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DAILY TRIBUNE

Thursday, July 20, 2017 Issue No. 7448

News of Bahrain

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WEEKENDER EXCLUSIVE FOR DT NEWS SUBSCRIBERS

11th Hour

Democrats file no-trust motion against Trump

Washington
Two dozen congressional Democrats yesterday launched a no-confidence motion against Donald Trump, an effort that will have no practical effect but highlights the rancor aroused by US president.



P 06
NBB net profit hits BD31.74m in first half



P 08
Gulf Hotel reports 30.81pc growth in Q2 net profits



Shura Council passes Unified Family Law

DT News Network news@dt.bh

Shura Council members passed a draft law to issue the Unified Family Law during an extraordinary session held here yesterday.

The Council approved unanimously (29 out of 40 members) the draft law and the amendments introduced to it, a week after it was urgently referred to it from the second branch of the Legislative Authority, the House of Representatives. During the session, Shura Council Speaker Ali Al Saleh highlighted the importance of the enhanced law and its positive impact on the unity of Bahraini families. He told council members that their votes will "stop those who attempt to spread sectarianism among the Bahraini society".

The draft law consists of 141 articles that tackled engagements, marriages, divorces, custody of children and other family affairs in both the Sunni and Jaafari sects.

All cases in Sharia courts of both sects will be looked into in accordance with the new law. The Law was ratified by His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa yesterday.

HM King hails legislation



His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa with Prime Minister HRH Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa, HRH Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Speaker Ahmed bin Ibrahim Al Mulla and Shura Council Chairman Ali bin Saleh Al Saleh at Sakhir Palace, yesterday

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa has hailed executive-legislative cooperation which benefited the nation and its citizens. He made the statement - in the presence of His Royal Highness Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa and His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Premier - as he received Speaker Ahmed bin Ibrahim Al Mulla and

Shura Council Chairman Ali bin Saleh Al Saleh. Deputy Speakers, Shura Council vice chairpersons, heads of committees were also present at the Sakhir Palace. They all greeted HM the King, marking the endorsement of the Unified Family Law. HM the King welcomed them all and expressed thanks and appreciation to HRH the Premier and HRH the Crown Prince for the executive-legislative cooperation. HM commended the Speaker and Shura Council

chairman, MPs and Shura members for their dedicated role in passing the crucial law. HM hailed the achievements of the current legislative session, citing the endorsement of the laws on state budget, property development, penalties and alternative measures.

HM extended thanks to Supreme Council for Islamic Affairs President Shaikh Abdulla bin Khalid Al Khalifa, Family Law review panel members and the Legislation and Legal

Opinion Commission for their efforts and contribution to the new legislation. HM underscored the crucial importance of the Family Law which, he said, bolsters Bahraini judiciary and strengthens guarantees that protect litigators' rights and preserve Bahraini families' cohesion." The new law represents another milestone in our development and a landmark legal chapter that protects the family entity", HM said.

(Continued on Page 2)

Saudi, allies urge Qatar to accept 'six principles'

United Nations

Four Arab states that cut ties with Qatar have urged their neighbour to commit to six principles on combatting extremism and terrorism and negotiate a plan with specific measures to implement them to end the current crisis.

Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Egypt and Bahrain broke diplomatic relations with Qatar in early June for supporting terrorist and extremist groups. They

initially made 13 demands, which Qatar dismissed.

Saudi Arabia's UN Ambassador Abdallah Al-Mouallimi told a briefing for a group of UN correspondents that the four nations are now committed to the six principles agreed to by their foreign ministers at a meeting in Cairo on July 5, and hope Qatar will support them as well.

The principles include commitments to combat extremism and terrorism,

prevent financing and safe havens for such groups, and suspend all acts of provocation and speeches inciting hatred or violence.

Al-Mouallimi said the four-nation quartet thinks it "should be easy for the Qataris to accept" the six principles.

He stressed that implementation and monitoring must be "essential components," and "there will be no compromise when it comes to principles."

But he said both sides can talk about details of "the tactics" and "the tools" to implement them "and that's where we can have discussion and compromise."

The Saudi ambassador explained that the initial 13 points included some principles and some tools to achieve compliance.

Mixed in the 13 points were what Western nations might see as fair demands, such as cracking down on support for

extremists and curbing ties with Iran, and tougher-to-swallow calls to shut down the Al-Jazeera television network and kick out troops from NATO member Turkey, which has a base in Qatar.

Al-Mouallimi stressed that stopping incitement to violence is essential, but he said closing Al-Jazeera might not be necessary. "If the only way to achieve that is by closing down Al-Jazeera, fine," he said.

(Continued on Page 4)

HM hails family law

From Page 1

HM hailed the new legislation as a source of pride for all Bahrainis and quantum leap that bolsters the Kingdom's standing and pioneering role among advanced and civilized nations.

HM the King commended the role of the Supreme Council for Women (SCW) for advocating and supporting the promulgation of the Unified Family Law which, he said, will contribute to bolstering the stability of Bahraini family and woman and promoting their role within society.

"We ordered the establishment of the family law review committee to ensure the new legislation complies with the Islamic Sharia precepts", he said, adding that Bahrain would always guarantee all citizens' liberties and rights. "With our national unity and cohesion we will grow even stronger and achieve further strides", HM the King said, taking pride in Bahrain's deep-rooted Arab and Islamic identity.

The Speaker, Shura chairman, deputies and heads of committees expressed deepest thanks to HM King, commending his crucial role and support to the Unified Family Law. They hailed the royal order establishing the Sharia-compliant review panel, hailing the Unified Family Law as a dividend of the reform project.

Sold by IS in Raqa, Yazidi fighters back for revenge

Raqa

She was trafficked into Raqa as a sex slave by the Islamic State group but managed to escape. Now Yazidi fighter Heza is back to avenge the horrors she and thousands of others suffered.

Her hair tucked under a tightly wrapped forest green shawl embroidered with flowers, Heza says battling IS in its Syrian bastion has helped relieve some of her trauma.

"When I started fighting, I lifted some of the worries from my heart," she says, surrounded by fellow Yazidi militia women in Raqa's eastern Al-Meshleb district.

"But it will be full of revenge until all the women are freed."

She and her two sisters were among thousands of women and girls from the Kurdish-speaking Yazidi minority taken hostage by IS as it swept into Iraq's Sinjar region in August 2014.

The women were sold and traded across the jihadists' self-proclaimed "caliphate" in Syria and Iraq. Around 3,000 are believed to remain in



Heza, a Yazidi fighter prepares her rifle in abandoned home used by the YPS as their base in Al-Meshleb, on the eastern outskirts of Raqa

captivity, including one of Heza's sisters.

"When the Yazidi genocide happened, Daesh snatched up the women and girls. I was one of them," Heza recounts, using the Arabic acronym for IS.

The United Nations has qualified the massacres IS carried out against the Yazidis during the Sinjar attack as genocide.

IS separated Yazidi females from the men in Sinjar, bringing the women and girls into Raqa.

"They took us like sheep. They chased us and humiliated us in these very streets," Heza tells AFP, gesturing to a row of heavily damaged homes in Al-Meshleb.

The eastern district was the first neighbourhood captured from IS by the US-backed Syrian Democratic Forces, a Kurdish-Arab alliance, in their months-long offensive to seize the jihadist bastion.

SDF officials told AFP that their forces had

already rescued several female Yazidi captives, including a 10-year-old girl, since they entered Raqa city in June.

'Despite pain, I felt joy'

Over the course of her 10-month captivity in Raqa, Heza was bought by five different IS fighters.

Her voice strained but her brown eyes still sharp, the young fighter says she prefers not to detail the abuses she suffered.

But in an indication of the extent of her trauma, Heza -- whose name means "strength" in Kurdish -- says she tried to commit suicide several times.

Finally, in May 2015, she escaped from the home where she was being held to a nearby market, and she found a Syrian Kurdish family who smuggled her out of the city.

She travelled around 400 kilometres (250 miles) across war-ravaged northeast Syria back into Iraq to join the Shengal Women's Units (YPS).

The YPS -- named after the Kurdish word for Sinjar -- is a part of the US-backed SDF.

Heza underwent intensive weapons training, and when the SDF announced its fight for Raqa in November 2016, she and other YPS fighters were ready.

"When the Raqa offensive began, I wanted to take part in it for all the Yazidi girls who were sold here in these streets," she says.

"My goal is to free them, to avenge them."

The SDF spent months tightening the noose around Raqa before breaking into the city in June, and the YPS took up their first positions in Al-Meshleb several weeks later.

It was the first time Heza was back in the northern Syrian city since her escape.

"When I entered Raqa, I had a strange, indescribable feeling. Despite the enormous pain that I

carry, I felt joy," the fighter says.

'Revenge will be proportional'

Rifles are lined up in neat rows inside the abandoned home used by the YPS as their base in Al-Meshleb.

Yazidi women in brand-new uniforms gather around a crackling walkie-talkie for news from the front.

Some of them, like 20-year-old Merkan, have travelled far to join the fight against IS.

Her family is originally Yazidi Turkish, but Merkan and her 24-year-old sister Arin were raised in Germany.

When they heard about IS's infamous sweep into Sinjar in 2014, they were outraged.

"I could never have imagined a world like this. I didn't expect things like this could happen," Merkan says.

"I was in so much pain," says the tall militiawoman.

Her older sister decided to travel to Sinjar in late 2014 to join the YPS, and Merkan followed in early 2015.

"I only had one goal in front of me: liberating the Yazidi women, and all women who were still in Daesh's clutches."

She had scribbled a similar pledge in Kurdish on a wall behind her.

"Through strength and struggle, we Yazidi women fighters came to Raqa to take revenge for the August 3 massacre," the graffiti says, referring to when IS entered Sinjar.

"We are avenging Yazidi girls," it adds.

"Yesterday there was Al-Qaeda and today there's Daesh. We don't know who will come next. I want to go anywhere there is injustice," Merkan said.

Fellow fighter Basih is sitting quietly in a neighbouring room, chain-smoking cigarettes in the muggy July afternoon.

"We suffered the ugliest forms of injustice. Our revenge will be proportional to it," she said. (AFP)

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Measures against online dealers of abortion drugs



Dr. Mariam Al Jahalma

DT News Network
news@dt.bh

Manama

A series of legal and administrative measures will be taken by the health authorities against online dealers of abortion medicines, it was announced yesterday.

The National Health Regulatory Authority (NHRA) CEO Dr. Mariam Al Jahalma said in a statement issued here yesterday that the authority has detected a number of products that are sold and promoted online with the purpose of facilitating miscarriages, which is illegal

in the Kingdom.

"In this regard, the NHRA has initiated legal procedures against all detected websites and accounts on social media networks, in coordination with the General Directorate of Anti-corruption and Economic and Electronic Security in Interior Ministry," Dr. Al Jahalma explained in the statement.

She also warned citizens and residents of the dangers of interacting with websites and accounts on social media networks that illegally sell medicines and supplements that aren't approved by the authority.

NHRA CEO Dr. Mariam Al Jahalma said that the authority detected a number products that are sold and promoted online with the purpose of facilitating miscarriages

The official also said that these medicines are usually smuggled into the Kingdom away from the supervision of NHRA and many of them are counterfeited and not fit for consumption.

Dr. Al Jahalma added, "Law 18 of 1997 with regards to the practice of pharmacists

and pharmaceutical centres prohibits importing medicines in the form of personal packages unless a medical prescription is provided. The main goal of the authority's procedures is to protect the public and ensure that they don't consume any harmful products."

Man accused of rape receives death threats

DT News Network
news@dt.bh

A man who has been receiving death threats from Bahrain and India after he was accused of rape is now seeking legal help.

Indian national Gopal said he was undergoing mental torture after a former Bahrain resident accused him of rape.

The woman, with whom he formerly shared a romantic relationship, was briefly in Bahrain after he helped her find a job.

The woman has filed a police case against him in India accusing him of drugging and raping her while she was in Bahrain.

He denied the allegations and said that he is surprised at the accusations.

The allegations were made public by a social worker in India who posted a video on Facebook relating the woman's version of events.

The post which included Gopal's full name, picture and contact information, went viral and soon started receiving death threats, Gopal told DT News.

"Gopal had contacted her offering a job in Bahrain. But when she went to Bahrain she found that he did not keep his promise of finding her a respectable job," the social worker, who is helping the woman, said in the Facebook post, quoting the woman.



Gopal

The woman had told Gopal that she wanted to return to India after a week as she was unhappy with the job.

"When she wanted her passport back Gopal assaulted her and raped her. He beat her up and there are still marks on her body. He also posted nude pictures of her on social media," the social worker said in the Facebook post.

"I am clueless about why she has accused me of this. When she was in Bahrain she filed a complaint against her company for allegedly mistreating her but nothing against me. If I did anything to her she would have reported it to the authorities in Bahrain. Why would she wait until she is in India. I will fully cooperate with any investigation by the authorities but what does not make sense is social media is that residents

making judgement on their own and deciding to punish me this way," said Gopal.

"I have suffered a lot. My flatmates have thrown me out of the apartment because I was receiving death threats. I am homeless now. Nobody was ready to accommodate me even for a few days because of the situation I was in. I had to show up at my place of work carrying all my belongings. I spent hours on the road without a place to sleep," he said.

"The social worker who posted the video could have visited my home in India to find out my version of the story; my parent's home is in the same neighbourhood as the woman's and she could have visited them to know the whole story," he said.

Elaborating further he said, "It is true that we shared a romantic relationship but this was a long time ago while I was in India. We both moved on. She was struggling financially, I helped her find a job and helped her move here. Because of various reasons she was fired from her job and had to return to India. She was taking out her anger on me; she even burnt my passport in rage and even attempted suicide by consuming poison while in Bahrain when her boyfriend abandoned her," he said.

He said he has approached the Indian Embassy for help and will soon hire a lawyer.

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Terror suspects with Hezbollah links held

Manama

An investigation has been launched against people who formed an illegal organisation with the aim of defying the law, preventing the state from exercising its responsibilities, assaulting personal freedom and harming national unity, Chief of Terror Crime Prosecution Advocate General Ahmed Al Hammadi has said.

The organisation was in contact with people working for a foreign-based organisation engaged in

terrorist activities for the purpose of carrying out acts of terrorism against Bahrain, targeting police and public order servicemen, participating in illegal rallies, sabotaging private properties and disseminating fake news likely to undermine national security and public order.

Investigations revealed that the security agencies arrested one of the defendants who established the so-called Manama Human Rights Observatory as a front and a cover to support acts of terrorism in Bahrain.

He divided the members of the organization into groups to carry out activities that were allegedly related to human rights and to mobilise crowds for illegal rallies ostensibly to make human rights demands, but in reality to use them to carry out riots and acts of vandalism and terrorism against police personnel and vehicles and the Ministry of Interior building in Manama.

The investigations also revealed that the founder of the terror organisation received support for its activities from the Lebanese Hezbollah terror

militia through a Bahraini national who worked for the terror group and resided in Lebanon.

They also revealed that Hezbollah was funding and supporting many people belonging to alleged human rights organizations in order to send false reports on the human rights situation in Bahrain, Saudi Arabia and the UAE.

The aim was to discredit those countries, undermine their status in international public opinion and damage their national interests through

convening international conferences that included members of international human rights organisations,

One female suspect used human rights work as a cover to communicate and cooperate with Al Karama Foundation to provide them with information and fake news about the situation in Bahrain to undermine its status abroad. Al Karama founder was included in the list of terrorists drafted by the Quartet combating the funding of terrorism (Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, the UAE and

Egypt). He was also listed by the US Treasury as a terrorist and had his assets and funds frozen in 2013 over his ties to Al Qaida terror group.

Investigations indicated that he had managed to exploit the foundation to support numerous terror groups under the cover of human rights.

Al Hammadi said that four suspects were arrested and the public prosecution questioned two of them in the presence of their lawyers. The suspects were remanded in custody pending further investigations.

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Zayed Town exit work completed

DT News Network
Manama

Minister of Works, Municipalities Affairs and Urban Planning Essam bin Abdulla Khalaf stated that the Ministry has completed the construction of the new exit to Zayed Town from Sheikh Salman Highway to the North of the Driving School.

The project aims to alleviate traffic congestions along the new housing areas and other vital areas and is part of the construction of a single entrance and exit to Zayed Town from Shaikh Salman Highway.

Khalaf explained that the project comprises the construction of a single entrance and exit to Zayed Town from Shaikh Salman Highway, which will provide an alternative to traffic exiting Zayed Town towards Riffa without having to pass through Isa Town Gate traffic signal. The project will also ease



The completed exit in Zayed Town

traffic congestion at Salmabad Interchange and will also reduce traffic congestion along Isa Town Gate Interchange and Salmabad Interchange.

He stated that the Ministry commenced work on the project in June 2017. The total length of the entrance to Zayed Town is 500m, and civil works involved in the project were awarded to National Excavations at the cost of BD261,000, while the asphalt paving works were awarded

to United Gulf at the cost of BD106,000. The installation of the iron fence as part of traffic safety was awarded to Al Afoo Company at the cost of BD26,000.

Works included levelling, protecting existing services, implementing ground channels for present and future usage, implementing a storm water drainage network in low areas, implementing two reclamation layers, paving works, signage and lighting.

Qatar urged to accept 'six principles'

From Page 1

"If we can achieve that without closing down Al-Jazeera, that's also fine. The important thing is the objective and the principle involved."

UAE Minister of State for International Cooperation Reem Al Hashimy said all the countries involved have strong relations with the US "and we believe that the Americans

have a very constructive and a very important role to play in hopefully creating a peaceful resolution to this current crisis."

President Donald Trump has sided strongly with Saudi Arabia and the UAE in the dispute, publicly backing their contention that Qatar is a supporter of Islamic militant groups and a destabilizing force in the Middle East.

Secretary of State Rex Tillerson recently concluded several days of shuttle diplomacy and sealed a deal to intensify Qatar's counterterrorism efforts.

The memorandum of understanding signed by the US and Qatar lays out steps Qatar can take to bolster its fight against terrorism and address shortfalls in policing terrorism funding.

NBB net profit hits BD31.74m in first half

Manama

The National Bank of Bahrain (NBB) recorded a Net Profit of BD31.74 million (US\$84.41m) for the six months ended 30 June 2017 compared to BD31.72m (US\$84.36m) for the corresponding period of 2016.

During the 1st half of 2017, the bank achieved an Operating Profit of BD38.01m (US\$101.09m), an increase of 6.6 per cent over BD35.66m (US\$94.84m) achieved during the corresponding period of 2016. For the

second quarter of 2017, the Bank recorded a Net Profit of BD17.00m (US\$45.21m), a strong increase of 21.8 per cent compared to BD13.96m (US\$37.13m) for the corresponding period of the previous year.

The financial results were approved at the Board meeting held on 19th July 2017 chaired by the Bank's Chairman Farouk Yousuf Khalil Almoayyed.

Commenting on the Bank's performance, Jean Christophe Durand, Chief

Executive Officer said, "The Bank's focus on new business initiatives and increasing the customer footprint resulted in a strong improvement in the Operating Profit for 2017. As a result, the Bank recorded a marginal increase in Net Profit despite the need to take impairment on certain credit exposures due to financial difficulties faced by some borrowers".

The Net Interest Income for the six months period in 2017 was BD34.95m (US\$ 92.95m) compared to

BD31.82m (US\$84.63m) for the corresponding period of the previous year, an increase of 9.8pc. The increase in Net Interest Income is attributed to growth in earning assets and better asset liability management leading to an improvement in net interest margin.

Other income for the six months period in 2017 was BD18.67m (US\$49.65m) compared to BD19.70m (US\$52.39m) for 2016. The decrease in Other Income was due to certain income from sale of investments in the previous year while such opportunities were not available during the current year.

However, core banking activities continue to show steady increase with Commission from such activities recording a strong growth of 17.1 per cent.

Operating expenses continue to be closely managed which decreased from BD15.86m (US\$42.18m) for the six months period in 2016 to BD15.61m (US\$41.52m) for the six months period in 2017. As a result, the Cost to Income Ratio improved from 30.8pc in 2016 to 29.1pc in 2017. The Bank took impairment provision of BD6.27m (US\$16.68m) during the current year due to financial difficulties faced by some borrowers and the resultant inability to meet their obligations.

Total Earning Assets (comprising of Treasury bills, Bank placements, Loans



Farouk Almoayyed, NBB Chairman



NBB CEO Jean Christophe Durand

& Advances, Investment Securities and Investment in associates) remained steady at BD 2,824.61m (US\$ 7,512.26m) as at 30 June 2017 compared to BD2,817.38m (US\$ 7,493.03m) as at 30 June

2016.

Customer Deposits stood at BD2,143.04m (US\$ 5,699.57m) as at 30 June 2017 compared to BD2,195.90m (US\$ 5,840.16m) as at 30 June 2016.



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Britain to scrap credit card charges

London

The British government on Wednesday said it would ban companies from charging consumers for paying by debit and credit cards, as the country struggles to bring down its debt.

"This is about fairness and transparency, and so from next year, there will be no more nasty surprises for people at the check-out just for using a card," Economic Secretary to the Treasury, Stephen Barclay, said in a statement.



British sterling bank notes and credit cards

Consumers making purchases in Britain are being asked to pay up to 20 percent more on their bills, such as for flights, for using a card rather

than cash, the Treasury said.

"With many feeling the squeeze in the cost of living, people shouldn't be hit with unexpected fees," said Guy Anker, managing editor at consumer website, MoneySavingExpert.com.

But he cautioned that following the change, some companies would likely raise prices of their goods and services "to compensate for the loss, which could hit those who currently pay in cash".

Egypt police trap and kill top militants

Cairo

Egyptian police have killed three top Islamist militants in two separate operations, including two caught trying to move to a new hideout on Cairo's outskirts, the government said Tuesday.

The interior ministry said the two militants killed in New Cairo were senior members of the Hasam group -- an extremist movement the government accuses of links to the outlawed Muslim Brotherhood.

The third man, a jihadist who was gunned down in the restive North Sinai province, was a leader of a militia affiliated with the Islamic State group, the ministry said in a separate statement.

In the first operation, authorities had acted after learning that some of Hasam's leaders were about to move "equipment and weapons" to a new hideout in New Cairo, outside the capital's ring road, the ministry said.

Security forces set up checkpoints on roads to the area and as forces approached a suspect car, "its passengers opened fire" on police and were killed in retaliatory fire.

The two were identified as students aged 24 and 21 who were "among the most prominent leaders in the Hasam terrorist group," the ministry said.

In the vehicle, police found seven automatic weapons, two other firearms, a large



Egyptian policemen inspect the scene of shooting near Badrasheen

amount of ammunition, masks and radio equipment.

The ministry did not say when the shootout took place, but said the group had been planning to move locations on Tuesday.

The militants who died were said to have been behind attacks including a shootout in early May in which three policemen were killed and five wounded near the Cairo ring road.

The pair had carried out attacks on the orders of "their leaders who have fled abroad," the ministry said.

The government says Hasam is linked to the Muslim Brotherhood movement of former Islamist president Mohamed Morsi who was overthrown by the army in 2013.

The militia has previously claimed responsibility for deadly attacks against security forces as well as assassination attempts

targeting a pro-government Muslim cleric and Egypt's deputy prosecutor general.

The group said on Twitter Monday it has killed 27 people from "military occupation militias", a reference to Egypt's security forces, since its launch a year ago.

Egypt has been fighting an insurgency by an IS affiliate which is based in North Sinai province, where hundreds of soldiers and policemen have been killed since Morsi's ouster.

Following deadly church bombings claimed by IS, on April 10 President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi declared a three-month state of emergency, which has since been extended.

In North Sinai on Tuesday, security forces killed Ahmed Hassan Ahmed al-Nshou, a senior member of IS's Egyptian affiliate, in a gunfight, the ministry said in a separate statement. (AFP)

Saudi airline says US laptop ban lifted

Riyadh

Saudi Arabia's national carrier said a US ban on laptops and tablets in the cabins of its US-bound planes had been lifted yesterday.

The kingdom's civil aviation authorities informed Saudia that the ban had been lifted after a US team inspected security measures at airports in Riyadh and Jeddah, the airline's spokesman Abdulrahman al-Taieb said.

Washington in March barred all electronic devices

Representational image



larger than a mobile phone in the cabins of direct flights to the United States from 10 airports in Turkey, the Middle East and North Africa, only allowing them in hold luggage.

The ban was brought in after intelligence officials learned of efforts by jihadists from the Islamic State group to produce a bomb that could be hidden inside such devices.

Renovated Tsarist hostel re-opens in Jerusalem

Jerusalem

A Jerusalem hostel for Christian Orthodox pilgrims that became a symbol of imperial Russia's presence in the Holy Land re-opened Tuesday after six years of renovation work.

Israel handed the Sergei Courtyard in the city's Russian Compound back to Moscow in 2008 after a long legal battle and an intervention by President Vladimir Putin.

The complex was funded by an uncle of Tsar Nicholas II and built in 1890 by the Imperial Orthodox Society of Palestine to house pilgrims.

It became famous for its architecture, enclosed garden and a tower in one corner that resembles a chess rook.

But Ottoman authorities requisitioned it in World War I after going to war with Russia, and British then Israeli

Sergei Compound in Jerusalem



authorities went on to house administrative agencies there.

Until recently it was home to Israel's nature protection society.

On Tuesday, Russian diplomats and representatives of the Russian Orthodox Church took part in the reopening ceremony.

The 36,000 square metre (390,000 square feet) building was funded Grand Duke Sergei

Alexandrovich, brother to Tsar Alexander III, and built with imported Russian stone.

It houses a library, a cafe and restaurant and guesthouse for pilgrims and other visitors, a short walk from the holy sites of Jerusalem's Old City.

Russian mystic and courtier of Tsar Nicholas II, Grigori Rasputin is thought to have stayed at the hostel, Israeli public television reported.



ANNOUNCEMENT

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the licensed plumber. Applications received without the stamp

signature of a licensed plumber will not

be accepted in EWA offices

For more information, please contact

Electricity & Water Conservation Directorate

Water Conservation Section

Phone No.: 17991485 / 17991488

or

Offices of Customer Services Directorate

Gulf Hotel reports 30.81pc growth in Q2 net profits

Manama

Gulf Hotels Group (GHG) has reported the financial results for the Second quarter of 2017.

Chairman, Farouk Y. Almoayyed announced that for the half year 2017 the Group achieved a total Gross Operating Revenue of BD18.386 million compared to BD16.382m in same period 2016, an increase of BD2.003m or 12.23 per cent.

For the second quarter of 2017, the group achieved a Gross Operating Revenue of BD9.043m compared to BD7.804m in same period 2016, an increase of BD1.239m or 15.87pc.

Almoayyed also announced that the group has generated a half yearly Net Profit of BD5.869m in comparison with BD4.487m achieved in the same period 2016; an increase of BD1.383m (or 30.81pc). For the second quarter of 2017 the group achieved a Net Profit of BD2.559m in comparison with BD1.750m achieved in the same period 2016; an increase of BD808,000 (or 46.18pc). However published profit for half year as well



CEO Garfield Jones



Chairman Farouk Almoayyed

as Q2 of 2016 includes a one-time 'Bargain Profit' of BD6.126m associated with the acquisition of Bahrain Tourism Company.

Almoayyed commented that the trading conditions in the hospitality sector are extremely challenging given the number of new hotels that have opened, creating a huge over supply of bedrooms at a time of inconsistent demand. He predicted that this will be further exacerbated over the coming months as yet more hotels are due to open and he urged the authorities to take the necessary measures to support the hospitality sector to get through this difficult period, suggesting that tariffs

and duties could be eased, which would enable more competitive pricing thereby stimulating business.

Almoayyed confirmed that whilst Gulf Hotels Group expects to continue expanding within Bahrain with projects such as the development of a multi-restaurant facility in the Block 338 area and the development of the Gulf Executive Residence Juffair, given the challenging Bahrain market conditions the Group will concentrate on external expansion in order to diversify its portfolio, citing the UAE and KSA as key target markets for both the hotel and restaurant segments.

The Group's Chief Executive

Officer, Garfield Jones, expressed his satisfaction with the results taking into consideration challenging market conditions, saying that everyone across the Group was working hard to maintain business and achieving the best possible results in difficult times. He added that refurbishment has commenced of the Group's Crowne Plaza hotel which is expected to be completed by the end of the year and that the super-structure of the 109 unit Gulf Executive Residence Juffair has been completed, with the contractor moving on to the fit-out phase, expecting the property to open for business by mid-2018.

Google Glass reborn for workplace

San Francisco

After spending two years on the sidelines, Google Glass internet-linked eyewear is back in the game, this time aimed at helping workers do their jobs.

General Electric, Volkswagen, and Boeing are among more than 50 businesses taking part in testing a Glass Enterprise

Edition in a limited program, project lead Jay Kothari said Tuesday in a blog post.

Three years ago, an Explorer program let developers and other "early adopters" try out the glasses, in an early test of potential business applications. But that initiative was eventually put on ice in 2015. (AFP)

BBC under fire for gender pay gap as top salaries revealed

London

Britain's public broadcaster BBC came under fire yesterday for its gender pay imbalance after it was forced to reveal how much it pays its top-earning talent.

For the first time in its 94-year existence, the BBC was this year forced to release a list of its employees paid more than £150,000 (\$195,000, 170,000 euros) between 2016/2017, after a change in its charter last year.

More than 200 names

feature on the list -- which includes executives, actors, presenters, writers and technicians -- but only one third are women.

Former Top Gear host Chris Evans was revealed to be the highest-paid person, earning over £2.2 million, while presenter Claudia Winkleman was named as the top female earner, pocketing more than £450,000.

Winkleman hosts "Strictly Come Dancing", Britain's version of "Dancing With The Stars".

India's ageing trains get green makeover with solar panels

New Delhi

India has added solar panels to the roof of a train in a national first as it tries to reduce its massive carbon footprint and modernise its vast colonial-era rail network.

The lighting, fans and information displays inside the train -- once powered by diesel -- will run off the sun's energy after the panels were fitted to

the carriage.

The train has begun journeys around the capital New Delhi, helping move just some of the 23 million passengers who use India's rail network every day.

"We will be inducting at least four other solar-powered trains in the next six months," Anil Kumar Saxena, Indian railways spokesperson, said.

World's first child hand transplant a 'success'

The first child in the world to undergo a double hand transplant is now able to write, feed and dress himself, doctors said Tuesday, declaring the ground-breaking operation a success after 18 months.

10 year old Harvey

The report in The Lancet Child & Adolescent Health provides the first official medical update on 10-year old Zion Harvey, who underwent surgery to replace both hands in July 2015. Harvey had his hands and feet amputated at the age of two, following a sepsis infection. He also had a kidney transplant.

10 plus hour surgery

Harvey was already receiving drugs to suppress any immune reaction to his kidney, which was a key factor in his selection for the 10-plus hour hand transplant surgery. Immunosuppressive drugs must be taken continuously to prevent a patient's body from rejecting the transplant. These drugs carry risks, including diabetes, cancer and infections.

Eight rejections

The child has "undergone eight rejections of the hands, including serious episodes during the fourth and seventh months of his transplant. All of these were reversed with immunosuppression drugs without impacting the function of the child's hands. Harvey continues to take four immunosuppression drugs and a steroid.

Post-surgery progress

Within days of the surgery, Harvey discovered he could move his fingers, using the ligaments from his residual limbs. Eight months after the operation, Harvey was using scissors and drawing with crayons. Within a year, he could swing a baseball bat using both hands. He also threw out the first pitch at a Baltimore Orioles game last August. The first successful hand transplant in an adult was completed in 1998.



Cool Trends

Microsoft to help Baidu self-driving car

San Francisco

Microsoft's cloud computing platform will be used outside China for collaboration by members of a self-driving car alliance formed by Chinese internet search giant Baidu, the companies announced on Tuesday.

The US software giant is one of more than 50 entities that have joined an Apollo alliance created by Baidu in April.



Shares of Harley-Davidson tumble

New York

Shares of iconic US motorcycle company Harley-Davidson stumbled Tuesday following weak earnings that underscored its troubles finding new customers. Shares were down 8.5 percent at \$47.60 midday after earlier slumping nearly 12 percent following release of the results. "It's a demand issue and demand for Harley-Davidson motorcycles has been weaker than expected."



Our international performance in the second quarter was down, but in line with our expectations and we continue to expect international growth in the second half of the year behind expanded distribution and availability of new high-impact motorcycles."

Matthew Levatich,

chief executive, Harley-Davidson



OFFERS

CrediMax Reflects on its Half Year Achievements

CrediMax yesterday announced several major achievements during the first half of the year.

"Among our notable key achievements this year for example, was the introduction of our Mobile App which has received tremendous positive feedback from our Customers. We launched two top premium products offering unrivalled benefits & features enabling our customers feel & experience higher levels of exclusivity & personal recognition. Moving towards e-channels and digital transformation were & are some of the achievements & soon to come this year,"

Yousif Ali Mirza,
CrediMax's Chief Executive



Yousif Mirza

Win Audi A6

CrediMax said it continues to offer very exciting & rewarding programs and prizes this year. An "Audi A6" on a monthly basis is a prime example of such prizes in addition to numerous promotions & rewards with big discounts on all purchases made by our customers.

SOCIAL commitment

CrediMax, in its path to moving towards "good corporate citizenship", has provided support financially & in kind in excess of BD 200,000 to the different charities & societies in Bahrain this year.

"CrediMax has also added during the first half of the year new products and services offering customers a variety of choices, benefits and services".



Batelco CEO Muna Al Hashemi and AFS Chairman Sael Al Waary with Batelco CMO Mike Stanford and AFS CEO B. Chandrasekar

Batelco, AFS sign mobile wallet deal

Manama

Batelco and AFS, a leading payment services provider have signed an MOU to roll-out a state-of-the-art mobile wallet solution in Bahrain. AFS Chairman Sael Al Waary and Batelco Bahrain CEO Muna Al Hashemi signed the deal at Batelco headquarters in Hamala.

A full range of integrated features will be available on the mobile wallet such as, person-to-person money transfers and loyalty points

in a secure and convenient manner for both consumers and merchants and many other services.

The mobile wallet will utilize the latest Quick Response (QR) technology and will have near field communication (NFC) capability, allowing customers to tap and pay at participating outlets. The full solution will be rolled out in phases over the next several months.

Following the signing, Al Hashemi said, "This

will enhance the lifestyles of customers by providing a convenient, cashless, secure and agile payment method."

The signing ceremony was attended by Batelco Chief Marketing Officer Mike Stanford, Batelco Senior Manager Mobile Services Husain Al Aswad, AFS CEO B. Chandrasekar, AFS Group Head of Strategy and Fintech, Martin Roeske and AFS Director of Frictionless Payments Business, Shiraz Ali.



The raffle draw winner of "Win up to 75 gold bars & BE A GOLD BULLIONAIRE campaign" by Malabar Gold & Diamonds, Baby. Fidha Fathima receiving the prize of 100gm Gold bar from Mahammad Isak - Regional Marketing Executive, Malabar Gold & Diamonds, in the presence of officials from Malabar Gold & Diamonds.

Did You Know?



The American Stock Exchange first started in New York in 1790, but it didn't earn its nickname of "The Curb" until the 19th century. Business was conducted in the streets of New York and those traders became known as "curbstone brokers."



BFC
CURRENCIES EXCHANGE RATE

COUNTRY/CURRENCIES	BUY	SELL
AUSTRALIA	0.3074	0.3038
BANGLADESH	0.00493	0.00467
CANADA	0.3064	0.3021
DENMARK	0.0617	
EGYPT	0.0234	0.0217
EURO	0.4437	0.4395
HONGKONG	0.04983	0.04943
INDIA	0.00605	0.00591
INDONESIA	0.00003074	0.00002900
IRAN TUMAN	0.000323	
IRAQI DINAR	0.000304	
JAPAN	0.00352	0.003450
JORDAN	0.5350	0.5351
KOREA	0.00038632	
KUWAIT	1.249	1.249
MALAYSIA	0.0909	0.0902
NEW ZEALAND	0.2838	0.2824
NORWAY	0.0488	
NEPAL	0.00389	0.00367
OMAN	0.97962	0.98327
PAKISTAN	0.00369	0.00359
PHILIPPINES	0.00774	0.00743
QATAR	0.10381	0.10376
SAUDI ARABIA	0.10058	0.10066
SINGAPORE	0.2805	0.2785
SOUTH AFRICA	0.03050	0.03040
SRI LANKA	0.00270	0.00246
SWEDISH	0.0486	
SWITZERLAND	0.4054	0.4006
SYRIA	0.001740	0.0018
TAIWAN	0.012700	
THAILAND	0.011410	0.011430
TURKEY	0.1135	
UNITED KINGDOM	0.5015	0.4967
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	0.102810	0.102810
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	0.37780	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	0.3950	0.3368
KUWAIT	0.2855	31.9589	0.2991	0.2550
OMAN	0.3849	0.3673	0.4033	0.3438
QATAR	3.6420	3.4759	3.8160	3.2535
UAE	3.6730	3.5055	3.8485	3.2812
SAUDI	3.7500	3.5790	3.9292	3.3500

Banks boost Qatar stocks

Dubai

Banking stocks boosted Qatar's equities market yesterday, with some share prices approaching levels last reached before the country's diplomatic crisis erupted in early June, while other bourses in the region were mostly quiet.

The Qatar index advanced by 1.2 per cent to 9,502 points, its highest finish since Saudi Arabia and other Arab states cut diplomatic and transport links with Doha on June 5. Yesterday's gain left the index only 4.3pc below its pre-crisis close. It has been as much as 13pc lower early this month.

Qatar National Bank (QNB), the largest lender, jumped by 4.4pc to 143 riyals. It closed at 145.30 riyals on June 4.

Qatar Islamic Bank, which analysts say is one of the most exposed to withdrawals because of the diplomatic crisis, rose 1.4pc.

Late on Tuesday it reported a 10pc rise in first-half net profit and a 2pc increase in deposits in the six months to June 30.

Among other Qatari stocks, the most heavily traded, Vodafone Qatar, climbed 2.8pc after saying that service on its 2G and 3G networks had been restored after disruption because of a technical problem this week.

The Dubai index rose in early trade but closed only 0.1pc higher.

Blue-chip Emaar Properties gained 1pc while rival DAMAC, which plunged by 9pc on Tuesday because of profit-taking, fell

Closing Bell

SAUDI fell 0.4pc to 7,230 points.

DUBAI edged up 0.1pc to 3,582 points.

ABU DHABI climbed 0.5pc to 4,594 points.

QATAR gained 1.2pc to 9,502 points.

EGYPT edged down 0.1pc to 13,707 points.

KUWAIT fell 0.3pc to 6,794 points.

BAHRAIN rose 0.3pc to 1,319 points.

OMAN dropped 0.4pc to 5,043 points.

by a further 1.7pc.

Emirates NBD, Dubai's largest lender, gained 0.9pc after posting a 6pc rise in second-quarter net profit to 2.02 billion dirhams (\$550 million), at the high end of analysts' forecasts. Trade in the tightly held stock was very thin.

A 0.8pc rise for telecoms company Etisalat boosted the Abu Dhabi index by 0.5pc.

The Saudi index was down 0.4pc. Al Rajhi Bank

, which went ex-dividend on Wednesday, slipped 1.5pc and blue-chip petrochemicals company Saudi Basic Industries lost 1.2pc.

Egypt's index slipped by 0.1pc but Pioneers Holding gained 2.5pc in unusually heavy trade after saying it would list its Rooyah Real Estate subsidiary on the stock market in the second half of its financial year. (Reuters)

US seeks to have more 'fair' trade with China

Washington

The US launched its first round of trade talks with China since Donald Trump took office in an unusually blunt manner yesterday, demanding more "fair, equitable and reciprocal" relationship, with more access to American made goods and services.

Noting the more than 200 percent surge in Chinese exports to the United States in the last 15 years, creating a trade deficit of \$309 billion last year, Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross insisted change was necessary.

"If this were just the natural product of free market forces, we could understand it, but it's



Donald Trump

not," Ross said in the opening ceremony of the one-day meeting between the world's top two economies.

"So it is time to rebalance our trade and investment

relationship in a more fair, equitable and reciprocal manner."

The talks are a continuation of the process undertaken by the previous two

administrations, which the Trump administration has rebranded as the US-China Comprehensive Economic Dialogue (CED).

Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin said the talks with the Chinese delegation led by Vice Premier Wang Yang would focus on concrete steps to provide greater access and a "level playing field" for US companies to the world's second largest market.

"We need to work together to maximize the benefit for both sides. But this is only possible if there is a more fair and balanced economic relationship between the US and China," Mnuchin said.



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Printed Wedding Cakes

The latest trend to hit this season is the concept of 'printed' wedding cakes. Any design that you want, whether a quote, song lyrics, wedding invitation, the couple's initials or images, can all be hand painted on the fondant covered cake giving it an illusion of being printed.

Lace Cake

Think romance, think delicate and think lace. Lace inspired cakes have always been a favourite but they are returning with the edible lace cakes. The lace cakes take the traditional plain cake to a whole new level where the designs of the lace could even match the wedding outfit.



Metallic Cakes

Everyone loves a little bling and when it comes to a wedding, bling is in. Yes, Metallic cakes are the latest trends in the market with cakes being made in the traditional Gold, White, Silver, Copper, Rust and many more. They are being incorporated along with classic designs, flowers or even sequins and gold lace.



The 'Toppers' Cake

Well, it's not a cake made specially for someone who has topped an exam. It's a cake with cute little toppings which can be in the form of some figurines, a monogram of the wedding, small miniatures of the newlyweds or even for that matter the recreation of a special moment in the couple's journey.

Motif Cake

The latest trend to hit the market in this context is the 'henna inspired' cake, which often carries the most intricate and complex designs, often the same henna design that is on the bride's hand. The next in series are cakes in all shapes and sizes ranging from a 'saree draped' cake with traditional motifs made in edible gold, to the 'peacock motif' cakes and even cakes in the shape of the Matkas, dhols, elephants and more. Now, that's called creativity! (TOI)

Can't stop drooling over the latest wedding cakes

We can't stop drooling over these latest wedding cakes. Wedding cakes are supposed to bring luck and happiness to the newlyweds. Though we have borrowed the concept from the West, quite characteristically, Weddings in the region have taken this trend to the next level with innovation and grandeur. So, what are the latest trends in the wedding cakes of 2017?

RECIPES

Chocolate Ricotta Muffins

Ingredients

- ▶▶ 1/2 cup and 2 tablespoons unsweetened cocoa powder
- ▶▶ 2 tablespoons ground flaxseed
- ▶▶ 2 teaspoons baking powder
- ▶▶ 1 teaspoon baking soda
- ▶▶ 1/4 teaspoon salt
- ▶▶ 2 large eggs
- ▶▶ 6 tablespoons almond butter
- ▶▶ 6 tablespoons honey
- ▶▶ 2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- ▶▶ 3/4 cup ricotta cheese (regular or light)

Method

Step 1 Preheat your oven to 350°F and prepare a muffin pan by lining the cavities with parchment paper liners. Set aside.

Step 2 Add all of the ingredients except for the ricotta to a high-speed blender, and process on high for about 30-40 seconds or until the batter becomes smooth and creamy. Periodically stop and scrape down the sides of your blender, as necessary. Finally, fold in the ricotta by hand.

Step 3 Spoon the batter into the prepared muffin cups, filling each one about 3/4 of the way full.

Step 4 Bake for 21-23 minutes, until a toothpick inserted into the center comes out clean. Allow the muffins to cool in the pan for 10 minutes before transferring them to a wire rack to cool completely. As soon as they've cooled, transfer them to an airtight container and store them at room temperature for up to 5 days, or freeze for up to 3 months.
(foodrepublic)





Minister of Industry, Commerce & Tourism Zayed bin Rashid Al Zayani participated in the round table discussion Shabab2030, which was moderated by MBC Al Amal's Mariam Farag at CH9 in Amwaj Island. The Minister emphasized the interest and support of the government of Bahrain to create an integrated and supportive business environment system that will allow aspiring entrepreneurs to develop their ideas.



Bahrain Ambassador to Egypt and the Permanent Representative to the Arab League, Shaikh Rashid bin Abdulrahman Al Khalifa, met the Head of the Supreme Council for Media Regulation (SCMR) in Egypt, Makram Mohamed Ahmed, at Maspero Television Building. Shaikh Rashid highlighted the strong cooperation between the Kingdom of Bahrain and the Republic of Egypt in media, stressing the importance of enhancing media communication and exchanging experiences and training programs between the two countries.



Information and Communication Technology Secretary General, Shaikh Mohamed bin Khalifa, yesterday opened the Youth City under the patronage of the Supreme Council for Media Regulation (SCMR) in Bahrain. The Secretary stressed the importance of supporting the Youth City to support the ambitious plans of the Ministry of Sport and Youth.



The National Institution for Human Rights (NIHR) held a training session on "Visiting Detention Centres" for the members of the Council of Commissioners. The course was conducted by the NIHR's Vice-Chairman, Abdulla Alderazi, and Head of the Economic, Social and Cultural Rights Committee, Maria Khoury.



The Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCCI) held a seminar, attended by BCCI members, shared details on the award and industry delivered a presentation containing key details on encouraged businesses with above 49 employees to register for...



His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa hailed executive-legislative cooperation which benefited the nation and citizens. HM the King made the statement in the presence of Prime Minister HRH Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa and Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Prime Minister HRH Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa as King Hamad received Speaker Ahmed bin Ibrahim Al-Mulla and Shura Council Chairman Ali bin Saleh Al-Saleh. HM King commended the Speaker and Shura Council chairman, MPs and Shura members for their dedicated role in passing the crucial law unanimously.

Electricity and Water Affairs Minister Dr. Abdussain Mirza received Amken CEO Dr. Ibrahim Anahi and officials of the Sustainable Energy Unit. The two sides reviewed the future plan of the Sustainable Energy Unit, addressed important joint projects and discussed areas of cooperation. The minister thanked the wise leadership for their care and support and support for projects of the Electricity and Water Authority (EWA) and the Sustainable Energy Unit and to provide best services to citizens and residents in Bahrain



CEO of Bahrain Bourse (BHB) Shaikh Khalifa bin Ebrahim Al-Khalifa received on Tuesday, Ambassador of the Republic of Korea Hyunmo Koo and Counsellor and Deputy Head of Mission Youngki Yun. A presentation was conducted by the Bourse's officials on the investment opportunities available at BHB, including the latest products, innovative services, different investment instruments available at the Bourse, as well as the launch of the Bahrain Investment Market and Bahrain Clear

n Affairs Undersecretary Abdulrahman Bahar took part in the ceremony of the 2030 that held the patronage of the Council for Sport Chairman, Olympic Committee & Royal Organisation Chairman HH Shaikh bin Hamad Al Undersecretary of the Informatics Ministry's keenness to achieve projects



The coffee shops and restaurants committee of the Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCCI) headed by Ahmed Al Saloom has recently held a joint meeting with the Southern Governorate Municipal Council headed by Ahmed Al Ansari at the chamber's headquarters in Sanabis. The meeting discussed clamping unauthorized coffee shops and mitigating malpractices, it also hailed the cooperation between BCCI and the Southern Municipal Council and discussed revitalizing the sector



Deputy General Director of Traffic, Lt-Col. Mohammed Ali Daraj has honoured a number of employees out of appreciation of their efforts and dedication in fulfilling their tasks, in the presence of Director of Operations and Traffic Control, Lt-Col. Adel Al Dossairi. The honouring was part of the approach of the department to motivate employees to work harder to ensure the highest traffic safety level



premises yesterday an induction seminar on Sharjah Economic Excellence Award (ShjSEEN). The seminar encouraged Bahraini business owners to take part. Representatives of Sharjah Chamber of Commerce discussed the purpose of the award, its categories, terms and conditions, and benefits to the winners. They also discussed the award before the registration deadline in October 2017



Ahmed Hani Akram, car winner from the 1st draw of BFC's 100 year bonanza campaign, was handed over the prize at BFC Manama Branch in the presence of senior BFC and Zayani Motor's officials



KATY PERRY @katyperry
Me getting my strength back after promoting
#WITNESS all over the world



Reynolds makes terminally ill fan's dream come true

Los Angeles

Actor Ryan Reynolds made a younger fan named Daniel Downing's dream come true after he video called the five-year-old who reportedly has a few months to live.

After hearing about the youngster's terminal illness, Reynolds organised a phone call in between filming "Deadpool 2" to the fan, reports *dailymail.co.uk*.

Downing was diagnosed with cancer, pontine glioma, and at the start of the month it was confirmed that he had an inoperable brain tumour.

Following the diagnosis, his family and friends were determined to make his final months as memorable as possible, with a phone call from Reynolds being one of them.

In an emotional video, Reynolds can be seen speaking the Downing, who tells him about how "poorly" he has been while surrounded by his mother, step-father Ady, older brother Jack, and two of the family's baby sitters. (IANS)



Felicity Jones to play Ruth Bader Ginsburg

Actress Felicity Jones has been roped in to star in the role of Supreme Court Justice of Ruth Bader Ginsburg in biopic 'On the Basis of Sex'.

Mimi Leder is directing the Focus Features project, which is to chronicle

the early years of Ginsburg's lifelong fight for equality and her path to becoming the second woman appointed to the Supreme Court. Daniel Stiepleman wrote the script.

Jones replaces Natalie Portman, who had been attached to play Ginsburg since 2015. Ginsburg was appointed to the Supreme Court in 1993 by President Clinton and became the second female justice after Sandra Day O' Connor.

Ginsburg is 84 and remains an associate justice who is part of the court's liberal wing. She is one of the three female justices on the current court along with Sonia Sotomayor and Elena Kagan. (TOI)



July 20, 1975

Character actress best known for her roles as Kitty Sanchez on *Arrested Development* and as Julie in the film *The Descendants*.

Janet Jackson moves back to LA with son

Los Angeles

Singer Janet Jackson, who was staying in New York with her six-month-old son, has moved back to the West Coast.

"Los Angeles has always been home for Janet and she is enjoying having her family so close. It's especially important to her because she wants her son to have a close relationship with her mother and family. Everyone is so happy to have her back home in LA," a source close told *etonline.com*.

Jackson, upon returning to Los Angeles, is also working on the final preparations of her State of the World tour which includes getting into performing shape. (IANS)



I am probably the most untraditional bride



Actress Ashley Greene said she would be the most unconventional newly-wed as she is not someone who is stressing about her wedding plans. The 30-year-old actress, who is enjoying her courtship period with fiancé, Paul Khoury, said she is in no rush to get hitched.

"I'm probably the most untraditional bride. We're at the age where a lot of our friends are getting married, and many of them are stressed out."

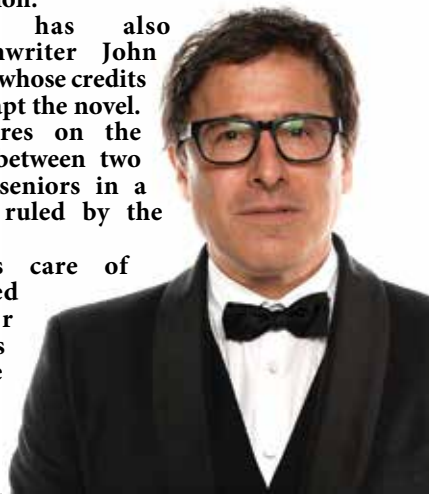
"That's just not how I want to enter into our union. So, for us, we're enjoying the honeymoon engagement stage," Greene said. The 'Burying the Ex' actress got engaged to Khoury in December 2016. (TOI)

DAVID O RUSSELL IN TALKS TO PRODUCE 'BOY21'




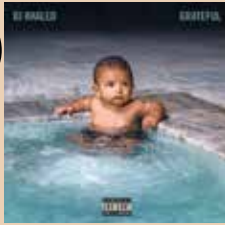






Filmmaker David O Russell is in negotiation to produce the movie version of Matthew Quick's basketball drama 'Boy21'. Current production companies on the project are John Malkovich's Mr Mudd and Channing Tatum's Free Association.

Lionsgate has also hired screenwriter John Whittington, whose credits include to adapt the novel. 'Boy21' centres on the relationship between two high school seniors in a rough town ruled by the Irish mob.

One takes care of his disabled grandfather and finds escape on the basketball court. (TOI)



Top Album Sales this Week

- 1  **Hydrograd**
Stone Sour
- 2  **Funk Wav Bounces Vol. 1**
Calvin Harris
- 3  **Evolve**
Imagine Dragons
- 4  **Grateful**
DJ Khaled
- 5  **Moana**
Soundtrack
- 6  **Baby Driver: Music From The Motion Picture**
Soundtrack
- 7  **Divide**
Ed Sheeran
- 8  **From A Room: Volume 1**
Chris Stapleton
- 9  **24K Magic**
Bruno Mars
- 10  **DAMN.**
Kendrick Lamar



START CAMERA ACTION

Universal Signs First-Look Deal With Malcolm D. Lee

Universal Pictures has signed a first-look production deal with writer, director and producer Malcolm D. Lee and his Blackmaled Productions. Lee most recently directed and produced the Universal comedy *Girls Trip*, which will be released Friday in North America.

"Starting with *The Best Man*, Malcolm has an incredible track record telling resonant stories that make audiences laugh and cry, which he has done brilliantly once again with *Girls Trip*," Universal Pictures president of production

Peter Cramer said Tuesday in a statement. "We are thrilled to formalize our long-standing relationship with Malcolm by welcoming his company to the lot, and we are excited about making many more films with him, starting with his next film, *Night School*."

"I am extremely gratified to officially be a part of the Universal family. This is a place I've always considered my home. They have respected and been supportive of my vision as a filmmaker, and I hope to continue the great success that I've



had at Universal as we continue this fruitful partnership," Lee said.

Lee, who started out his career working as a production assistant, apprentice film editor,

casting associate and director's assistant to his cousin, Spike Lee, has directed five of his nine films to date with Universal. (hollywoodreporter.com)

DT NEWS

Show Time

16 Thursday, July 20, 2017

HUROOB EDTERARI (Arabic/ Action/Drama/Thriller)

Starring: Ahmed El Sakka Ghada Adel Amir Karara

DANA : Timings: 10:45,13:00,15:15,17:30,19:45,22:00,00:15

Timings: 11:00,13:15,15:30,17:45,20:00,22:15,00:30

CINECO (20) : Daily At: 10.30 Am + 12.45 + 3.00 + 5.15 + 7.30 + 9.45 Pm + 12.00 Mn

SEEF (I) : Daily At: 12.15 + 2.30 + 4.45 + 7.00 + 9.15 Pm + 11.30 Pm

SAAR : Daily At: 12.00 + 2.15 + 4.30 + 6.45 + 9.00 + 11.15 Pm

WADI AL SAIL : Daily At: 12.30 + 2.45 + 5.00 + 7.15 + 9.30 + 11.45 Pm

THE WALK CINEMA : Timings: 11:45,14:00,16:15,18:30,20:45,23:00

THE WALK CINEMA : Timings: 11:15,13:30,15:45,18:00,20:15,22:30

THE WALK CINEMA : Timings: 11:15,13:30,15:45,18:00,20:15,22:30

MUNNA MICHAEL (Hindi/ Action/ Drama / Musical)

Starring: Nawazuddin Siddiqui, Tiger Shroff, Chitrangda Singh

DANA : Timings: 10:45,13:30,16:15,19:00,21:45,00:30

CINECO (20) : Daily At: 12.30 + 3.15 + 6.00 + 8.45 + 11.30 Pm

SEEF (II) : Daily At: 12.00 + 2.45 + 5.30 + 8.15 + 11.00 Pm

VIKRAM VEDHA (Tamil / Action / Thriller)

Starring: R. Madhavan, Vijay Sethupathi, Shradha Srinath

DANA : Timings: 10:45,13:30,16:15,19:00,21:45,00:30

SEEF (I) : On Thursday 20Th: 8.30 + 11.30 Pm

From Friday 21St: 11.30 Am + 2.30 + 5.30 + 8.30 + 11.30 Pm

AL JAZIRA : On Thursday 20Th: 12.00 Mn

From Friday 21St: 4.00 + 4.30 Pm + (12.00 Mn Fri)

AL HAMRA : On Thursday 20Th: 9.00 Pm + 12.00 Mn

From Friday 21St: 6.00 + 9.00 Pm + (12.00 Mn Fri)

BAYWATCH (Action / Comedy / Drama)

Starring: Dwayne Johnson, Zac Efron, Alexandra Daddario

DANA : Timings: 10:45,13:00,15:15,17:30,19:45,22:00,00:15

Timings: 11:00,13:15,15:30,17:45,20:00,22:15,00:30

CINECO (20) : Daily At: 11.30 Am + 2.00 + 4.30 + 7.00 + 9.30 Pm + 12.00 Mn + (1.00 Am Thurs/Fri)

Daily At (Vip I): 10.30 Am + 1.00 + 3.30 + 6.00 + 8.30 + 11.00 Pm

SEEF (II) : Daily At: 11.00 Am + 12.00 + 1.30 + 2.30 + 4.00 + 5.00 + 6.30 + 7.30 + 9.00 + 10.00 + 11.30 Pm + (12.30 Mn Thurs/Fri)

SAAR : Daily At: 10.45 Am + 1.15 + 3.45 + 6.15 + 8.45 + 11.15 Pm

AL JAZIRA : Daily At: 7.00 + 9.30 Pm + (12.00 Mn Thurs/Fri)

WADI AL SAIL : Daily At: 11.00 Am + 1.30 + 4.00 + 6.30 + 9.00 + 11.30 Pm

SEEF (II) : Daily At: 12.00 + 2.45 + 5.30 + 8.15 + 11.00 Pm

SEEF (II) : Daily At: 12.00 + 2.45 + 5.30 + 8.15 + 11.00 Pm

NINNU KORI (Telugu / Romance / Comedy)

Starring: Nani, Niveda Thomas, Aadhi

DANA : Timings: 11:00,13:30,16:00,18:30,21:00,23:30

GEMINI GANESHANUM SURULI RAAJANUM (Tamil / Comedy / Crime / Thriller)

Starring: Aishwarya Rajesh, Regina Cassandra, Pranitha

DANA : Timings: 10:45,13:15,15:45,18:15,20:45,23:15

WAR FOR THE PLANET OF THE APES: 2D (Action / Adventure / Drama)

Starring: Toby Kebbell, Andy Serkis, Woody Harrelson

DANA : Timings: 11:00,13:30,16:00,18:30,21:00,23:30

Timings: 10:30,13:00,15:30,18:00,20:30,23:00

CINECO (20) : Daily At: 12.00 + 3.00 + 6.00 + 9.00 Pm + 12.00 Mn + (12.45 Mn Thurs/Fri)

SEEF (II) : Daily At: (1.00 Am Thurs/Fri)

SEEF (I) : Daily At: 11.30 Am + 2.30 + 5.30 + 8.30 + 11.30 Pm

SAAR : Daily At: 11.00 Am + 2.00 + 5.00 + 8.00 + 11.00 Pm

WADI AL SAIL : Daily At: 11.15 Am + 2.15 + 5.15 + 8.15 + 11.15 Pm

THE WALK CINEMA : Timings: 11:15, 13:45, 16:15, 18:45, 21:15, 23:45

THE WALK CINEMA : Timings: 11:30,14:00,16:30,19:00,21:30,00:00

JAGGA JASOOS (Hindi/ Action/ Adventure/ Comedy)

Starring: Katrina Kaif, Ranbir Kapoor, Sanjay Dutt

DANA : Timings: 10:30,13:30,16:30,19:30,22:30

SEEF (II) : Daily At: 6.30 + 11.30 Pm

SEEF (II) : Daily At: 6.30 + 11.30 Pm

SEEF (II) : Daily At: 6.30 + 11.30 Pm

FIDAA (Telugu / Romance)

Starring: Varun Tej, Sai Pallavi,

Satyam Rajesh DANA : Timings: 11:00,13:30,16:00,18:30,21:00,23:30

AL HAMRA : From Friday 21St: 12.00 + 3.00 Pm

DESPICABLE 3 - 2D (Animation/Action/Adventure)

Starring: Jenny Slate, Kristen Wiig, Steve Carell

DANA : Timings: 12:30,16:15,20:00,23:45

CINECO (20) : Daily At: 10.45 Am + 12.45 + 2.45 + 4.45 + 6.45 + 8.45 + 10.45 Pm

SEEF (II) : Daily At: 11.00 Am + 1.00 + 3.00 + 5.00 + 7.00 + 9.00 + 11.00 Pm

WADI AL SAIL : Daily At: 10.30 Am + 12.30 + 2.30 + 7.15 Pm

CARS 3: 2D (Animation / Adventure / Comedy)

Starring: Owen Wilson, Cristela Alonzo, Chris Cooper

DANA : Timings: 10:30,14:15,18:00,21:45

CINECO (20) : Daily At: 11.30 Am + 1.45 + 4.00 + 6.15 + 8.30 + 10.45 Pm

SEEF (II) : Daily At: 12.15 + 2.30 + 4.45 + 7.00 + 9.15 Pm

THE WALK CINEMA : Timings: 11:15,13:15,15:15,17:15,19:15,21:15,23:15

SPIDERMAN: HOME COMING- 2D (Action / Adventure / Sci-Fi)

Starring: Chris Evans, Tom Holland, Marisa Tomei

DANA : Timings: 11:00,13:30,16:00,18:30,21:00,23:30

Timings: 11:30,14:00,16:30,19:00,21:30,23:30,00:00

CINECO (20) : Daily At: 10.30 Am + 1.00 + 3.45 + 6.30 + 9.15 Pm + 12.00 Mn + (1.00 Am Thurs/Fri)

SEEF (I) : Daily At: 12.30 + 3.15 + 6.00 + 8.45 + 11.30 Pm

WADI AL SAIL : Daily At: 4.30 + 9.15 Pm + 12.00 Mn

THE WALK CINEMA : Timings: 11:30,14:00,16:30,19:00,21:30,00:00

BABY DRIVER (Action / Crime / Thriller)

Starring: Ansel Elgort, Lily James, Jon Hamm

DANA : Timings: 11:15,13:30,15:45,18:00,20:15,22:30,00:45

CINECO (20) : Daily At: 11.15 Am + 1.45 + 4.15 + 6.45 + 9.15 + 11.45 Pm

Daily At (Vip II): 10.45 Am + 1.15 + 3.45 + 6.15 + 8.45 + 11.15 Pm

SEEF (II) : Daily At: 11.15 Am + 1.45 + 4.15 + 6.45 + 9.15 + 11.45 Pm + (12.30 Mn Thurs/Fri)

SAAR : Daily At: 11.00 Am + 1.30 + 4.00 + 6.30 + 9.00 + 11.30 Pm

AL JAZIRA : Daily At: 2.15 + 7.30 + 9.45 Pm

WADI AL SAIL : Daily At: 10.45 Am + 1.15 + 3.45 + 6.15 + 8.45 + 11.15 Pm

THE WALK CINEMA : Timings: 11:00,13:15,15:30,17:45,20:00,22:15

THE WALK CINEMA : Timings: 13:30,15:45,18:00,20:15,22:30

ONCE UPON A TIME IN VENICE (Action/Comedy/Thriller)

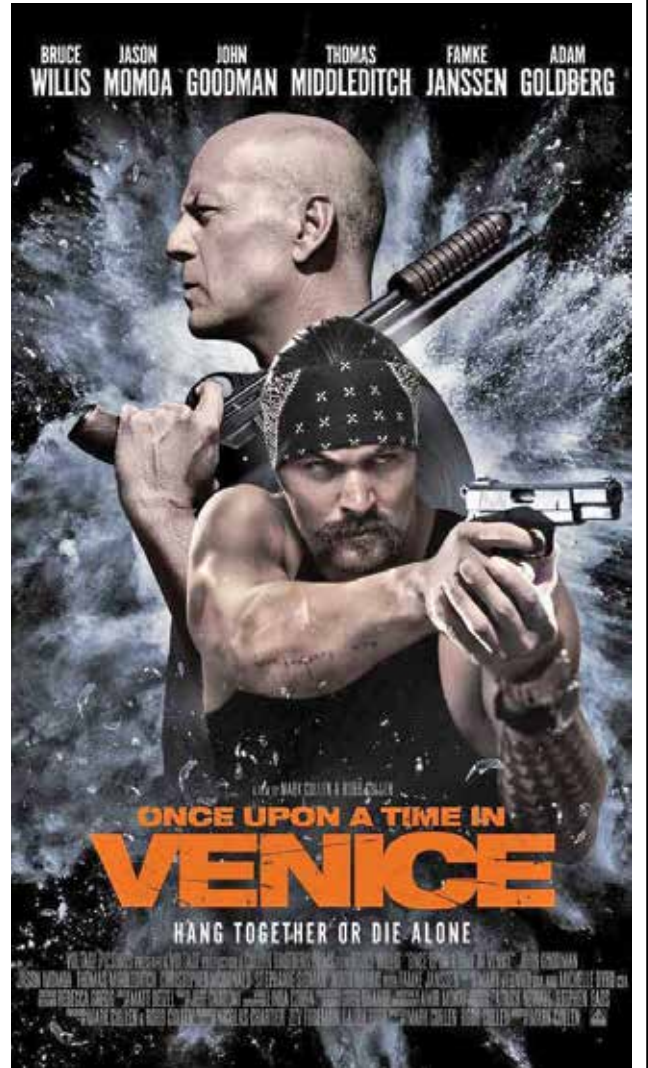
Starring: Jason Momoa, Bruce Willis, Elisabeth Röhm

DANA : Timings: 10:30,12:15,14:00,15:45,17:30,19:15,21:00,22:45,00:30

SEEF (II) : Daily At: 10.30 Am + 12.30 + 2.30 + 4.30 + 9.30 + 11.30 Pm

TESBAH ALA KHER (Arabic / Romance / Comedy)

Starring: Tamer Hosny Dorra Nour Mai Omar



DANA : Timings: 12:30,16:15,20:00,23:45

CINECO (20) : Daily At: 12.30 + 2.45 + 5.00 + 7.15 + 9.30 + 11.45 Pm

SEEF (I) : Daily At: 12.00 + 2.15 + 4.30 + 6.45 + 9.00 + 11.15 Pm

WADI AL SAIL : Daily At: 2.30 + 4.45 + 7.00 + 9.15 + 11.30 Pm

THE WALK CINEMA : Timings: 11:30,13:30,15:30,17:30,19:30,21:30,23:30

TAFASH WELARB3EEN HARAMI (Bahrain/Family/ Comedy/Adventure)

Starring: Ali El Ghreer Amir Dasmal Noura Al Balushi

DANA : Timings: 10:45,14:30,18:15,22:00

CINECO (20) : Daily At: 11.00 Am + 1.00 + 3.00 + 5.00 + 7.00 + 9.00 + 11.00 Pm

SEEF (II) : Daily At: 10.30 Am + 12.30 + 2.30 + 4.30 + 6.30 + 8.30 + 10.30 Pm

PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: SALAZARS REVENGE (Pg-15) (Action/Adventure)

Starring: Johnny Depp, Geoffrey Rush, Keira Knightley

CINECO (20) : Daily At: 12.00 + 2.45 + 5.30 + 8.15 + 11.00 Pm

SEEF (II) : Daily At: 12.15 + 3.00 + 5.45 + 8.30 + 11.15 Pm

THE MUMMY (Pg-15) (Action/Adventure/Thriller)

Starring: Tom Cruise, Sofia Boutella, Annabelle Wallis

CINECO (20) : Daily: 12.15 + 2.30 + 4.45 + 7.00 + 9.15 + 11.30 Pm

SEEF (II) : Daily: 2.00 + 7.00 Pm + 12.00 Mn

WONDER WOMAN (Pg-13) (Action/Adventure)

Starring: Gal Gadot, Chris Pine, Robin Wright

CINECO (20) : Daily At: 12.45 + 3.30 + 6.15 + 9.00 + 11.45 Pm

SEEF (II) : Daily At: 11.15 Am + 4.15 + 9.15 Pm

OVERDRIVE (Pg-15) (Action/Thriller/Crime)

Starring: Scott Eastwood, Ana De Armas, Freddie Thorp

CINECO (20) : Daily At: 6.00 + 8.00 + 10.00 Pm + 12.00 Mn

ANTAR BIN SHADDAD (Pg-13) (Arabic/Comedy)

Starring: Mohamed Heneidi, Dora Labib, Eman Elsayed

CINECO (20) : Daily At: 12.00 + 2.15 + 4.30 + 6.45 + 9.00 + 11.15 Pm

THE BOSS BABY (Pg) (Animation/Comedy)

Starring: Alec Baldwin, Steve Buscemi, Jimmy Kimmel

CINECO (20) : Daily At: 12.00 + 2.00 + 4.00 Pm

INCONCEIVABLE (Drama / Thriller)

Starring: Nicolas Cage, Gina Gershon, Nicky Whelan

THE WALK CINEMA : Timings: 13:15,17:30,21:45

THE BAD BATCH (Romance / Sci-Fi)

Starring: Suki Waterhouse, Jason Momoa, Jayda Fink

THE WALK CINEMA : Timings: 12:45,16:45,20:45

HUNTER'S PRAYER (Action / Thriller)

Starring: Odeya Rush, Sam Worthington, Martin Compston

THE WALK CINEMA : Timings: 11:00,15:00,19:00,23:00

PIRATES OF THE CARRIBEAN: DEAD MEN TELL NO TALES (ACTION / ADVENTURE / FANTASY)

Starring: Johnny Depp, Geoffrey Rush, Javier Bardem

Timings: 11:00,15:15,19:30,23:45



MOVIE REVIEW

Music sounds better when you're on the road. In 'Baby Driver', 'Shaun of the Dead' director Edgar Wright takes the car-chase action film - loaded with tyre squeals - and weds it to a cracking jukebox playlist. The result is the most supercharged piece of motorised choreography since John Landis destroyed a fleet of cop cars in 'The Blues Brothers'.

Wright's hero, Baby ('The Fault in Our Stars' actor Ansel Elgort), still has a hint of peach fuzz on his cheeks, but he's a

genius with a gearstick. A getaway driver with dreams of going straight, Baby needs music to drown out the tinnitus-induced buzz in his head. Unlike the more violent and existential vehicular visions seen in 'Drive' or 'Bullitt', 'Baby Driver' is sweet fantasy.

That means its two-bit thieves and criminal masterminds (Jamie Foxx, Jon Hamm, Kevin Spacey) are enjoyably cartoonish; the same goes for Baby's waitress crush, Debora (Lily James), the kind of broad-

smiling cutie that filmmakers always seem to dream about. Their romance is nourished with doe-eyed looks and Beach Boys-scored dreaminess, but the movie doesn't know what to do with it, except hatch a plan to 'head west and never stop'.

The chances are you won't mind: the action sequences here, imbued with humour and break-on-a-dime timing, are the most beautifully sustained and jaw-dropping of Wright's career. You'll be rewinding them in your head for days. (timeout)

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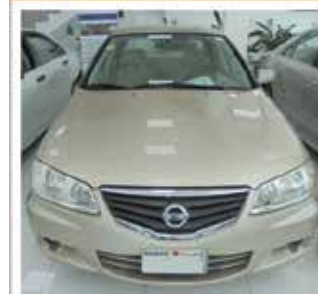
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NOTICE WITH REGARD TO THE CANCELLATION OF LICENSE OF "Wasserstein Middle East, Inc"

With reference to the Resolution of the Governor of the Central Bank of Bahrain No. (48) of 2017 pertaining to the cancellation of license of "Wasserstein Middle East, Inc." issued on 19th Shawal 1438H, corresponding to 13th July 2017, the Central Bank of Bahrain hereby provides notice that the Representative Office license of "Wasserstein Middle East, Inc." issued on 5th June 1999, registered under commercial registration no. 43493 has been cancelled, with effect from the date of issuing and publication of the above resolutions in the Official Gazette.

AL EMAN HAJJ SERVICES (HAKEEM)

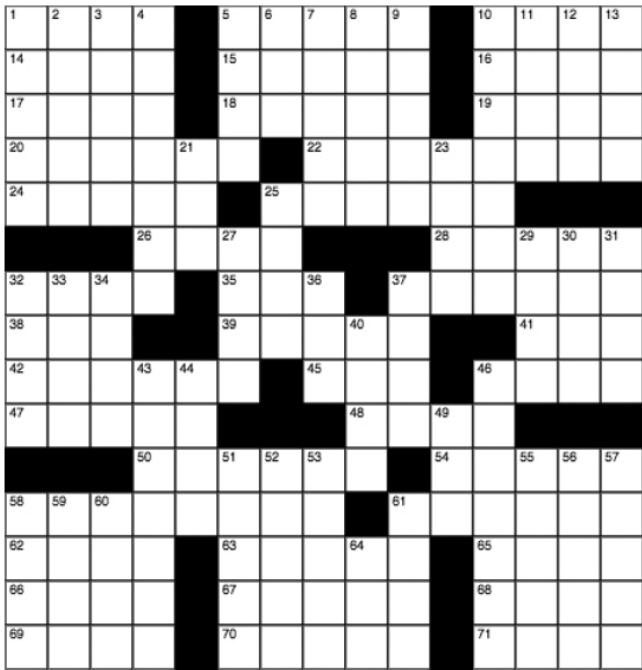
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CROSSWORD



Across

1Rent___; 5Marriott competitor; 10Entr'___; 14Deep affection; 15Unit just above a yard; 16Digits of the foot; 17Statesman Abba; 18Bony prefix; 19Fruitfilled pie; 20" Gunsmoke" star; 22Loss of appetite; 24Islamic decree; 25Mathematical diagrams; 26___ want for Christmas...; 28Lucy's landlady; 32Auditorium; 35___ been had; 37Fortified feudal residence; 38Pay stub?; 39___ evil...; 41Leaves in a bag; 42Humbert Humbert's obsession; 45Barbie's boyfriend; 46Copied; 47Pine; 48Caught in the act; 50Weights; 54Unfettered; 58Large hill; 61Stifled laugh; 62___ many words; 63More peculiar; 65German Mister; 66___ dowell; 67Verdun's river; 68Harper's Bazaar illustrator; 69Shipping deduction; 70___ my case; 71Highway;

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION



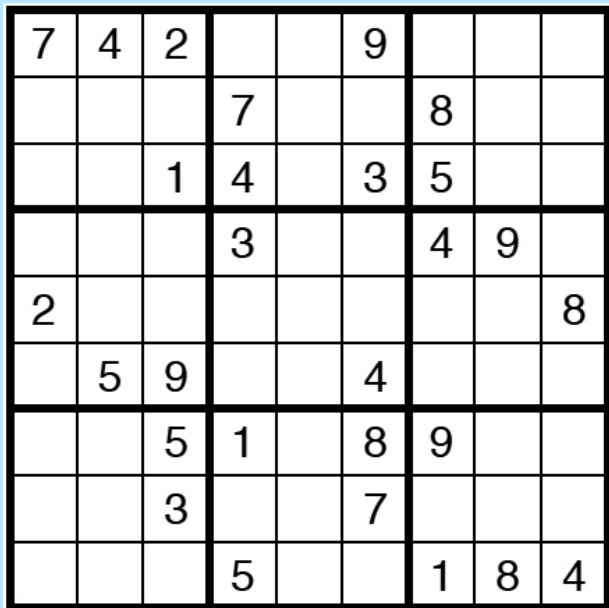
Down

1Shake like ___; 2Army attack helicopter; 3___ garde; 4Subscription continuation; 5Med. care providers; 6Affirmative answer; 7Rose essence; 8" Lovergirl" singer ___ Marie; 9Scout unit; 10Certifies; 11Wheedle; 12TV's Hatcher; 13This, in Tijuana; 21Mineo of "Exodus"; 23Perlman of "Cheers"; 25Bestow; 27Actress Kudrow; 29Web address starter; 30Robt. ___; 31Show the way; 32Consecrated; 33Lotion ingredient; 34In ___ land; 36A mouse!; 37Volcano shape; 40Nitti's nemesis; 43Blast furnace input; 44Hardware fastener; 46One more; 49New Haven student; 51Model Campbell; 52Apple juice; 53Provide; 55Alamogordo's county; 56Perfect Sleeper maker; 57Messed up; 58Money maker; 59Draft status; 60Consumer; 61Waste allowance; 64Pothook shape;

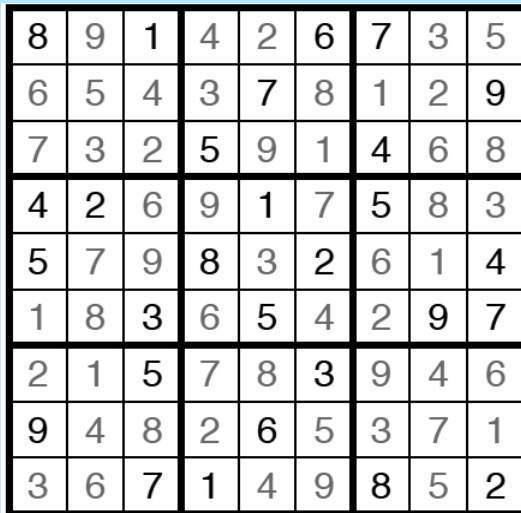
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SUDOKU



YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION



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)



Your emotions may seem a bit muddy today. You might not understand the reason for this. Look to others to share your thoughts. You should find that talking will help you sort through your feelings. If you need to, shift down to second gear for a little more power. Take your time if you need to.

(Apr 21st - May 21st)



You're going to get it all today. You may not feel especially powerful, and in fact there may be those who try to make you feel incompetent. Realize that this is a passing trend and you will soon bounce back to your true self. Open up a little more than usual and let more light into your life.

(May 22nd - Jun 21st)



Today is your day to shine, so give it your all. Be sure that you get the credit you deserve for all you do. Try not to fall into self-pity. Be yourself and people will naturally follow your lead. Now is an excellent time to make plans for the future. Stay grounded and on target with your goals. Make sure you aren't thrown off course by other people's whims and motivations.

(June 22nd - July 23rd)



Today is a day of contrasts. Eat chocolate in the morning and go jogging in the afternoon. Sleep in late and go to bed early. It's also a day of grounding. Spend time at home and make more calls than you normally would. Clean your desk and organize a bookshelf. Why not clean out the refrigerator? Take care of your pets.

(July 24th - Aug 23rd)



The day doesn't begin until you clear your head and take stock of some pending personal issues. You might be making mountains out of molehills. Realize that there's a path for everybody. Put your stinger away today. It's powerful, but it won't do any good. Keep your power under wraps. Concentrate more on the mundane tasks that need to be done.

(Aug 24th - Sep 23rd)



Today might be a difficult day for you. You instinctively will want to escape the situation and explore your horizons, but something holds you down. Take care of the bills on your desk, and deal with the mess in the bedroom. Clearing the physical space around you will help clear the mental space in your head. You will be footloose and fancy free soon enough.

(Sep 24th - Oct 23rd)



The world is wide open to you today, so take advantage of all the great things it has to offer. Even though you may not realize it, you have a loyal fan club developing in the wings. The things you say and do have a strong impact on others. This is a fantastic day to take charge and lead others who seem to be floundering. Your solid perspective will be an asset in every situation.

(Oct 24th - Nov 22nd)



Say what's on your mind, but don't take offense if no one seems to listen. Don't bulldoze your point through. Whiners aren't popular, either. Concentrate instead on your aspirations and push yourself to the limit. You might have been talking a lot lately, and getting those ideas out there is great. Now is the time when you need to lay some groundwork in order.

(Nov 23rd - Dec 21st)



Get your head out of the clouds, and come back to Earth for a nice visit. There are some things you need to take care of here. Mundane tasks and routine chores won't be painful after you set your mind on getting them done. You can accomplish a lot today. Just make sure you keep a level head and keep a firm handle on the reality of the situation.

(Dec 22nd- Jan 20th)



Bring things down to Earth today. Get yourself grounded and enjoy the day. The more you slow down and adopt a caring, sensitive, receptive attitude, the more things will naturally flow your way. This isn't a day to fight. It's a time to connect with others on a symbiotic level. Nurture yourself and others. Get a massage and snuggle up close to those you love.

(Jan 21st - Feb 19th)



Today is a fantastic day for you, so enjoy yourself fully. Your emotions will be stable and you have a very expansive sense of well-being. Your self-confidence is strong, so use this to your advantage. This energy may be subtle, but if you tune into it early in the day and set a plan for what you want to accomplish, you can be very productive.

(Feb 20th - Mar 20th)



Today is a good day to simply get things done. Take care of the annoying tasks that have been accumulating. You have a great opportunity to accomplish a lot. People are less concerned with frivolous drivel and gossip than they are with setting a plan to meet an important goal. Contribute to this trend by getting serious about the tasks at hand.

Philippine President
Rodrigo Duterte

Philippines shelves talks after attack on guards

Manila
The Philippine government's peace talks with communist rebels teetered near collapse yesterday as President Rodrigo Duterte threatened to end negotiations after suspected guerrillas shot and wounded five of his bodyguards in an ambush. Aides said Duterte was not in the convoy when gunmen opened fire on two Presidential Security Group vehicles on the southern island of Mindanao, where troops have also been battling Islamic State group-inspired gunmen for nearly two months. "The president directed

Big casinos under scanner

Manila
The Philippines said it would monitor large transactions at casinos to curb money-laundering, after proceeds from an \$81 million theft were funnelled through several gambling establishments last year.

President Duterte signed a law this week adding the gaming sector to monitored institutions. Casinos must now report to the central bank's Anti-Money Laundering Council all transactions exceeding five million pesos.

the government panel... not to resume formal peace talks unless the reds (rebels) agree to stop their attacks against government troops in Mindanao," said a statement issued by the presidential palace.

The rebels have been in off-and-on peace talks with the government since Duterte, a self-described socialist, was elected last year. Both sides have since declared unilateral ceasefires, but these did not last. (AFP)

Vietnam to rescue 1,000 bears to end bile trade

Hanoi
Vietnam agreed yesterday to rescue more than 1,000 bears from illegal farms across the country, in a move to end the traditional medicine trade in the creatures' bile.

Though bile farms are already outlawed in Vietnam, bears are still captured and caged in illicit facilities where their bile is extracted using invasive and painful techniques.

Vietnam's Administration of Forestry (VNFOREST) and non-profit group Animals Asia signed an agreement Wednesday to rescue all remaining bears from farms, committing to end bile trade and close all facilities within five years.

"This is a truly historic day," Animals Asia CEO Jill Robinson at the signing in



A moon bear searches for food at the Vietnam Bear Rescue Centre near Tam Dao National Park in Vinh Phuc province Hanoi, adding that the decision "will lead to the definitive end to bear bile farming here in Vietnam". Bear bile farming has been outlawed in Vietnam since 1992. But many bile farms use a legal loophole allowing them to raise the animals as pets.

#PollToday



The demand to shut Qatar's Al Jazeera has been dropped. Do you think that was the toughest one in the previous list given by the quartet?

Yes No Cant Say



The Turkish government needs to immediately and directly hear the German government's outrage and incomprehension as well as its crystal-clear expectations in the case of Peter Steudtner, and this time without diplomatic niceties."

Martin Schaefer, German Foreign Ministry spokesman over detention of German human rights activist

Rest in sight

Rare birth of hairy-nosed wombat in Australia



The population of one of the world's rarest species has been boosted with the birth of a northern hairy-nosed wombat joey.

Russia backs bill to strip 'terrorists' of citizenship

Russian MPs passed a law to strip naturalised citizens of passports for offences classed as "terrorism" following a deadly April suicide bombing in the St Petersburg metro.

Russia probes fidget spinners over health fears

Russia's state consumer watchdog warned Tuesday over possible harmful effects on children from an addiction to fidget spinners.

Court finds Thai general guilty of trafficking

A Thai general was found guilty of human trafficking on Wednesday as a Bangkok court convicted scores of people in a mass trial exposing the lynchpin role of corrupt officials in the grim.

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French military chief quits after Macron row



Pierre De Villiers

Paris

French leader Emmanuel Macron faced the biggest crisis of his young presidency yesterday following the resignation of the head of the armed forces, whom he had rebuked for criticising defence spending cuts.

The row between Macron and General Pierre De Villiers blew up last week when the chief of staff told a parliamentary committee he would not allow the armed forces to be "screwed" by the government's plans to slash 850 million euros (\$980 million) from this year's budget.

Macron, 39, slapped down the 60-year-old, five-star general, telling army top

brass at their annual summer party "I am the boss" and that he deeply regretted that the budget dispute had been dragged into the "public sphere".

In a newspaper interview at the weekend, Macron added that if there was a difference of opinion, "it is the chief of the defence staff who will change his position".

De Villiers, who had been in the job for three years, said he felt he had no choice but to stand down.

"I no longer feel able to ensure the sustainability of the model of the armed forces that I think is necessary to guarantee the protection of France and the French people," he said.

Eighth person in Trump Jr meeting identified



Donald Trump Jr.
Washington

An eighth person who attended a controversial meeting with President Donald Trump's eldest son has been identified as a top official of a company founded by a Russian billionaire with links to the Trumps, CNN said Tuesday.

The confirmation is the latest development in the burgeoning scandal over the Trump campaign's contacts with Russia, after it was revealed that Donald Trump Jr. attended the June 2016 meeting during the campaign hoping to get dirt on his father's rival Hillary Clinton.

Trump Jr. had been told over email that a "Russian government attorney" would provide damaging details.

Trump campaign manager Paul Manafort and son-in-law Jared Kushner also attended.

The latest confirmed participant is Ike Kaveladze, a senior vice president of the Crocus Group -- a real estate business headed by Aras Agalarov, the Azerbaijani-Russian mogul who has done business with the Trumps -- according to CNN, citing Kaveladze's lawyer for confirmation of his identity.

According to the lawyer, Scott Balber, Kaveladze is a US citizen who went to the meeting at Trump Tower under the impression that he would translate for Russian lawyer Natalia Veselnitskaya, who was thought to have the potentially incriminating information.

Nancy Coune, administrator of the Lake Harriet Spiritual Community centre, places flowers and signs memorializing Justine Damond at a makeshift memorial



Murder of woman: Loud sound heard prior to shooting

Chicago

Police in Minnesota were startled by a loud sound prior to fatally shooting an unarmed Australian woman who had called them to report a possible assault, US investigators revealed Tuesday.

The state agency probing the killing of Justine Damond, also known by her maiden name Justine Ruszczyk, interviewed one of the two officers who responded to her emergency call on Saturday night in Minneapolis.

It was the first time since the incident that authorities offered more information about the circumstances, as community leaders and Damond's family complained they had few details over a killing that reverberated in her native Australia.

Damond had called Minneapolis police Saturday around 11:30 pm to report a possible assault occurring near her home. Two officers responded with their police car's emergency lights off.

Officer Matthew Harity told investigators Tuesday that he had been "startled by a loud sound" near the squad car just before Damond approached, the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA) said in a statement.

His partner, Officer Mohamed Noor, was in the passenger seat.

"Harity indicated that



Justine Damon

Officer Noor discharged his weapon, striking Ruszczyk through the open driver's side window," the agency said.

The BCA did not identify the startling sound, but an unidentified officer recorded on a police radio conversation published by the website Minnesota PoliceClips, speculated it may have been fireworks that sounded like gun shots.

After the shooting, the officers provided medical aid until paramedics arrived, but Damond died at the scene of a gunshot wound to the abdomen, authorities said.

The officers' body-worn

cameras were not on during the incident, and investigators appealed for witnesses to come forward.

Meanwhile, Minneapolis officials pressed for patience, saying the state investigation took precedence and city authorities therefore had little information of their own to share.

"We don't have all the answers," Minneapolis Mayor Betsy Hodges said at a Tuesday night news conference.

"But, the information the BCA shared this evening gets us closer to having answers, closer to seeing justice done," she said.

Australia mourns

Damond, a 40-year-old meditation instructor and life coach, was an Australian national who had moved to the US to marry her fiance Don Damond -- who on Monday had criticized a lack of information from investigators.

Her death reverberated around the world, from a makeshift memorial at the Lake Harriet Spiritual Community centre where Damond worked, to her native Australia.

Hundreds of family and friends gathered for an emotional vigil at Sydney's Freshwater beach at daybreak on Wednesday, standing in silence and holding candles before casting pink flowers into the water.

In an interview with Australia's Channel Nine, Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull on Wednesday expressed shock.

"It is inexplicable," he said. "We are demanding answers on behalf of her family. And our hearts go out to her family, and all of her friends and loved ones."

A day earlier, Damond's father John Ruszczyk addressed Australian media at a news conference, calling for justice.

"Justine was a beacon to all of us. We only ask that the light of justice shine down on the circumstances of her death," he said. (AFP)

Man pleads guilty to killing 19 in China

Beijing

A man admitted killing 19 people, including his parents and three children, when he went on trial in southwest China on Wednesday, the court said.

After returning to his home village in Yunnan province on September 28 last year, Yang Qingpei murdered his parents when they refused to give him money, the Qujing City Intermediate People's Court said on its official

microblog account.

Fearing he would be discovered, Yang then killed 17 of his neighbours and fled to Yunnan's provincial capital Kunming, it said, adding that the murder weapon was a pickaxe.

Yang, who was born in 1989, pleaded guilty to all charges and apologised to the relatives of the dead, it added.

The court adjourned Wednesday afternoon for sentencing.

Three Kenyans jailed for life for stripping woman

Nairobi

A Kenyan court yesterday sentenced three men to life for stripping and sexually assaulting a woman they believed was dressed too provocatively.

The verdict capped a case that prompted hundreds to march through the capital Nairobi in short, fitted clothing in 2014, calling for an end to violence against women after a video of the attack was made public.

"We are equal, but it is equally important to respect the dignity of a woman," chief magistrate Francis Andayi said as he handed out the sentences.

"This is what many uncultured men do out there," he added.

The assault at a petrol station on Nairobi's outskirts, in which the victim was stripped, sexually assaulted and had her phone and cash stolen by a violent mob, was captured on camera and widely circulated on social media.

It was part of a rash of assaults against women and led activists mobilised under the hash tag #MyDressMyChoice to demonstrate.

The three men, Edward Gitau, Nicholas Mwangi and Meshak Mwangi, were technically given the death sentence. However Kenya's ban on carrying out executions means the trio will spend the rest of their lives in jail.

Maldives President arrests nephew amid power struggle

Colombo

The nephew of Maldives president Abdulla Yameen has been arrested for allegedly bribing politicians to challenge the ruling regime, the opposition said Wednesday, warning of further reprisals in the troubled honeymoon islands.

Faris Maumoon, an MP and son of former president Maumoon Abdul Gayoom, was taken into custody after police searched his home in the capital Male on Tuesday.

The passport of another key opposition figure Qasim Ibrahim, a former ally of strongman Yameen, was also seized by authorities.

Opposition parties aligned against Yameen issued a joint statement condemning

the arrests.

Ibrahim had helped Yameen win a controversial 2013 run-off election against Mohamed Nasheed, the head of the main opposition Maldivian Democratic Party (MDP).

But after a fallout, Ibrahim joined the growing ranks unifying behind Nasheed and the MDP to topple Yameen.

The opposition this month secured enough support from government defectors to begin impeachment proceedings against the speaker, in a bid to wrest control of parliament from Yameen before presidential elections next year.

The latest arrests come a week before parliament is due to vote on the impeachment proceedings.

Bolt to run in farewell event

Monaco

Usain Bolt will run the 100m and 4x100m at the world championships in London next month, his final event before retiring, the Jamaican sprint star confirmed yesterday.

Bolt, winner of eight Olympic and 11 world gold medals, is looking to bring down the curtain on his glittering career in style at the August 4-13 event.

"My main aim is just to win (in London). I just want to retire on a winning note," Bolt said during a press conference in Monaco ahead of Friday's Diamond League meeting.

The 30-year-old revealed he would not defend his 200m world title, meaning he will not race against South Africa's Wayde van Niekerk, the athlete Bolt has tipped to take over as the next track and field superstar.

"I think that's one of the most disappointing things in my career now," said Bolt. "He came along at this late stage and I didn't get to compete against him, because I think he's one of the best now."

He added: "I'm never afraid, I live for competition. But for me it's too late now, I'm at the end of my career. We'll never know what could happen."

Bolt will compete in the 100m in Monaco -- his third race of the season after appearances in Kingston and Ostrava -- where he is hoping to dip under the 10-second barrier.

"I'm feeling good, the season started off slow for me. I had a setback after my friend Germaine (Mason) passed away," Bolt said, referring to death of the British high jumper, a 2008 Olympic silver medallist, in a motorbike crash in Jamaica in April.

"I've been a little behind schedule, but I am training well. I'm feeling much better over the past couple of days because I went to see my doctor in Germany, I've been training good so that's a good sign." (AFP)



Usain Bolt speaks during a press conference

England goalkeeper Forster pens new Saints deal

London

England international goalkeeper Fraser Forster has signed a new five-year deal with Southampton, the Premier League club confirmed yesterday.

The 29-year-old had agreed a contract last summer until 2021, but the former Celtic stopper has now extended that for another season.

Forster arrived from Celtic in 2014 and has established himself as one of the top flight's finest 'keepers, playing in all 38 league games last season and featuring 103 times in all competitions in Saints colours.

"I'm delighted. I have absolutely loved my time here at Southampton so far and when the opportunity came along to extend it I didn't think twice about it," said Forster.

"I think it's a fantastic club to be at, with a really bright future, and the ambition shown at the club is one where they want to move it forward, so for me it was a no-brainer."

Forster has six England caps and was a member of the 2014 World Cup and Euro 2016 squads, although he didn't play at either tournament. (AFP)

Fraser Forster (file pic)



Awan CC triumph

DT News Network
Manama

Awan CC edged out BDS Bassali by three runs to win the Bahrain Financing Company sponsored Bahrain Cricket League (BCL) Premier League Mini League final.

After winning the toss, Awan CC elected to bat and made 128 for seven in its 20 overs with middle order batsman Hassan (33) top scoring, with good support from Ali (29) and Akhtar (three for 26) being the best of the bowlers.

BDS Bassali in reply were dismissed for 125 with Safdar (24) the main scorer and Ali (three for 23) and Sameer (three for 28) the pick of the bowlers to clinch the trophy.



The winning Awan CC team

Futsal league: Draw held, approved by Shaikh Khalid



Nabeel the tournament mascot during the draw

DT News Network
Manama

The draw has been made and approved on Monday by HH Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa, First Deputy President of the Supreme Council for Youth, President of the Bahrain Athletics Association and Honorary President of Bahrain Disabled Sports Federation, for the fifth edition of the Khalid Bin Hamad for Youth Centres, starting on 24 July and concluding on 23 August, to include and approve those clubs that are not under the Bahrain Football Association in this edition of the league.

The League is part of Shaikh Khalid's sporting and humanitarian initiatives under the slogan "#Meeting_of_Generations" and will be organised by the Ministry of Youth and Sports Affairs in collaboration with HH Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa Media Centre.

This year, the competition includes a league for people with disabilities for the second consecutive year and a league for girls for the first time.

Shaikh Khalid stressed on the importance of allowing clubs and girls to participate in this league. Shaikh Khalid said that the league's fifth edition coincides with the vision of the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports chaired by HH Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa, 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, and the necessity in activating the role of the youth centres since it is considered to foster Bahraini youths.

The tournament features the participation of 36 youth centres from different governorates.

Dr. Shaikh Saqr bin Salman Al Khalifa, the ministry's Assistant Undersecretary for Sports Affairs and Facilities, Omar A. Aziz Bukamal, Director of Shaikh Khalid's Media Office and Nawar Abdullah Al Mutawa, Director of Youth Centres and Facilities at the Ministry of Youth and Sports Affairs, a number of the Ministry and Sport Associations officials, guests and other officials were present.



Officials during the event

Arsenal stun Bayern Munich on penalties

Shanghai

Arsenal were outplayed for long periods by Bayern Munich before salvaging a last-gasp draw and then winning 3-2 on penalties in a Shanghai friendly yesterday.

Reserve goalkeeper Emiliano Martinez was the unlikely hero for the Premier League side, saving Juan Bernat's soft spot kick after Arsenal substitute Alex Iwobi made it 1-1 right at the end of normal time.

It may only have been a friendly and Arsenal emerged victorious, but it made for painful viewing at times for manager Arsene Wenger, whose side suffered a 10-2 aggregate drubbing to Bayern in last season's Champions League.

Robert Lewandowski needed just nine minutes to fire Bayern ahead from the penalty spot as the German



Bayern Munich's midfielder James Rodriguez (2nd L) and Arsenal defender Nacho Monreal (L) vie for the ball

champions dominated before Iwobi headed in at the death. There will be no Champions League for Arsenal this term and a gulf in class was evident.

At one point in the opening

period at Shanghai Stadium, where temperatures hovered around 36 degrees Celsius (97F), Wenger had his arms outstretched in frustration.

And at the end of a first half in which Bayern could

have scored another five times but for goalkeeper Petr Cech, Arsenal playmaker Mesut Ozil booted the ball high into the air in anger.

The future of the German international, and that of Chilean star Alexis Sanchez, is in major doubt with both stalling over new contracts.

Sanchez is enjoying extra time off and is not in China after his involvement in the Confederations Cup.

But he may not have made a difference against Carlo Ancelotti's side, who took the lead after Ainsley Maitland-Niles had brought down Bernat in the box and Lewandowski did the rest.

Iwobi's injury-time leveller sent the game straight to penalties.

Both sides fielded a mixture of first-team regulars and reserves, with new Bayern signing James

Rodriguez and new Arsenal striker Alexandre Lacazette starting. (AFP)

Arsenal hit by food poisoning

Arsenal were ravaged by food poisoning in Shanghai that ruled several key players out of their pre-season friendly with Bayern Munich yesterday, manager Arsene Wenger said. The Frenchman revealed the sickness that had swept the Arsenal camp, coupled with the severe heat in China and long flights, made for far-from-ideal preparations for another taxing campaign.

Wenger was shorn of Olivier Giroud because of food poisoning, then captain Per Mertesacker pulled out of the game just moments before kick-off. (AFP)

Arrested Spanish federation chief faces bleak future

Madrid

Angel Maria Villar's future as the head of the Spanish football federation was in serious doubt yesterday following his arrest as part of a vast anti-corruption probe.

Villar, his son Gorka Villar, and several Spanish federation executives were detained by police in a series of early morning raids on Tuesday on suspicion of embezzlement, fraud and collusion.

The investigation focuses on allegations that profits from international matches were skimmed.

Investigators were also probing whether national federation funds had been used to bribe regional officials to vote for Villar as federation president, according to Spanish media reports.

"The list of accusations...really surprises me," the head of Spain's government sports council, Jose Ramon Lete, said during an interview with news radio Cadena Ser.

Spain's Court of Sport (TAD) could open a disciplinary proceeding against Villar, who was re-elected unopposed in May to his eighth four-year mandate, he added. (AFP)

ATP rankings

Federer moves to 3rd place

1	Andy Murray (GBR)	7,750
2	Rafael Nadal (ESP)	7,465
3	Roger Federer (SUI)	6,545 ↑+2
4	Novak Djokovic (SRB)	
5	Stan Wawrinka (SUI)	↓-2
6	Marin Cilic (CRO)	
7	Dominic Thiem (AUT)	↑+1
8	Kei Nishikori (JPN)	↑+1
9	Milos Raonic (CAN)	↓-2
10	Grigor Dimitrov (BUL)	3,160 ↑+1

Solanke shines as Liverpool beat Palace

Hong Kong

New signing Dominic Solanke came off the bench to score as Liverpool beat Crystal Palace 2-0 in a pre-season game in Hong Kong yesterday.

The 19-year-old suggested he could prove a summer bargain at just \$4 million as he linked up well with fellow striker Divock Origi, who also got on the scoresheet in the Premier League Asia Trophy win.

"It's been a smart move for him and for us," Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp told reporters.

"He saw the opportunity and we could see it also. You could see immediately he is a smart player. He's a skilled boy and we are happy about this. We will help him all we can."

Origi set up the first goal for Liverpool on the hour mark with a clever back-heel that found Solanke unmarked and the teenager made no mistake, finishing coolly in the stifling Hong Kong heat.

Origi then rifled home Liverpool's second in the 79th minute, to the delight of a crowd of 40,000.

Klopp's new-look front line



Dominic Solanke (R) celebrates with teammate (file pic)

proved a welcome distraction for the German coach following reports that Leipzig had rejected a huge bid of \$86 million for star midfielder Naby Keita.

Klopp bristled when asked about the Keita situation as rumours circled that the Guinea international's agent had been spotted in Hong Kong.

"Are we in Macau?" asked Klopp in reference to the world's largest gambling hub, situated just across the Pearl River Delta from Hong Kong.

"What do you know? Sixty-

six million (pounds) turned down today? I don't think about this.

"Today both teams played good football," added Klopp, turning his attention back to events on the pitch. "In the second half we made some changes and we scored -- nice. We changed the formation and it was nice to watch."

Liverpool will face Leicester City in the Asia Trophy final on Saturday after the Foxes won the earlier match 7-6 on penalties over West Bromwich Albion following a 1-1 stalemate in normal time. (AFP)

Newcastle complete Murphy capture

Newcastle

Newcastle United have wrapped up the signing of England under-21 international winger Jacob Murphy from Championship side Norwich City for a reported fee of £12 million (13.6 million euros, \$15.6 million), the club confirmed yesterday.

The Magpies had a bid for the 22-year-old accepted by Norwich on Monday, and Murphy has now completed his switch to the club he supported as a boy.

Murphy is the Premier League club's third close-season signing following the arrivals of Florian Lejeune and Christian Atsu, and has now joined his new team-mates at their pre-season training camp in Ireland.

"It was a childhood dream of mine to represent Newcastle and the opportunity is now here. I can't wait to get started," said the winger.

The length of his contract hasn't been disclosed by either club, but Newcastle boss Rafael

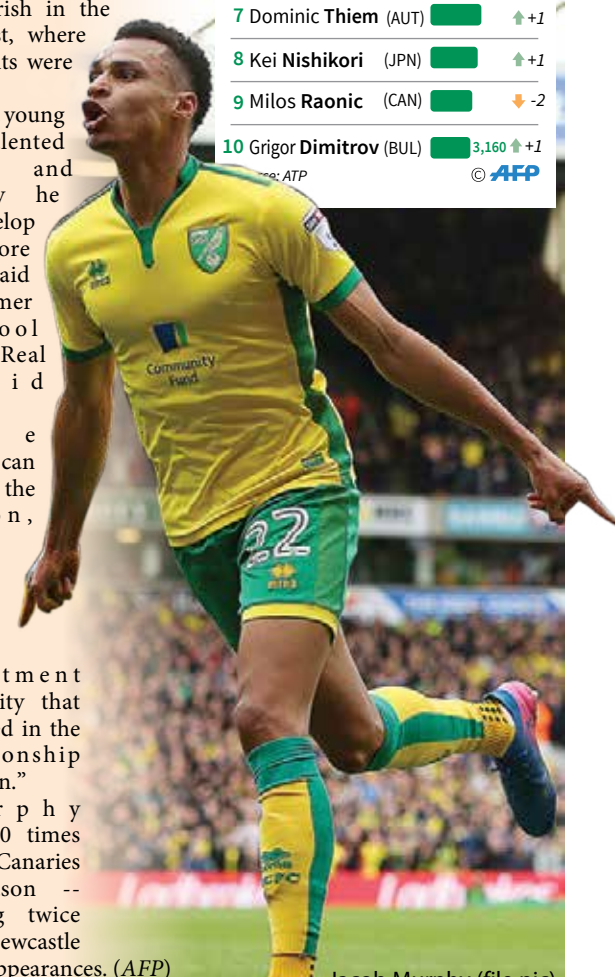
Benitez hopes that Murphy can flourish in the north-east, where his parents were raised.

"He's a young and talented player and hopefully he can develop even more here," said the former Liverpool and Real Madrid manager.

"We hope he can show us the passion,

commitment and ability that he showed in the Championship last season."

Murphy scored 10 times for the Canaries last season -- including twice against Newcastle -- in 41 appearances. (AFP)



Jacob Murphy (file pic)



Stage winner Slovenia's Primoz Roglic celebrates on the podium

Roglic clinches Tour 17th stage

Serre-Chevalier, France

Former champion ski-jumper Primoz Roglic took a sensational solo victory on the mountainous 17th stage of the Tour de France yesterday.

Chris Froome came home third to stretch his overall lead to 27 seconds as Rigoberto Uran moved up to second and Fabio Aru dropped to fourth, with Romain Bardet remaining third.

Slovenia's Roglic, 27, was junior world ski-jumping champion in 2007 but became a professional cyclist in 2014.

He was part of an initial 33-man breakaway that was whittled down to just six riders when Roglic attacked solo 6.4km from the summit of the hors category Col du Galibier, which at more than 2,600 metres above sea level was the highest point of this year's Tour.

He crested the climb, 28km from the finish in Serre-Chevalier, with a lead of just over a minute and half on a group of chasers including the top contenders.

On the descent, Roglic easily managed his lead while a five-man chase group developed, including Froome.

But Italian Aru, who started the day second at 18sec, had been dropped by an acceleration from Bardet just before the Galibier summit and he was chasing desperately to limit his losses.

Uran took second, 1min 13sec behind Roglic, to snatch six bonus seconds that moved him up to second, on the same time as Bardet. Froome also took four bonus seconds for finishing third to help increase his lead.

Aru came 31sec later to drop to fourth at 53sec ahead of Thursday's second straight Alpine stage with its brutal finish at the summit of the imposing Col d'Izoard. (AFP)

Wednesday July 19

2 0 1 7

17th stage

183 km

1	P. Roglic	5h07:41
	(SLO/Lotto NL Jumbo)	
2	R. Uran	at 1:13
	(COL/Cannondale)	
3	C. Froome	at 1:13
	(GBR/Sky)	
4	R. Bardet	at 1:13
	(FRA/AG2R)	
5	W. Barguil	at 1:13
	(FRA/Sunweb)	

Overall

1	C. Froome	73h27:26
	(GBR/Sky)	
2	R. Uran	at 0:27
	(COL/Cannondale)	
3	R. Bardet	at 0:27
	(FRA/AG2R)	
4	F. Aru	at 0:53
	(ITA/Astana)	
5	M. Landa	at 1:24
	(ESP/Sky)	

Points

1	M. Matthews	364 pts
	(GBR/Sunweb)	

Mountains

	W. Barguil	129 pts
	(FRA/Sunweb)	

Source: ASO

© AFP

Cink finishes 17th place overall

Bahrain Merida positions:

Results from stage 17, a 183km ride.

47. J Brajkovic (SLO, one hour 49 minutes 12 seconds)
61. Cink (CZE, 2:06:24)
78. T Grmay (ETH, +2:28:15)
108. Y Arashiro (JPN, +2:51:47)
119. J Moreno (ESP, +3:02:08)
123. S Colbrelli (ITA, 3:08:00)
146. G Bole (SLO, +3:24:28)
163. B Bozic (SLO, +3:46:56)

Aidan Payne/DTNN
aidan@dt.bh

Manama

Bahrain's Merida Pro Cycling Team rider, Ondrej Cink (Czech Republic, five hours 12 minutes 48 seconds) finished 17th overall on the 17th stage yesterday of the 104th Tour de France from La Mure to Serre-Chevalier over 188km.

Cink was five minutes and

seven seconds behind stage winner, Dutchman Primoz Roglic (5:07:41) of the Team Lotto NL- Jumbo.

During the latest stage of the tour, Bahrain's other seven riders were all classified with the same time of 33 minutes 41 seconds behind the stage leader - Tsgabu Grmay, (Ethiopia, 91st), Janez Brajkovic (Slovenia, 132nd), Yukiya Arashiro (Japan, 141st), Javier Moreno (Spain, 142nd),

Grega Bole (Slovenia, 145th), Borut Bozic (Slovenia, 148th), Sonny Colbrelli (Italy, 152th).

The tour resumes today with the 18th stage taking the remaining (169) riders further into the Alps mountain range from Briancon to Izoard over 179.5km.



Ondrej Cink (file pic)

Aru defiant despite losing podium spot

Serre-Chevalier, France

Italian Fabio Aru remained defiant yesterday despite dropping from second to fourth at the Tour de France after struggling on the monster Galibier climb.

Aru held the race leader's yellow jersey for two days last week but was caught out by poor positioning on Friday and gave up the race lead back to Chris Froome.

He remained second at 18sec but yesterday he couldn't match the bursts of acceleration by Frenchman Romain Bardet. (AFP)

Green jersey Marcel Kittel quits tour

Serre-Chevalier, France

Sprint star Marcel Kittel quit the Tour de France yesterday after a crash on the 183km, 17th stage in the Alps from La Mure to Serre-Chevalier.

The 29-year-old

German was leading the sprinters' green jersey competition at the time he abandoned having won five stages so far.

"Another sad news: Green jersey @marcelkittel, and winner of five #TDF2017 stages, has stopped at the top of Col de la Croix de Fer," said the German's Quick-Step team on Twitter.

What had been a hugely successful Tour for Kittel quickly turned sour as he crashed 20km into Wednesday's stage.

He was cut and bloodied and even needed to change a shoe while hanging onto his team car as the race continued. (AFP)



Germany's Marcel Kittel



The pack rides during the 183 km seventeenth stage of the 104th edition of the Tour de France cycling race yesterday between Le La Mure and Serre-Chevalier, French Alps (AFP)

Offer from 20th July to 26th July 2017

MOIC/PC/4990/2017
MOIC/PC/5015/2017
MOIC/PC/5026/2017



THREE DAYS OFFER
20,21,22 July 2017

Was **BD 1.995**
BD 1.500 Peaches Spain/kg



THREE DAYS OFFER
20,21,22 July 2017

Was **BD 1.995**
BD 1.500 Nectarine Spain/kg



THREE DAYS OFFER
20,21,22 July 2017

Was **BD 2.295**
BD 1.500 Apricot Spain/kg



THREE DAYS OFFER
20,21,22 July 2017

Was **BD 2.395**
BD 1.500 Plum Spain/kg



THREE DAYS OFFER
20,21,22 July 2017

Was **BD 0.345**
BD 0.175 WaterMelon/kg



THREE DAYS OFFER
20,21,22 July 2017

Was **BD 2.995**
BD 2.000 Grapes Spain/kg



THREE DAYS OFFER
20,21,22 July 2017

Was **BD 1.295**
BD 1.000 Avocado Uganda/kg



THREE DAYS OFFER
20,21,22 July 2017

Was **BD 1.195**
BD 0.795 Papaya Ripe India/kg



THREE DAYS OFFER
20,21,22 July 2017

BD 0.425 Al Safi Fresh Milk Full Fat 1.5Ltr



THREE DAYS OFFER
20,21,22 July 2017

BD 6.490 Tyson Whole Chicken 900gm x 10 pcs



THREE DAYS OFFER
20,21,22 July 2017

BD 1.470 Al youm Fresh Chicken Mixed Parts 1kg



THREE DAYS OFFER
20,21,22 July 2017 Only

Regular 10pcs
Was **BD 12.900**
BD 7.990 LuLu Frozen Chicken



Regular 2pcs
Was **BD 3.640**
BD 1.890 LuLu Sunflower Oil 1.8Ltr 2Pcs

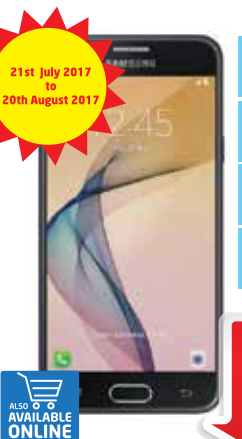


SAMSUNG

21st July 2017 to 20th August 2017

CASH BACK
BD 35.000

Was **BD 174.990**
BD 139.990 Samsung Galax Mobile A720-FZKDXSG



SAMSUNG

21st July 2017 to 20th August 2017

5.0" Screen	Android 6.0.1 (Marshmallow)
Quad Core 1.4GHz	13MP Camera 5MP Secondary
2GB RAM	Wi-Fi
16GB Internal	

CASH BACK
BD 25.000

Was **BD 90.000**
BD 65.000 Samsung Galaxy J5 Prime SM-G570



SAMSUNG

21st July 2017 to 20th August 2017

5.5" Screen	Android 6.0.1 (Marshmallow)
Octa Core 1.6GHz	13MP Camera 8MP Secondary
3GB RAM	Wi-Fi
16GB Internal	

CASH BACK
BD 30.000

Was **BD 110.000**
BD 80.000 Samsung Galaxy J7 Prime SM-G610



SAMSUNG

21st July 2017 to 20th August 2017

CASH BACK
BD 20.000

Was **BD 290.000**
BD 270.000 Samsung Galaxy S8 SMG950 4G 64GB

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