ahead of Brexit. (Reuters)

Britain's Queen heartbroken over death of her last corgi



Queen Elizabeth is seen walking in the grounds of Windsor Castle, in England with four of her dogs- clockwise from top left corgi Willow, dorgis Vulcan and Candy, and Holly

London

The last of Queen Elizabeth's beloved corgi dogs has died at the age of 14, the Daily Mail newspaper reported.

Willow, who was the 14th generation descended from the first corgi, Susan, owned by the 91-year-old queen since her 18th birthday, was put to sleep at Windsor Castle on Sunday, the paper said, leaving the queen heartbroken.

"The queen has mourned

every one of her corgis over the years, but she has been more upset about Willow's death than any of them," a Buckingham Palace source told the Mail.

"It is probably because Willow was the last link to her parents and a pastime that goes back to her own childhood. It really does feel like the end of an era."

Buckingham Palace declined to comment, saying it was a private matter. (Reuters)

Fuzzy crab, shiny-eyed shrimp discovered on Java expedition

Singapore

A hermit crab, a shiny-eyed shrimp and a crab with fuzzy spines are among over a dozen new species discovered in a deep-sea expedition off the Indonesian island of Java, scientists said.

The team from the National University of Singapore (NUS) and the Indonesian Institute of Sciences (LIPI) carried out the expedition for 14 days between March and early April.

The area covered included a long stretch of the Indian Ocean off Java's southern coast as well as the Sunda Strait that separates the island from Sumatra.



Three new species of spider crabs were discovered during the expedition

"This is a part of the Indian Ocean that has been never been sampled for deep-sea animals so we really didn't know what

to find," said Peter Ng, a crab expert and head of the Lee Kong Chian Natural History Museum at NUS. (AFP)

China air force again circles Taiwan in 'sacred mission'

Beijing

Chinese aircraft have again flown around self-ruled Taiwan in what China's air force yesterday called a "sacred mission", as Taiwan denounced its big neighbour over what it called a policy of military intimidation.

Taiwan, claimed by Beijing as Chinese territory, is one of China's most sensitive issues and a potential military flashpoint.

China has ramped up

military exercises around Taiwan in the past year, including flying bombers and other military aircraft around the island.

More recently, China has been incensed by comments by Taiwan Premier William Lai that it deemed were in support of Taiwan independence, though Taipei says Lai's position remains that the status quo between Taiwan and the mainland should be maintained. (Reuters)

AS DRIVING CAREER ENDS PATRICK REMAINS DRIVEN

Patrick is the only female to win an IndyCar Series race

New York

Danica Patrick may soon no longer be a race car driver but the only woman to win an IndyCar race remains as driven as ever as she speeds towards one last Indianapolis 500 and the end of a ground-breaking career.

Patrick will bring her career full circle on the Indianapolis Motor Speedway's famed oval on May 27 when she climbs into the cockpit of her electric green GoDaddy liveried Chevrolet one last time as one of North America and the world's most recognisable athletes takes a final bow.

"I've always said that I hope people remember me as a great driver and a woman. I hope it's in that order," Patrick said. "I hope it's one of those stories where they are like she was awesome and a girl and it was cool to see something like that, something unique and different.

"I don't want them to not remember that I was a girl.

"I'm here largely because I am woman, I just try to lead by example.

"It's a tough subject because I think people expect, want me to be an advocate for women in a certain way but really I am just about people achieving their highest potential."

While Patrick is routinely viewed as a pioneer and a standard bearer for women's causes she sees herself as more of an inspirational figure than an advocate.

On the racetrack, however, Patrick is simply another racer.

She established herself as an elite driver and fierce competitor in IndyCar, blazing a path to the winner's circle when she took the checkered flag at a race in Japan in 2008.

But it was the Indy 500 where the diminutive driver loomed large by taking third in 2009, the best result ever at the Brickyard for a woman driver.

Patrick was never able to match that result in NASCAR despite driving for Stewart-Haas Racing, one of the top teams.

She competed in almost 200 NASCAR races but never found Victory Lane, her best result being sixth at Atlanta in 2014.

Biggest Success

Her biggest success in NASCAR came in 2013 when she grabbed the Daytona 500 pole.

"I didn't have as good a results in NASCAR as I wanted," Patrick said.

"It's more difficult in some ways just because I was fighting for a top 10 or the top 20 and IndyCar I was fighting for a top five or a win.

"I still fought really hard, they are still both difficult but as far as tangible results that people understand IndyCar went better so for that I loved it."

Although Patrick will be getting out of the race car, she will not be slowing down.

One of the most marketable athletes in North America, she has been able to turn her fame and passions into businesses.

She is an author, has her own wine and clothing line and a growing interest in yoga and fitness.

What Patrick is not interested in is starting her own race team like one of her fellow trailblazers Sarah Fisher but she does plan on staying involved with her sport and did not completely rule out the possibility of getting back into the cockpit.

"I'm never going to say never," Patrick said. "Long answer short I don't see myself in any capacity staying and racing in a significant way.

"Always be supportive and watch and be curious but I don't see myself owning a team or touring, it's just not in my nature.

"I'd like to inspire people from the heart so that they were driven from the inside and help them generate confidence in themselves or by taking care of themselves," Patrick added.

"One of the things that I've done my whole life and I get this from my dad, I've always just been a dreamer."

(Reuters)



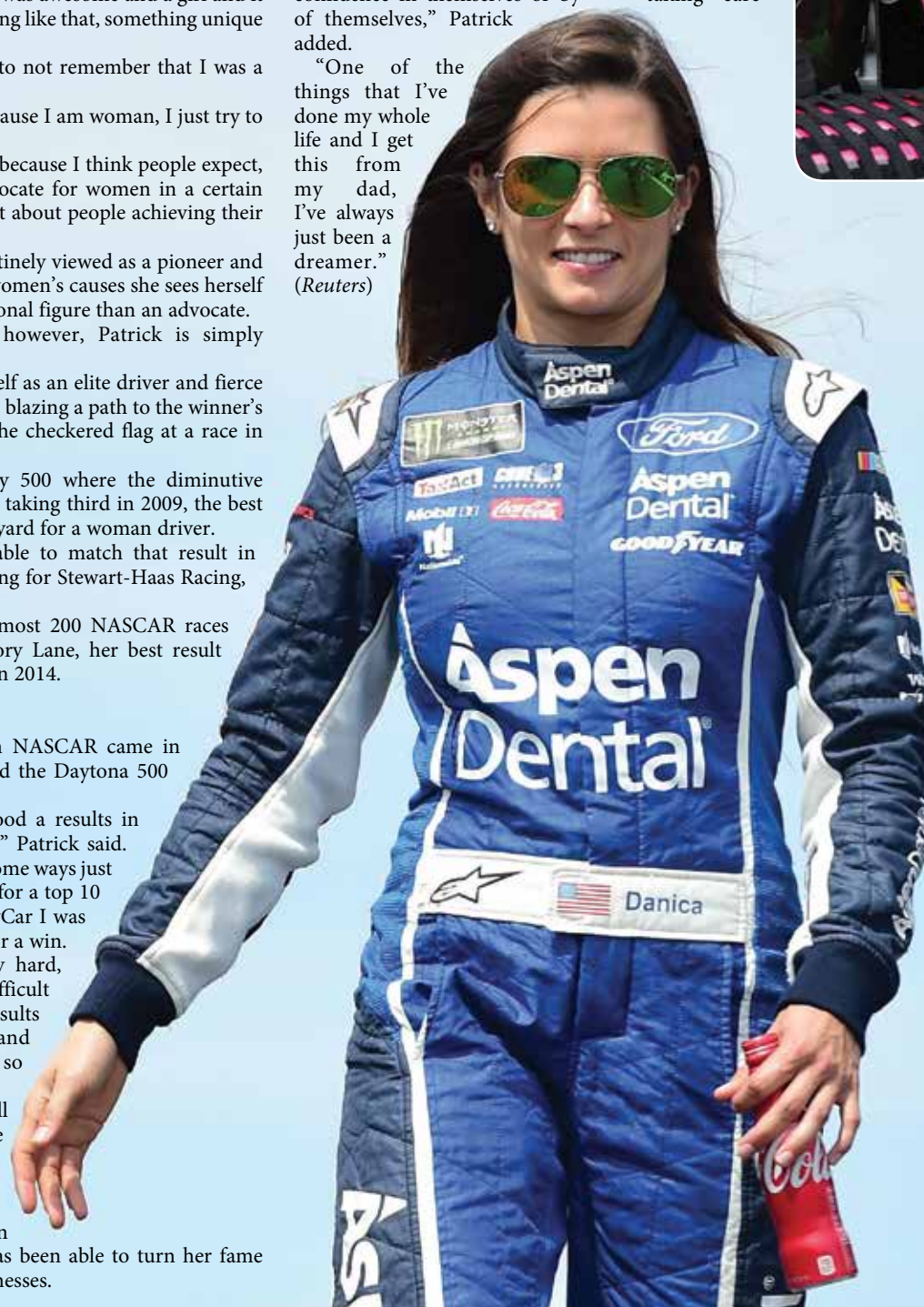
Danica Patrick competed almost 200 NASCAR races



Patrick's biggest success in NASCAR came in 2013 when she grabbed the Daytona 500 pole



Patrick is an author, has her own wine and clothing line and a growing interest in yoga and fitness



Man United defeat Bournemouth



Romelu Lukaku of Manchester United scores their second goal (Pic courtesy: theguardian)

Manchester

Manchester United moved to within two points of securing a place in next season's Champions League with a 2-0 win at Bournemouth.

Jose Mourinho backed up his threat to drop some of his stars by making wholesale changes.

Goalkeeper David De Gea, Chris Smalling, Ander Herrera and Paul Pogba were the only ones to keep their places from the shock home

defeat to West Brom, with De Gea named captain for the first time.

Alexis Sanchez missed out on a place in the starting XI for a Premier League game for the first time since his January move from Arsenal, with Romelu Lukaku also on the bench. Mourinho said that of those rested, only Nemanja Matic was left out with Saturday's FA Cup semifinal against Tottenham in mind.

It was an uneventful first

half, but United did manage to find a way through to go in a goal up at the break.

Herrera picked out Jesse Lingard in the box with a superb pass, and he made no mistake to find Smalling with a square pass that left the defender with a simple tap-in.

Josh King has a fantastic chance to equalise 11 minutes after the restart, but he couldn't connect with a fine ball across the six-yard box. King was adamant he was

fouled by Luke Shaw, but referee Graham Scott waved away the protests.

The Bournemouth fans were getting increasingly annoyed with the decisions of the ref, and their mood certainly wasn't helped when substitute Lukaku doubled the lead in the 70th minute.

The Belgium international latched on to a perfect pass from Pogba and dinked the ball over Asmir Begovic, and there was no way back for the home side. (PA Sport)

Chelsea's Alonso banned for 3 games



Marcos Alonso (file pic)

London

Chelsea defender Marcos Alonso will miss Sunday's FA Cup semi-final against Southampton after being handed a three-match suspension for violent conduct, the Football Association (FA) said yesterday.

The 27-year-old was charged for his challenge on Southampton striker Shane Long during Chelsea's 3-2 Premier League win at St Mary's Stadium last weekend.

Saints manager Mark Hughes was furious about the failure to send off Alonso over the incident, saying:

"It was a poor tackle, and one that could have been more

severe for Shane. Thankfully he's just about okay, but he's been raked down the calf. Chelsea down to 10 men, it could have put a different complexion on things. Referees have got to get them right - maybe that's why they're not in the World Cup this year."

And Hughes subsequently added: "Clearly it was a poor challenge and should have been seen by the officials. The fourth official, assistant referee and the referee were all pretty close to it. The decision in my view would have been the boy would have been sent off and the circumstances of the game would have been different." (Reuters)

FIFA hand out fines for 'third party' deals

Manchester

FIFA have handed out a series of fines to clubs for transfer deals involving "third party influence", world soccer's governing body said yesterday.

FIFA policy on third-party ownership bans either clubs or players from entering into economic rights agreements with third-party investors. Frequently such deals involve outside investors retaining or gaining a share of ownership in a player.

Portugal's Sporting Lisbon was fined 110,000 Swiss francs (\$113,695) for "entering into

two contracts that enabled a third party to influence the club's independence as well as for failing to record an existing third-party ownership agreement".

Another Portuguese club Benfica was fined 150,000 francs for two deals involving third-parties.

Spain's Rayo Vallecano was fined 55,000 francs for a third-party deal and Celta Vigo was sanctioned 65,000 francs for a deal which FIFA said "enabled Benfica to influence the club's independence."

(Reuters)

Ronaldo rescues point for Madrid

London

Cristiano Ronaldo scored an exquisite back-heel to rescue a point for Real Madrid in their 1-1 draw against Athletic Bilbao on Wednesday.

Madrid looked to be heading for defeat after Inaki Williams opened the scoring for the visitors after 14 minutes.

But Ronaldo provided a deft flick from Luka Modric's 87th-minute drive to move Real to within three points of second-place Atletico Madrid having played one game more.

Zidane, whose side travel to Germany for the opening leg of their Champions League semifinal against Bayern Munich next week, headed into Wednesday's La Liga encounter believing his side



Real Madrid's Cristiano Ronaldo shoots on goal (Pic courtesy: AP)

could yet leapfrog city rivals Atletico. Ronaldo was one of four changes to the team which beat Malaga at the weekend, but Gareth Bale's future at the Bernabeu was thrown into

further doubt after he was again left out of the starting XI.

Ronaldo came close to netting the opener with only nine minutes gone. Dani Carvajal's cross from the right-

hand side was met by the former Manchester United forward, and while his bullet header had beaten Athletic stopper Kepa Arrizabalaga, the crossbar came to the visitors' rescue.

Real appeared to be taking a stranglehold on the match, but they were stunned after just 14 minutes when Williams struck.

Williams latched on to Inigo Cordoba's magnificent slide-rule pass before outpacing Raphael Varane and dinking a delightful chip over Keylor Navas for the opener. Madrid were quick to react and it was Ronaldo involved again when his left-footed shot on the swivel looked to be creeping inside Arrizabalaga's post only for the Bilbao stopper to turn it round for a corner. (PA Sport)

Oliveira named as new Urawa coach

Tokyo

Brazilian Oswaldo Oliveira will take over the reins of Japan's Urawa Red Diamonds next week after the former Kashima Antlers boss was named as the replacement for sacked coach Takafumi Hori on Thursday.

The J.League club fired Hori, who was appointed last summer to replace Mihailo Petrovic, after Urawa made a dreadful start to the current campaign. The club did not

win any of their opening five matches of the season.

Tsuyoshi Otsuki had replaced Hori on an interim basis. The 67-year-old Oliveira managed the Antlers from 2007-11 and will be in charge when Urawa take on Kashiwa Reysol in their 10th J.League match of the season.

"I am honoured to have the opportunity to take command of this wonderful team backed by strong support," Oliveira said.



Novak Djokovic reacts

Monte Carlo

Nadal advances, Djoker bows out

Austrian fifth seed Dominic Thiem beat former world number one Novak Djokovic to set up a quarter-final against world No.1 Rafael Nadal today

Monte Carlo

World number one Rafael Nadal continued his bid for an 11th Monte Carlo Masters title with a 6-3 6-2 win over Russia's Karen Khachanov in the last 16.

The Spaniard, 31, triumphed in an hour 38 minutes against 21-year-old world number 38 Khachanov.

Austrian fifth seed Dominic Thiem beat Novak Djokovic to set up a quarter-final against Nadal on Friday.

Former world number one Djokovic lost 6-7 (2-7) 6-2 6-3 in

an engrossing match.

Nadal, who must win the tournament to prevent Roger Federer from regaining the number one spot, eased past Khachanov to claim his 65th victory at a tournament where he has lost only four matches.

Nadal broke Khachanov's serve at the first attempt and, although he lost his own serve when leading 4-2 in the first set, he broke again in the next game before serving out the set.

Nadal, who is bidding for a 17th Grand Slam title at next month's French Open, raced into

a 4-1 lead in the second set and wrapped up victory on his first match point.

Djokovic has slipped to 13th in the rankings as an elbow injury has restricted him to only four tournaments this year, but he showed glimpses of his best form against Thiem, whom he described as a "top-three player in the world on clay".

Serb Djokovic, a 12-time Grand Slam champion, saved three set points at 5-2 down in the first, breaking back to level at 5-5 and taking the tie-break with his first set point. (BBC)

Rafael Nadal plays a shot



Serena, Murray on French Open entry list

London

Andy Murray and Serena Williams have both been named on the entry list for the French Open at Roland Garros.

Murray, who has not featured in competition since Wimbledon of last year, has been working his way back from hip surgery and had been tipped for a return to action at Queen's Club in June. But the Brit's presence on the start list suggests his fitness is ahead of schedule.

The 30-year-old has made at least the semi-finals in each of the last four years at the French Open.

Williams has been easing her way back into the game following the birth of her daughter Alexis Olympia, and it was thought she may opt out of the clay court season. But the American has been named on the entry list for the French Open, meaning she could equal Margaret Court's record of 24 Grand Slam titles.

Williams has won three titles at Roland Garros in her career.

The French Open runs from 27 May to 10 June, where in the men's tournament Rafa Nadal will be defending his 2017 title and aiming for a remarkable 11th title. (Eurosport)



Serena Williams (file pic)



Andy Murray (file pic)



Anne Keothavong (file pic)

Fed Cup can't be ignored: Anne Keothavong

London

Great Britain captain Anne Keothavong says the Fed Cup must not be "ignored" while so much "time and energy" is being devoted to Davis Cup reform.

GB will be promoted to the World Group for the first time since 1993 if they beat Japan in a play-off this weekend.

In February, the International Tennis Federation (ITF) announced plans for a new-look Davis Cup.

"I hope the ITF value the Fed Cup as much as the Davis Cup - and give women a chance to shine," said Keothavong.

Unlike the Davis Cup, the World Group of the women's event is currently split into two divisions of eight teams.

Under the current format, the winners of the GB-Japan tie would have to earn another promotion in 2019 to be able to compete for the title in 2020.

"I would like to see a 16-team World Group," Keothavong told BBC Sport after a penultimate day of practice at the Bourbon Beans Dome in Miki, near Kobe.

"I would like to see the ITF do something with the Fed Cup competition which brings it in line with Davis Cup." (BBC)

Tour of the Alps

Leon Sanchez clinches stage 4

Lienz, Austria

Luis Leon Sanchez claimed victory on stage 4 of the Tour of the Alps as Astana, once again, exploited a numerical advantage in the group of favourites.

The Spaniard was one of five sky blue jerseys in the select group of 15 that formed on the late climb of the Bannberg and, after a fast descent, he attacked with two kilometres remaining to take a solo win - Astana's third from four stages.

George Bennett struck out in pursuit and finished in second place six seconds later, with his LottoNL-Jumbo teammate Koen Bouwman leading the rest of the group home a further five seconds back.

Thibaut Pinot (Groupama-FDJ) finished in fourth place and retained his overall lead.

Bahrain-Merida's Domenico Pozzovivo, Miguel Angel Lopez (Astana), Chris Froome (Team Sky), Fabio Aru (UAE Team Emirates) - along with the rest of the top 10 - were all in the group. There were no significant changes to the general classification, though

Sanchez did leapfrog Bennett into sixth.

The penultimate stage of the Tour of the Alps once again provided a thrilling tussle between the overall favourites, many of them putting the final touches to their form ahead of next month's Giro d'Italia.

The standout feature on the 134.3km stage from Klausen to Lienz was the Bannberg, a 7km second-category climb that topped out 10km from the line. (*Cyclingnews*)



Luis Leon Sanchez celebrates

Result

Stage 4: Chiusa/Klausen to Lienz, 134.3km

- 1 Luis León Sanchez (Spa) Astana Pro Team, at 3hrs 19min 59secs
- 2 George Bennett (NZI) LottoNL-Jumbo, at 6s
- 3 Koen Bouwman (Ned) LottoNL-Jumbo, at 11s
- 4 Thibaut Pinot (Fra) Groupama-FDJ
- 5 Fabio Aru (Ita) UAE Team Emirates
- 6 Domenico Pozzovivo (Ita) Bahrain-Merida
- 7 Miguel Angel Lopez (Col) Astana Pro Team
- 8 Nicola Conci (Ita) Trek-Segafredo
- 9 Pello Bilbao (Spa) Astana Pro Team
- 10 Chris Froome (GBR) Team Sky, all same time

General classification:

- 1 Thibaut Pinot (Fra) Groupama-FDJ, in 12hrs 29min 00secs
- 2 Domenico Pozzovivo (Ita) Bahrain-Merida, at 15s
- 3 Miguel Angel Lopez (Col) Astana Pro Team, st
- 4 Chris Froome (GBR) Team Sky, at 16s
- 5 Fabio Aru (Ita) UAE Team Emirates, at 50s (*Cyclingweekly*)

London Marathon 2018

The Queen will officially start the race from a podium at Windsor Castle, with the sound relayed to Greenwich to set 40,000 runners on their way

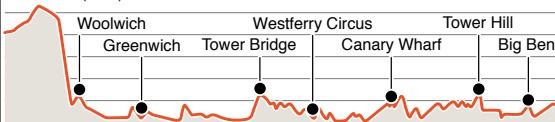
Tower Bridge: Among most recognisable landmarks on marathon route, situated roughly halfway



MEN COURSE RECORDS WOMEN

Eliud Kipchoge, KEN, 2016, 2:03:05 Paula Radcliffe, GBR, 2003, 2:15:25*

PROFILE (50m)



Kenya's Daniel Wanjiru and Mary Keitany, winners of men's and women's elite races in 2017, compete again this year

Max mistakes remind Horner

London

Max Verstappen's mistakes remind his team boss Christian Horner of when four-time world champion Sebastian Vettel was first racing for the Red Bull Formula 1 team.

Verstappen tipped now-Ferrari driver Vettel into a spin in the closing stages of last weekend's Chinese Grand Prix, one week after clashing with the Mercedes of Lewis Hamilton in Bahrain.

Vettel stepped up to the Red Bull senior team in 2009 and went on to win four F1 titles, but his first championship-winning season featured some high-profile errors.

He wiped out team-mate Mark Webber in Turkey and



Max Verstappen (file pic)

McLaren's Jenson Button in Belgium in 2010 and Horner said Verstappen - now in his second full year with the Red Bull senior team - was going through the same learning process.

Verstappen and Hamilton disagreed over their Bahrain collision but in China Verstappen was

swift to accept blame and apologise to Vettel, who praised the 20-year-old's approach.

"Just talking with him after the race, he's put his hand up, he apologised to Sebastian, he did that immediately as they got out of their cars," said Horner. (*Autosport*)

Kawauchi to turn pro after Boston win



Yuki Kawauchi in action

Tokyo

Boston Marathon winner Yuki Kawauchi has told reporters in his native Japan that he plans to turn professional within a year.

Kawauchi said he wanted to commit to the marathon on a full-time basis, according to Kyodo News.

"The number one reason is that I want to compete at the global level," Kawauchi told reporters at Narita Airport on his return from the U.S. yesterday.

"I haven't improved my personal best time in five years. I need to change my environment."

Kawauchi currently competes

as an amateur, fitting in training without a coach or sponsor in any free time around his school administration job.

Kyodo added that the Saitama government did not allow Kawauchi to accept any sponsorship deals.

Kawauchi, who has won five consecutive marathons, including four in 2018 alone, said the \$150,000 prize money he received for winning in Boston would allow him to commit fully to the marathon.

"It really helps that my financial worries are gone," he said. (*Reuters*)

Taha to face Kooheji in Jakarta

DT News Network
Manama

Brave Combat Federation has announced Khalid Taha to face Hamza Kooheji in the upcoming featherweight matchup in Jakarta, Indonesia on 11 May, 2018.

Taha have signed a multi-fight contract with Brave Combat Federation and is currently undergoing training in Dortmund, Germany.

The bout will be the first overseas experience for Hamza Kooheji.

“Hamza is arguably the best fighter ever to come out of Bahrain. He has good wrestling and dangerous submissions. He’s also training with a very good team, so I will have to bring my ‘A’ game to beat him,” said Taha.

“I want to prove that I am not just the best fighter to come out of Lebanon, but I am looking forward to cement my legacy as the best in all of the Middle East. Hamza, I hope you are training hard, because what I will bring will be nothing you have ever experienced in your career so far! After the fight, all Hamza fans will become Warrior fans!,” added Taha.



Khalid Taha (left) alongside Lightweight champion Ottman Azaitar

Eldarov confirmed to represent KHK MMA

DT News Network
Manama

Brave Combat Federation has announced that KHK MMA Head coach Eldar Eldarov will be competing at Brave 12: KHK Legacy set for May 11th, in Jakarta, Indonesia.

Eldar Eldarov has been instrumental in training Bahrain national team for Amateur MMA and for mentoring multiple athletes. He will be facing Brian Hooi from Netherlands in the lightweight division.

Eldarov has previously fought in the main event of Brave 6:

Kazakhstan, when he defeated Henrique Rasputin from Brazil via first-round TKO.

Eldarov was trained by the legendary Abdul Manap Nurmagomedov, who also trained the current UFC champion Khabib Nurmagomedov.

Currently holding a record of nine victories out of his ten appearances, Eldarov has won 7 fights by way of submission, while he is never submitted in his fight career. And claims a strong background in Sambo and Wrestling.

Eldarov will be facing Brian Hooi from Netherlands in the lightweight division



Eldar Eldarov



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