

DT NEWS

DAILY TRIBUNE

News of Bahrain

Saturday, April 29, 2017 Issue No. 7366

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Chemical weapons used 45 times in Syria



▶▶ P 07

Tweet of the Day



I condemn the attacks on MPs in #Skopje in the strongest terms. Violence has NO place in Parliament. Democracy must run its course. @eu_near

@JHahnEU

Today's Weather		
	Max	Min
	37°C	24°C

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11th Hour

Turkish army, Syrian Kurdish militia clash

Istanbul
New clashes erupted yesterday between the Turkish army and a Syrian Kurdish militia seen as a terror group by Ankara but as a key ally by the United States in the fight against jihadists, the Turkish army said.



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Pope says 'demagogic' populism does not help peace



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Two Bahraini men jailed for sectarian crimes in UAE

Yellow-box violators to be fined BD20-50

Smart cameras at junctions set to track lawbreakers from Monday

DT News Network news@dt.bh

Manama

Beginning Monday, smart cameras installed at traffic junctions will detect yellow-box violations, it was announced yesterday.

The General Directorate of Traffic confirmed in a statement issued yesterday that lawbreakers will be fined BD20-50.

"Traffic violations will be monitored by smart cameras and other advanced technology used at junctions. A special team will also monitor the traffic to plug violations that affect the traffic flow," the directorate said.

"The yellow boxes are crossed lines that the driver shouldn't cross if the way is not clear, as stated in Article 51 of the

Traffic Law 23 of 2014. The fine for the yellow-box violation is ranged between BD20 to BD50," it explained further.

"The General Directorate of Traffic had carried out a number of traffic awareness campaigns to introduce the yellow boxes to the public, while expressing thanks to the Gulf Petrochemical Industries Company for its distinguished role in supporting the campaign as part of the active community partnership approach," the directorate said in the statement.

Yellow boxes are located on main and vital junctions in the Kingdom. Many citizens and residents had complained in the past about drivers violating the yellow box rule and hindering the flow of traffic, especially during rush hours.



Special House session to discuss traffic policies

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Manama

The House of Representatives will discuss the traffic policies of the government, traffic rules and its violations in an extraordinary session to be held on Thursday.

The session will be held in the presence of government institutions, including the General Directorate of Traffic.

The session is expected to find a solution to the public grievances over traffic rules and its implementation mechanisms, and the alleged hefty increase of traffic fines.

On April 3, Prime Minister HRH Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa had ordered the authorities, including the directorate and Works, Municipalities Affairs and

Urban Planning Ministry, to reconsider speed limits on the Kingdom's main roads and highways, affirming that that the ultimate goal of the law is to avoid wrong traffic habits and not to impose fines and contraventions.

The request to hold the discussion in the Parliament was approved during the council's ordinary session held on April 18.

It was submitted by MPs Jamal Buhassan, Nabeel Al Balooshi, Mohammed Al Maarifi, Abdulhameed Al Najjar, Khalifa Al Ghanim, Mohsen Al Bakri, Mohammed Al Emmadi, Hamad Al Dossary, Abdulrahman Buali, Abdulrahman Bumjaid, Jamal Dawood, Osama Al Khaja, Theyab Al Nuaimi, Dr. Isa Turki, Ahmed Qarata, Dr. Majeed Al Asfoor, Jameela Al Sammak and Majid Al Majid.



Pope says 'demagogic' populism does not help peace



Egyptian President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi (R) welcoming Pope Francis at the presidential palace in Cairo

Cairo
Pope Francis denounced "demagogic populism" yesterday and insisted that violence profanes God's name, in a wide-ranging speech as he visited Egypt to push for tolerance.
 "Peace alone... is holy and no act of violence can be


perpetrated in the name of God, for it would profane his name," the Catholic pontiff told a Muslim-Christian conference in Cairo.
 Francis is in Egypt on a 27-hour visit to push for dialogue with Muslims and support the country's embattled Christian minority

that has suffered a series of jihadist attacks.
 In his speech, Francis said peace was not helped by "demagogic forms of populism... on the rise".
 It is "essential", he added, to block "the flow of money and weapons destined to those who provoke violence".

Francis landed in Cairo earlier on Friday and met President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi and Ahmed al-Tayeb, the grand imam of the prestigious Islamic Al-Azhar institution.
 He will later visit a church that was bombed in December.

That attack was followed by twin church bombings in April that killed 45 people, in the deadliest assault in recent memory on Egypt's Coptic Christian minority.
 Security is extremely tight with the country under a state of emergency following the

church bombings which were claimed by the Islamic State group.
 On Saturday, the pontiff will preside over a mass for Egypt's small Catholic community, estimated to number around 272,000 people spread across various rites.




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Pope Francis visits Egypt in wake of attacks

The pontiff's visit, intended to build on inter-faith dialogue with Muslim leaders, comes at a time of acute fear and uncertainty for Egypt's Christian community following a spate of terrorist attacks



Apr 28-29: Pope Francis meets President **Abdel Fattah al-Sisi**, **Sheikh Ahmed al-Tayeb**, Grand Imam of al-Azhar – world's most influential centre of Sunni Islamic theology – and **Pope Tawadros II**, head of Coptic Orthodox Church



Muslim Around 90%

Population 81 million

Christian Around 10%

MEDITERRANEAN SEA

Feb 2017: Dozens of Coptic Christian families flee northern Sinai after number of killings by suspected Islamist militants

Apr 9, 2017: Suicide bombers kill 45 people at two churches in Tanta and Alexandria on Palm Sunday. So-called **Islamic State (IS)** militants claim responsibility

Dec 11, 2016: Bombing at chapel adjacent to Cairo's main Coptic cathedral kills 28 people. IS claims attack

Apr 18, 2017: One police officer killed and three others injured after IS militants attack checkpoint near **St Catherine's Monastery** – one of world's oldest Christian monasteries

Sources: Vatican, Wire agencies Pictures: Getty Images © GRAPHIC NEWS

Two Bahraini men jailed for sectarian crimes in UAE

Muhannad Mansour/DTNN
muhannad@dt.bh

Manama

The Court of Appeals in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) has sentenced two Bahraini men to three years in jail and a fine of AED500,000 (BD51,000) for committing sectarian crimes.

The two men had appeared in an online video last year, uttering sectarian statements, while in Dubai, in support of the Popular Mobilisation Forces fighting in Syria and Iraq.

Soon, calls for holding the men accountable for their statements were shared online, considering it as attempts to spread sectarianism, hatred, sedition and segregation among the people of GCC states.

They were reportedly handed-over by the authorities here to the UAE last year upon the latter's request.

MP welcomes decision

The sentence was welcomed many citizens, including MP Theyab



A screenshot of the video showing one of the men making his sectarian statements

Al Nuaimi, who condemned the men's acts that he said was "aimed at raising sedition and sectarianism among the people of

GCC countries".

"They only represent themselves and not the people of Bahrain. We trust the Emirati

The men had appeared in a video uttering sectarian statements last year

judiciary and its fair and independent decision against the sedition, so they could be an example to those who prejudice the security of the UAE and GCC states," Al Nuaimi said in support of the sentence.

The MP, who's also a member of the Foreign Affairs, Defence and National Security Committee in the House of Representatives, stressed on the necessity of GCC states' unity and to combat behaviours that threaten their security.

He called for more security cooperation between states to arrest such criminals, adding that it's a demand of the people of GCC countries.

Ban on import of fruits, vegetables



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Manama

The government has imposed a ban on import of vegetables and fruits from certain countries in the region.

The decision comes as reports proved that pesticides were excessively used in those countries, the authorities explained.

Agriculture and Marine Resources Affairs in Works, Municipalities Affairs and Urban Planning Ministry said that the countries include Lebanon, Jordan, Oman, Egypt and Yemen.

It affirmed that the Kingdom has taken precautionary steps to ensure the safety of food products.

"It was proven that pesticides were used in these countries with higher levels of the standards approved by the constitution of the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO). Strict procedures are followed at the Kingdom's entry points to inspect all the imported food commodities," a statement issued on Thursday read.

"A ban has been imposed on import of all kinds of chilli pepper and capsicum from Egypt, Apple from Lebanon, chilli, capsicum, cabbage, lettuce, cornflower and eggplant from Jordan and sweet melon, carrot and rocca from Oman and all fruits from Yemen, Agriculture and Marine Resources Affairs added.

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Minister of Labour & Social Development Jameel Humaidan yesterday received Bahrain Society for Public Relations Chairman Dr. Fahd Ibrahim Shehabi who presented him a copy of his book "What I saw - Tome III". The minister said that the book provides readers historic, cultural and art information and illustrations about countries



Gulf Air, in collaboration with Bahrain Airport Company (BAC), the managing body and operator of Bahrain International Airport (BIA) and Gulf Aviation Academy (GAA) celebrated international Labour Day with a staff appreciation ceremony at the airline's Muharraq headquarters



University of Bahrain signed two research cooperation agreements with two renowned British universities as a fruitful outcome of the scientific cooperation forum organised by the British Council in February and November 2016. The forum discussed water, energy and food issues. Water desalination and reuse technologies, with the participation of local, Gulf and British researchers, were discussed



Chief Executive Officer of the Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCCI) Dr. Khalid Al Ruwaihi recently received Members of the Bahraini Parliament namely Dr. Ghazi Al Rahma; Khalid Al Shaer; Majid Al Majid; Hamad Al Dosarry; Jalal Kadhem; and Mohammed Al Joder, at his office in Bait Al Tijjar. Discussions centered on economic issues and means of reinforcing ties between the Chamber and the Parliament



The Bahrain Tourism and Exhibitions Authority (BTEA) celebrated its successful participation in the Arabian Travel Market (ATM), which was held at the Dubai International Convention and Exhibition Centre from 24 to 27 April. BTEA hosted hundreds of guests and held a number of meetings with various government agencies and private companies



Bahrain Journalists Association (BJA) signed a protocol of cooperation with the Egyptian Journalists Union (EJU). BJA Chairman Moanes Al-Mardi sealed deal along with EJU Head Abdulmohsen Salama. Under the deal which was signed at the EJU headquarters in Cairo, the two sides will hold training courses, workshops, in addition to a press diploma programme, which will be accessible to Bahraini journalists



Bahrain Volleyball Federation President Shaikh Ali bin Mohammed Al Khalifa visited the Gulf Petrochemical Company. GPIC Corporate Communications Manager, Zuhair Tawfiqi presented to him a sponsorship cheque for the His Royal Highness the Crown Prince Cup

Thinking
green

Rehan Ahmed



DON'T WASTE PAPER!

Paper and paperboard products are a world wide commodity found everywhere including newspapers, magazines, books, stationery, envelopes, shopping bags, drawing, craft & scratch papers, plates and cups, wrapping papers, tissues etc. Paper is a valuable commodity and a versatile material vital to the growth and development of any country and its communication and packaging systems.

One tree makes about 3,077 pieces of A4 paper. It takes 13 trees to make one tonne, or 40,000 pieces of paper. Paper can usually be recycled around six to ten times.

Paper is playing an important role in education, business, industries and recreation. Even after going electronic, the use of paper has not declined tremendously as was envisaged earlier. About one fifth of the contents of household dustbins consist of paper and cardboard, of which almost half is newspapers and magazines. Industrialized nations, with 20% of the world's population, consume around 87% of the world's printing and writing paper. This demand contributed to the loss of much of the forests worldwide.

Paper and allied waste accounts for more than 20% of municipal waste in the country with little quantities collected and sent for recycling and major quantity of mixed paper waste is being collected, transported and disposed in the landfill site each day. The paper waste is not much segregated mainly due to people's old habits, lack of awareness and absence of local recycling facilities.

The solution to the growing paper waste problem is mainly through 'prevention' of reducing or eliminating paper use so that the disposal is prevented in the first place. Printing paper on both sides of the sheet or using the paper sheets from both the sides rather than on one side is a classic example of paper waste prevention, as it can reduce the need for paper by up to 50 percent.

We need to understand that for every ton of paper used for recycling, the estimated savings are:

- 30,000 litres of water.
- 3000 - 4000 KWh electricity
- 17 trees
- 95% reduction of air pollution.
- 3 cubic yards of landfill space.
- Reduced waste treatment cost.
- 1,400 kg of CO2 gas emission

Recycling of paper is an environmental priority. It can reduce the load on importing and using virgin paper. Recycled paper can make various products. It can be used for newsprint, stationary, tissues, hand towels and toilet paper. Various packaging e.g. egg boxes, cup holders, presentation boxes and wall coverings can be made. It can also be used for CD racks and toys.

Paper is a biodegradable material. This means that when it goes to landfill, as it rots, it produces methane gas, which is a potent greenhouse gas (20 times more potent than carbon dioxide). With the occurrence of 'global warming', the methane and carbon dioxide emissions have to be reduced to avoid its adverse impacts. Forests take large amounts of carbon dioxide out of the atmosphere and store it in wood, in a process called carbon sequestration. Waste prevention and recycling of paper products can leave more trees standing in the forest, continuing to absorb carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.

We need to reduce the paper waste by:

- Reducing printing, using both sides of the paper in photocopy and printing.
- Use waste paper as scrap paper.
- Avoid envelopes and reuse if received.
- Segregate paper at source and contact recyclers/waste collectors to collect based on a weekly collection schedules.

* Head of Waste Disposal Unit, Supreme Council for Environment, Bahrain. (Email: rahmed@sce.gov.bh)

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

Father and son injured in fire, house destroyed

DT News Network
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Manama

The members of a Bahraini family has become homeless after a fire destroyed their home near Roundabout 4 in Hamad Town. The incident happened on Tuesday, leaving the head of the family and his son in a critical condition at the Military Hospital. The father reportedly fractured his skull while attempting to save his son who was trapped in the toilet.

The boy was rescued by Civil Defence firefighters, Interior Ministry said on Wednesday.

A team from Northern Area Municipal Council, headed by Chairman Mohammed

Buhamood, on Thursday paid a visit to the injured in the hospital and the devastated house located on Block 1207.

Buhamood confirmed that the council has communicated with the concerned authorities to provide the family with a shelter while the house is revamped, especially that Ramadhan is approaching.

"We have communicated with Dar Al Karama Centre for Social Care to provide the family with a temporary place till their house is repaired," Buhamood said.

The fire destroyed most of the ground floor of the house, while parts of the second floor were damaged by the heat and smoke.



Buhamood (second from left) and Municipal Council officials during the visit to the house destroyed in fire

Interior Minister heads delegation to GCC meeting

DT News Network
Riyadh

Interior Minister Lt. General Shaikh Rashid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa led Bahrain's delegation to the 18th consultative meeting of the GCC Interior Ministers being held in Riyadh, under the chairmanship of Saudi Crown Prince, Deputy Premier and Interior Minister His Royal Highness Prince Mohammed bin Nayef bin Abdulaziz Al Saud. Discussions focused on security issues and cooperation.

Al-Nuaimi visits school

DT News Network
Manama

Education Minister Dr. Majid bin Ali Al-Nuaimi paid an inspection visit to Malik bin Anas School for Boys and was updated about extracurricular learning programmes and activities. The minister praised particularly a class activity themed "Proud of My Language", which aims at consolidating the skill of students and teacher to use the classical Arabic. Dr. Al-Nuaimi underscored the importance of valuing the mother tongue, being the cornerstone and key pillar of Bahrainis' national identity.

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Erdogan sees 'new page' in Turkey-US ties

Istanbul

President Recep Tayyip Erdogan voiced confidence yesterday that he and Donald Trump can open a "new page" in troubled Turkey-US ties when they meet next month, after discord over Syria and last year's failed coup.

The May summit between Erdogan and Trump, their first face-to-face encounter as heads of state, is a chance to mend a relationship between two key NATO allies that was strained by a series of disputes under former president Barack Obama.

"I believe that we will open a new page with Mr Trump in Turkey-US relations," Erdogan told the Atlantic Council Istanbul summit ahead of the May 16 meeting in the United States.

Erdogan made clear he expected a turnaround from Trump on the use of the Syrian Kurdish Peoples' Protection Units (YPG) as the chief US ally on the ground in Syria in the battle against Islamic State (IS) jihadists.

Turkey says the YPG is merely the Syrian branch of the outlawed Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK), which has waged an insurgency inside Turkey since 1984 that has claimed tens of thousands of lives.

"We expect our American friends to better understand the threats our country is facing and to show the solidarity that we need," said Erdogan.

He said that "concrete support"



Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan gestures as he gives a speech on April 28, 2017 during the Atlantic Council summit in Istanbul.

given to the YPG by the United States in Syria was "harming the spirit of alliance and partnership."

'Fools'

His comments came after Turkey this week bombed YPG positions in Syria, prompting American accusations the strikes were not properly coordinated.

There have also been three straight days of border clashes between the Turkish army and the YPG, the latest in the Ceylanpinar district of Turkey's southern Sanliurfa province. Eleven "terrorists" were killed, the Turkish army said.

Erdogan warned the YPG that Turkey would "take this kind of measure as long as the threats continue".

Blasting "fools" who he said were trying to form a Kurdish state in northern Syria, he vowed: "We will not

allow the formation of such a state."

The spat over the YPG has so far held up any plan for Turkey and the United States to work together in Syria to prise the jihadist de-facto capital of Raqqa out of IS hands.

Erdogan said 2,500-5,000 IS fighters were believed to still be in Raqqa. A joint operation with the United States but excluding the YPG to take Raqqa "would be nothing difficult for us. We can do this together," said Erdogan.

But Erdogan praised Trump for showing a "more determined" approach than Obama against the regime of President Bashar al-Assad after the air strikes this month that followed a suspected chemical attack.

"It was late coming but something that we welcomed," he said. "The Assad regime has seen for the first time in six years that there will be no silence to the massacre of innocents."



Activists are covered with blankets in front of a tank to protest against plans of German military technology group Rheinmetall to build a tank factory in Turkey in front of the Bundestag in Berlin.

Turkish army, Kurdish militia in new clashes

Istanbul

New clashes erupted yesterday between the Turkish army and a Syrian Kurdish militia seen as a terror group by Ankara but as a key ally by the United States in the fight against jihadists, the Turkish army said.

Rockets fired from an area in Syria controlled by the Kurdish Peoples' Protection Units (YPG) targeted a Turkish army command post in the Ceylanpinar district of Turkey's southern Sanliurfa province.

The Turkish army fired back, killing 11 "terrorists", it said. There were no reports of casualties on the Turkish side.

This was the third day in a row

clashes have been reported across the tense border after the Turkish air force earlier this week bombed YPG targets in Syria.

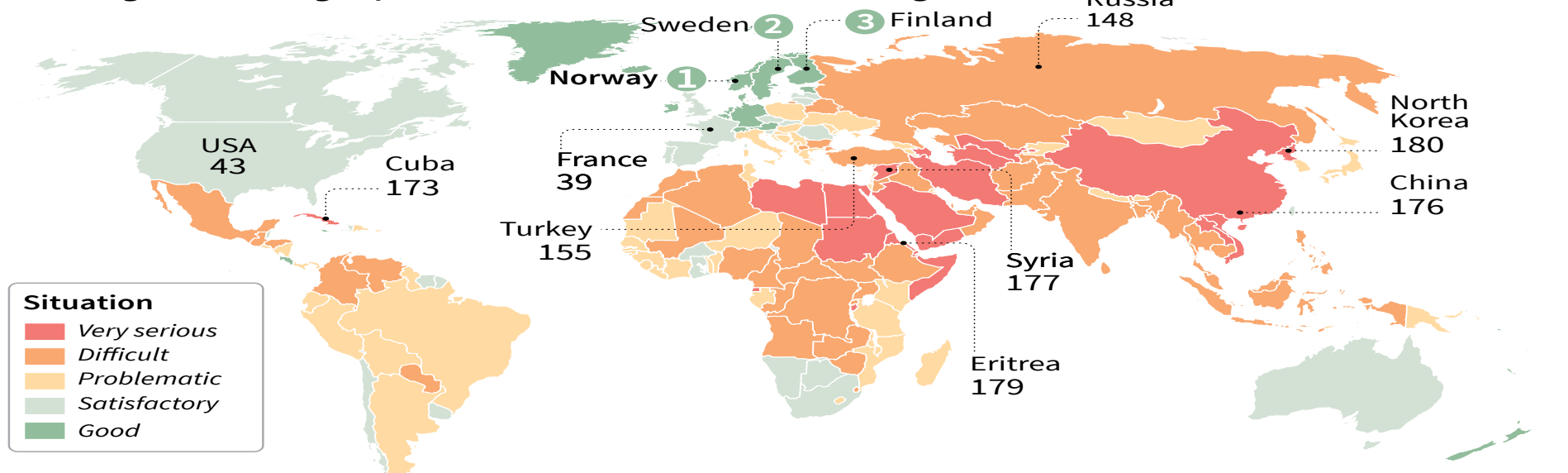
The US State Department has said it was "deeply concerned" that the strikes were conducted "without proper coordination" either with the United States or the broader global coalition" against the Islamic State group (IS).

Russia's foreign ministry on Wednesday meanwhile said Turkey's bombing raids were unacceptable and called on all sides to show restraint.

But Ankara insisted that Washington and Moscow had been properly informed ahead of time.

Press freedom 'never under so much threat'

Media rights watchdog Reporters Without Borders' world rankings



Afghan Taliban announce start of 'spring offensive'

Kabul
The Afghan Taliban launched their "spring offensive" yesterday, heralding fresh fighting in the drawn-out conflict as embattled security forces struggle to recover from a devastating attack on a military base one week ago.

Operation Mansouri -- named after the group's former leader, killed in a US drone strike in 2016 -- will target foreign forces with "conventional attacks, guerrilla warfare, complex martyrdom attacks, insider attacks", an insurgent statement said.

"The enemy will be targeted, harassed, killed or captured until they abandon their last posts," it continued.

The annual spring offensive normally marks the start of the "fighting season", though this winter the Taliban continued to battle government forces, most successfully in last week's attack on the military base outside the northern city of



A damaged mosque near the army compound outside Mazar-i-Sharif in Balkh province after Taliban attack

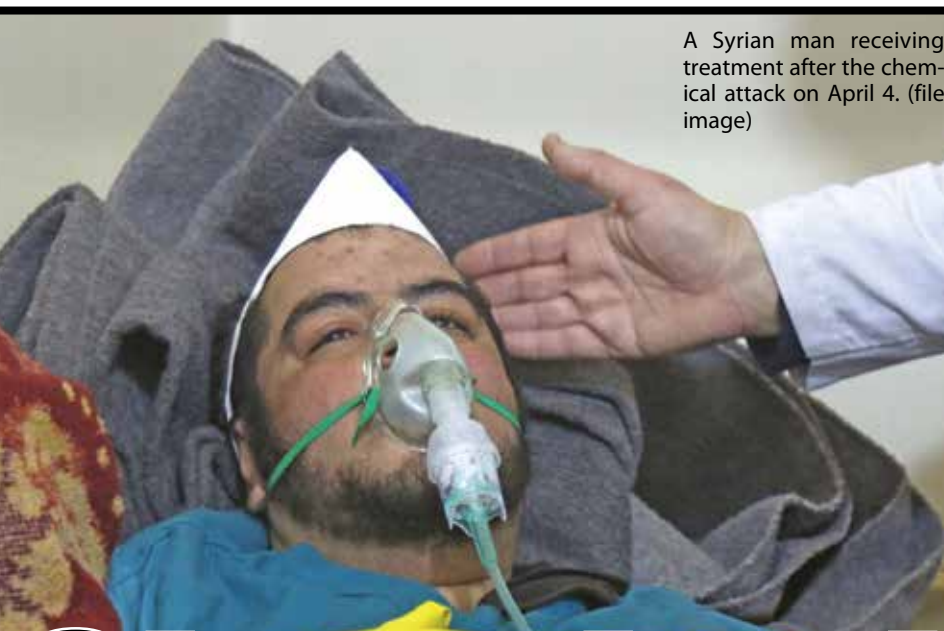
Mazar-i-Sharif.

The massacre last Friday saw insurgents armed with guns and suicide bombs slaughter at least 135 young recruits, according to the official toll, though multiple sources have claimed it is much higher.

The assault is believed to be the deadliest by the Taliban on an Afghan military target since they were driven from

power in 2001, and fuelled fears of insider attacks -- when Afghan soldiers and police turn their guns on colleagues or on international troops.

The attackers carried passes to the base, sources said, and were dressed in Afghan army uniforms. The defence minister and army chief resigned, and at least 35 soldiers have been arrested over the incident.



A Syrian man receiving treatment after the chemical attack on April 4. (file image)

Chemical weapons

used 45 times in Syria

The Hague

Experts from the world's watchdog tasked with destroying chemical weapons are probing reports that toxic arms have been used 45 times in Syria since late last year, the body's chief said yesterday.

Director general Ahmet Uzumcu said there was "a huge list of allegations" of the use of toxic arms reported to the operations hub of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW).

In the "second part of 2016, 30 different incidents, and since the beginning of this year, 15 separate incidents, so 45," he told a reporters, brandishing a list of several pages which he chose to keep confidential.

They include the April 4 sarin gas attack on the rebel-held town of Khan Sheikhun that was reported to have killed 88 people, including 31 children.

"All these allegations are recorded by our experts, who follow this every day from our



Ahmet Uzumcu operations centre," Uzumcu said.

The OPCW is currently trying to ensure it is safe enough to deploy its fact-finding team to the town for further analysis, after Uzumcu said last week that "incontrovertible" test results from OPCW-designated labs on samples taken from victims showed sarin gas or a similar substance had been used.

The government of Syrian

President Bashar al-Assad has "already stated that they would support this mission, actually they have invited us to go via Damascus," he said.

"The problem is that this area is controlled by different armed opposition groups, so we need to strike some deals with them to ensure a temporary ceasefire, which we understand the Syrian government is willing to do," he added. (AFP)

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Real life iron man!



Gravity founder Richard Browning fields questions about his personal flight suit at a TED Conference in Vancouver, Canada,

Vancouver
British inventor Richard Browning lifted off from the shore of Vancouver Harbor on Thursday in a personal flight suit that inspired references to comic superhero 'Iron Man.'

Using thrusters attached to his arms and back, Browning flew in a circle and hovered a short distance from the ground, captivating attendees at a prestigious TED Conference.

The personal flight suit is capable of propelling wearers much higher and faster, according to its creators.

"The hypothesis was that

the human mind and body, if properly augmented, could achieve some pretty cool stuff," the extreme athlete and engineer said at the gathering a short time earlier.

Browning told of experimenting with various numbers and arrays of essentially miniature jet engines on his limbs.

Along the way, he said, there were more than a few crashes to the ground.

"The whole journey was about trying and failing, and learning from that," Browning said.

The first reasonably stable,

six-second flight with the gear inspired his team to press on.

His startup, Gravity, formally debuted about a month ago with an early-version suit called Daedalus.

A 55-second video clip of the suit in action has logged more than a million views since being posted on YouTube about three weeks ago.

Browning said he is already getting interest from investors and some in the British military who told him they had given up on the flight feature of an 'Iron Man' suit until seeing his human-propulsion gear.

"I don't think anyone is going to be going down to Wal-Mart with it or taking anybody to school for quite a while, but the team at Gravity is moving it along," Browning said.

He dreams of a flight suit that one day will allow its wearer to launch from a beach, soar along the coast and then perhaps hop into a helicopter in the air to continue their journey.

Browning has already seen the early-version flight suit compared to 'Iron Man' armour worn by Marvel Comics character Tony Stark, but stressed that his goal is firmly rooted in the real world.

He also described the project as part of a personal journey, inspired by an engineer father with a love for flying machines, but who died when he was just a teenager. (AFP)



Browning lifts off

British inventor takes flight in 'Iron Man' suit

US passes one-week stopgap to avoid govt shutdown

Washington

The House of Representatives overwhelmingly passed a stopgap spending bill yesterday, sending it to the Senate, which will need to pass it ahead of a midnight deadline to avert a US government shutdown.

The bill extends current levels of funding until May 5, giving lawmakers in the Republican-controlled Congress one week of breathing room to hash out a broader measure that would fund government operations through September 30, the end of the fiscal year.

The measure was on its way to clearing the House with broad bipartisan support.

Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer signaled that his Democrats were prepared to not set up procedural roadblocks that would jeopardize the measure's passage before the deadline.

"We're willing to extend things for a little more time," Schumer told reporters on Friday.

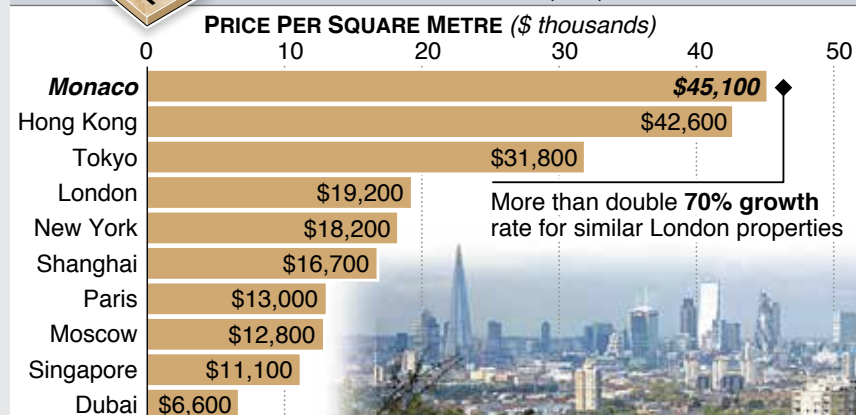
Once it passes Congress, the bill would go to Donald Trump's desk for his signature, avoiding what would be a colossal embarrassment on the 99th day of his presidency if the government were allowed to slide into a partial shutdown.

Monaco has world's most expensive homes

Luxury homes in the principality of Monaco have overtaken those in Hong Kong to become the most expensive in the world



- Prime property values in principality have surged 180% in 10 years to \$45,100 per square metre
- In 2016, average sale price of existing home in Monaco reached \$4,686,600



More than double 70% growth rate for similar London properties

Acosta confirmed as US labour secretary

The US Senate confirmed Donald Trump's pick for labor secretary on Thursday, making Alexander Acosta the first and only Hispanic member of the Republican president's cabinet. Acosta won confirmation on a vote of 60 to 38, with a handful of Democrats joining in the majority. The 48-year-old son of Cuban exiles is dean of the Florida International University College of Law and a former US district attorney.



El Salvador bans metal mining in world first

San Salvador El Salvador became the first country in the world to ban the mining of metals in what campaigners called a landmark move for environmental protection. The law bans "prospection, exploration, exploitation, extraction or processing of metallic minerals in El Salvador," according to the text published in the official journal.



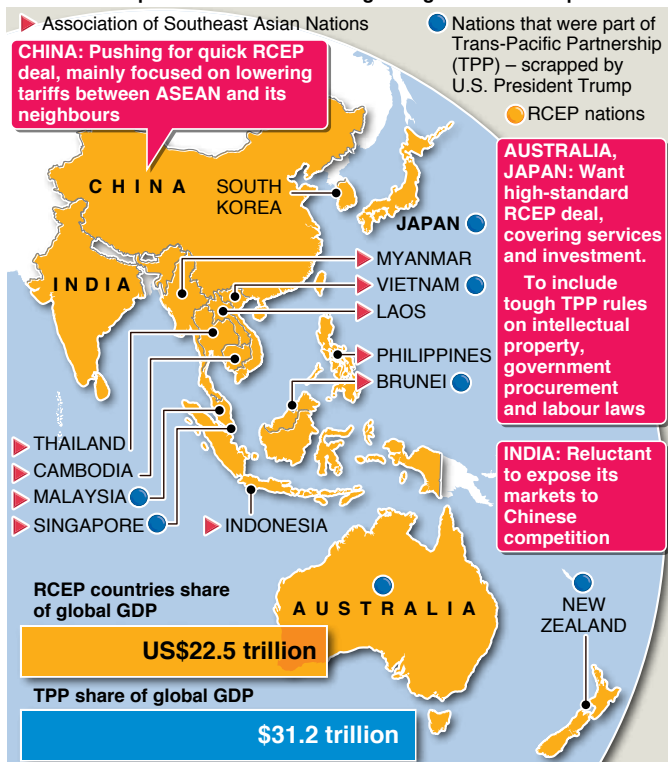
Okay, you (the EU) gave support for the 'No' campaign (in the referendum). You lost. From now you close that chapter and put efforts into how you will develop your relations with Turkey. Although you carried out that campaign, we are opening our door,"



Recep Tayyip Erdogan
Turkish President

Tug of war over Asia trade deal

China and Japan are pushing different visions of a massive Asian trade pact that excludes the U.S. The Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership will account for 30% of global gross domestic product



US growth hits 3-year low at 0.7%

Washington
US growth slowed to its lowest level in three years in the first quarter as consumer spending and government expenditures tumbled to their lowest levels in years, the Commerce Department reported yesterday. Preliminary data showed GDP increased only 0.7 per cent in the first three months of the year, down sharply from the 2.1pc expansion seen in the fourth quarter of 2016. Though only slightly below the 0.8pc increase in the same quarter of last year, the pace fell well below

analyst expectations for 1.1pc GDP growth. It also marked a somber start to the presidency of Donald Trump, who hits his first 100 days in office Saturday and rose to power on a message of nationalist economic revival. Trump has taken credit for increased consumer confidence, growing employment and record gains on the stock market in recent months. Trump also is basing planned multi-trillion-dollar tax cuts unveiled this week on an anticipated return to three percent annual growth, which the White

House says will generate the revenues needed to pay for the tax cuts. While economists debate the likelihood of a return to that level of growth, the first quarter numbers showed a tepid pace, although the preliminary growth estimates are subject to revision. The report was replete with records. Consumer spending fell to its lowest level in nearly eight years, adding only 0.3pc, with spending on services their lowest in four years and durable goods orders their lowest since 2011.

Defence spending contracted by four percent, its lowest pace in nearly three years, helping drive down overall government expenditures by 1.7pc, the lowest quarterly result in almost four years. Business investments increased 4.3pc for the quarter but this down from the brisk 9.4pc in the prior quarter. A recovery in oil prices helped sustain growth in this category, with mining, exploration, shafts and wells skyrocketing to 449pc, an all-time record, up from 23.7pc in the prior quarter. (AFP)

South Korea's presidential candidates

Five candidates are in the running to succeed South Korea's disgraced former president Park Geun-hye, with opinion surveys placing liberal candidate Moon Jae-in as the frontrunner

<p>Moon Jae-in Democratic Party 44.4%</p> <p>Former legislator and human rights lawyer narrowly lost to Park in 2012 election. Favours closer relations with North Korea and reform of South Korea's big conglomerates</p>	<p>Ahn Cheol-soo People's Party 22.8%</p> <p>Software mogul pulled out of 2012 election to support Moon. Supports international sanctions imposed on North but would press for future inter-Korean talks</p>
<p>Hong Jun-pyo Liberty Korea Party 13.0%</p> <p>Hardline conservative heads rebranded faction of former ruling Saenuri Party. Advocates tough approach to North and redeployment of U.S. nuclear weapons in South Korea</p>	<p>Sim Sang-jung Justice Party 7.5%</p> <p>Progressive lawmaker and former labour rights activist. Pledging to reduce rising wealth inequality, reform conglomerates and adopt conciliatory North Korea policy</p>
<p>Yoo Seung-min Bareun Party 5.4%</p> <p>Former aide to Park leads second Saenuri splinter faction. Wants stronger sanctions against North and deployment of more U.S. THAAD missile batteries</p>	

Percentage figures from April 27 Realmeter survey conducted on 1,520 voters nationwide, with margin of error of 2.5 points at 95 percent confidence level
Sources: CSIS, Korea Times, VOA, Yonhap Pictures: Associated Press © GRAPHIC NEWS

Didi most valuable start-up

Shanghai
China's ride-hailing leader Didi Chuxing said yesterday it had raised more than \$5.5 billion in new financing amid reports that the fund injection makes it the most valuable start-up in Asia with a worth over \$50bn. Beijing based-Didi, which claims nearly 90 per cent of China's ride-hailing market after buying rival Uber's assets in the country last year, said it would use the money to "support its global strategy and continued investments in AI-based technologies." Didi's valuation makes it tops in Asia and number



Representative picture two in the world after Uber's \$68bn, according to rankings by The Wall Street Journal. The fresh funding moves

rankings were based on companies "that are privately held, have raised money in the past four years and have at least one venture-capital firm as an investor." Didi's statement did not give details on who provided the fresh funds, but Bloomberg News, quoting people familiar with the situation, said the investors include Japan's SoftBank Group, China Merchants Bank, and an arm of China's Bank of Communications. Didi already lists among its investors Apple and Chinese internet titans Alibaba and Tencent. (AFP)

Didi past Chinese smartphone maker Xiaomi, which was at \$46bn. The Wall Street Journal's



Did You Know?
More than any other major manufacturer in the globe, Toyota spends astronomical sums in its R and D activities. Take this. The company spends about \$1 million on R and D every hour across the world! You know now why your sedan is that smooth.



COUNTRY/CURRENCIES	BUY	SELL
AUSTRALIA	0.2885	0.2861
BANGLADESH	0.00494	0.00461
CANADA	0.2841	0.2810
DENMARK	0.0584	
EGYPT	0.0241	0.0219
EURO	0.4174	0.4153
HONGKONG	0.04983	0.04943
INDIA	0.00599	0.00600
INDONESIA	0.00003016	0.00002901
IRAN TUMAN	0.00010959	
IRAQI DINAR	0.000294	
JAPAN	0.003550	0.003480
JORDAN	0.5346	0.5350
KOREA	0.00038372	
KUWAIT	1.2580	1.242
MALAYSIA	0.088900	0.0889
NEW ZEALAND	0.2636	0.2595
NORWAY	0.0462	
NEPAL	0.00391	0.00368
OMAN	0.97962	0.98262
PAKISTAN	0.00369	0.00360
PHILIPPINES	0.00779	0.00757
QATAR	0.10381	0.10376
SAUDI ARABIA	0.10061	0.26810
SINGAPORE	0.2745	0.2725
SOUTH AFRICA	0.02990	0.02980
SRI LANKA	0.00273	0.00249
SWEDISH	0.0461	
SWITZERLAND	0.3869	0.3844
SYRIA	0.001740	0.0123
TAIWAN	0.012700	
THAILAND	0.011140	0.011110
TURKEY	0.1114	
UNITED KINGDOM	0.4942	0.4913
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	0.102810	0.102810
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	0.37800	0.37805
YUAN	0.058500	0.0585

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OMAN	0.3849	0.3829	0.3869	0.3469
QATAR	3.6420	3.6231	3.6610	3.2829
UAE	3.6730	3.6539	3.6922	3.3108
SAUDI	3.7500	3.7305	3.7696	3.3802

Stock markets soft as growth data disappoint

London
Global stock markets went soft yesterday, weighed down by disappointing American and British growth figures, with eurozone inflation data offering a bright spot on the macro-economic front.

Wall Street was a touch weaker after data showed that the US economy expanded by just 0.7 per cent in the first quarter, well below analysts' expectations and a three-year low. The mood in New York was further soured by political concerns as the US government tries to avoid a shutdown, said analysts at Charles Schwab, also pointing to tension over North Korea.

The US House of Representatives on Friday passed a one-week stopgap funding bill, which will now go to the Senate.

But strong corporate results, including from Amazon and ExxonMobil, kept a floor under the market.

"Markets were left a little unsure which way to turn after an upturn in corporate profits was met with data showing decelerating economic growth," said Jasper Lawler, an analyst with London Capital Group.

London's benchmark FTSE

100 index closed lower after data showed a slackening in Britain's crucial service sector had slowed GDP growth to 0.3pc -- an early sign that the country's post-Brexit vote boom may be coming to an end.

"With high inflation and slumping consumer demand, there is much to worry about with the UK economy at present," said David Lamb, head of dealing at FEXCO Corporate Payments.

Banking giant Barclays weighed down on the index following first-quarter results, which showed its investment banking operation "fell short of expectations due to weaker than expected fixed income trading", according to Helal Miah at The Share Centre.

Mixed eurozone data

Prospects for British exporters were also hit by the surging pound, which climbed to its highest since late September on Friday, approaching \$1.30.

Traders are betting on a thumping victory for Theresa May in the upcoming general election, which they believe will help her in Brexit negotiations.

France also posted disappointing GDP growth of 0.3pc, but Paris's CAC index

Traders work on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE)

Key figures

- New York - Dow: DOWN 0.2pc at 20,945.52 points**
- London - FTSE 100: DOWN 0.5pc at 7,203.94 (close)**
- Frankfurt - DAX 30: DOWN 0.1pc at 12,438.01 (close)**
- Paris - CAC 40: DOWN 0.1pc at 5,267.33 (close)**
- EURO STOXX 50: DOWN 0.1pc at 3,559.59**
- Tokyo - Nikkei 225: DOWN 0.3pc at 19,196.74 (close)**
- Hong Kong - Hang Seng: DOWN 0.3pc at 24,615.13 (close)**
- Shanghai - Composite: UP 0.1pc at 3,154.66 (close)**
- Euro/dollar: UP at \$1.0895 from \$1.0872 at 2100 GMT**
- Pound/dollar: UP at \$1.2940 from \$1.2902**
- Dollar/yen: UP at 111.42 yen from 111.24 yen**
- Oil - Brent North Sea: UP 24 cents at \$52.06 per barrel**
- Oil - West Texas Intermediate: UP 20 cents at \$49.17**

still held on to most gains from its post-election bounce as polls showed centrist Emmanuel Macron on course for victory.

North Korea tension

Asian shares earlier fell as doubts deepened over US President Donald Trump's agenda.

"The market's distrust in his

ability to run the government is only increasing," Mizuho Bank said in a commentary.

Tensions over North Korea also continue to dent confidence, after a series of missile launches by Pyongyang and warnings from the Trump administration that military action was an "option on the table". (AFP)

Germany to scrap '2-person' cockpit rule

Frankfurt am Main

German airlines will no longer require two people to be in the cockpit at all times, an industry group said yesterday, abandoning a rule introduced after a deadly crash in 2015. "An evaluation has shown that the two-person rule does not increase security, rather other risks to air security arise," the statement from the German Aviation Association (BDL) said.

The requirement to have two people in the cockpit at



all times was introduced after Germanwings copilot Andreas Lubitz deliberately flew a passenger plane into a

French mountainside, killing 144 passengers and six crew in March 2015.

Black box recordings

showed that Lubitz, who had been treated for mental health problems in the months before the disaster, locked himself into the cockpit alone. The BDL's decision follows an easing of the two-person rule at the EU level by the European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) in August last year. Instead of a blanket requirement, the EASA recommended using the measure only on a case-by-case basis.

Girl with three legs 'walks, runs' after surgery

Three-year-old Choity Khatun (L) with her mother Shima (R) in hospital in Melbourne after she had life saving reconstructive surgery



An X-ray released by Monash Health of three-year-old Choity Khatun

Sydney

A toddler born with three legs -- because body parts of a twin had grown inside her -- was returning home to Bangladesh yesterday after complex and rare surgery in Australia enabled her to walk and run, her doctor said.

Three-year-old Choity Khatun was given little prospect of survival until she was brought to Melbourne last year by Australian charity Children First Foundation.

A team of surgeons spent several months mapping out a procedure to reconstruct her anatomy.

"A twin had grown out of her pelvis but the twin was only part of a twin... The problem is there's no rulebook for this because she's a very unique individual so you have to try and work out what was where," Chris Kimber, the paediatric surgery head at Monash Children's Hospital, said.

"When Choity arrived in Australia, she was very malnourished, she couldn't walk properly at all," said

Kimber.

Working in consultation with experts from Europe and the United States, the surgeons planned a procedure that involved removing the remains of the third leg -- part of which was earlier cut off in Bangladesh -- as well as taking out, disconnecting and reconnecting other organs.

Choity's condition meant that body parts from a twin developed in her perineum -- the area between the anus and the vulva.

Surgeons spent countless hours examining her under anaesthetic and found she had two rectums, anuses, vaginas and uteruses. She was also incontinent.

'She's pretty good'

The surgery, which Kimber said was "extremely rare", was finally carried out in November and involved eight doctors who specialise in genital and pelvic reconstructions working on the girl for eight hours.

"We spent three or four months

thinking about it, presenting it to other doctors, getting ideas from around the world, and then based on lots of world opinion, we were able to come up with something that clearly works," he added.

A key triumph for the surgeons, including Kimber, was that they were able to help her become continent, which Kimber said was "extraordinary".

"She's pretty good," he added.

The little girl is also partially blind, but an ophthalmologist's examination at the hospital found her sight could not be improved.

But she has sufficient sight to now walk and run like other children, to the delight of her 22-year-old mother.

"Everything is good now... she can play like every baby," Shima Khatun told broadcaster Channel Nine on Thursday, adding that she was looking forward to returning to her village outside Dhaka with her daughter and being reunited with her husband. (AFP)



Dr. Chris Kimber operating on three-year-old Choity Khatun



VIVA 

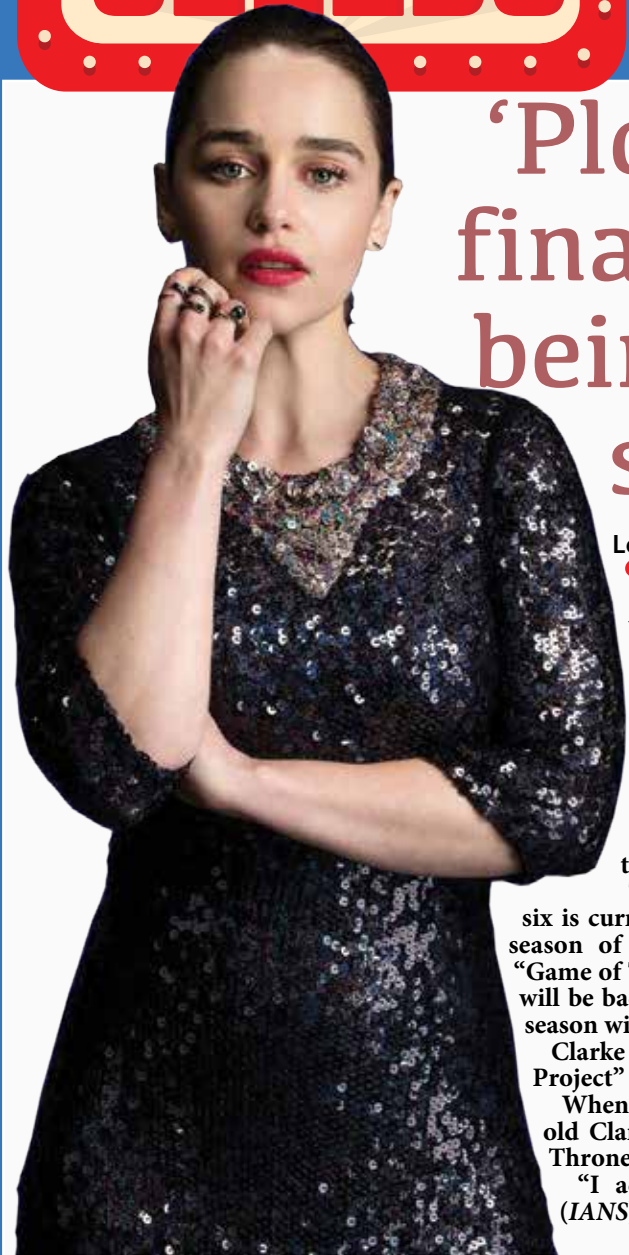
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'Plot of GoT finale season being kept a secret'

London
 "Game of Thrones" star Emilia Clarke says even she doesn't know what will happen in the final season of the show.

"No one knows anything. No one is told anything. It's all crazy," *dailynews.com* quoted Clarke as saying.

She added: "It's a secret from the cast. We generally can't be trusted. They pretty much have told us so."

The repeats from season one to six is currently aired in India. The seventh season of the popular fantasy drama series "Game of Thrones" will premiere on July 16. It will be back in India on Star World. The final season will most likely air in 2018.

Clarke is also filming "Untitled Han Solo Project" here.

When the film is completed, the 30-year-old Clarke will return to filming "Game of Thrones".

"I actually need a holiday," she said. (IANS)



Depp surprises guests aboard ride

Los Angeles
 Actor Johnny Depp surprised Disneyland park-goers when he dressed up as Captain Jack Sparrow aboard the "Pirates of the Caribbean" ride.

On Wednesday, visitors were treated to the actual actor reciting lines from the popular film franchise while waving his sword at the theme park in California, reports *variety.com*.

Depp even abandoned ship to entertain guests waiting in line on the facade of the attraction. (IANS)

Now & Then



Ricky Martin

Ricky Martin, is a Puerto Rican singer, actor and author. Martin began his career at age twelve with the all-boy pop group Menudo. After five years with the group, he released several Spanish-language solo albums throughout the 1990s. He also acted on stage and on TV in Mexico, becoming a modest star in the country. In 1994 he starred on the American TV soap opera General Hospital.



New York
 Oscar-winning actress Anne Hathaway has paid an emotional tribute to late filmmaker Jonathan Demme by calling him her "favourite rebel angel".

Demme, who directed films like "The Silence of the Lambs" and "Philadelphia", died here from esophageal cancer at the age of 73 on Wednesday.

Hathaway, who starred in Demme's 2008 film "Rachel Getting Married", took to *Instagram* to pay a tribute to Demme, reports *belfasttelegraph.co.uk*. (IANS)

Hathaway pens emotional tribute to Demme



STARRY
Birthday
Uma Thurman

April 29, 1970

Actress known for her performances in *Pulp Fiction* and *Kill Bill*. She took home a Golden Globe Award for Best Actress for her role in 2003's *Hysterical Blindness*.

MIDDLE EAST MOVIE BUZZ

Captain Abu Raed

“**Captain Abu Raed**” is a film of many firsts.

It was Jordan’s first official submission for a best foreign film Oscar — ever. Its producers say it’s the first independent film to emerge from the Middle Eastern country in five decades. The film made its writer and director, Amin Matalqa, the first American Film Institute Conservatory student to finish a feature film before graduation.

“Captain Abu Raed,” though, is more than just a piece of film history. The movie, which won the World Cinema Dramatic Competition at the Sundance Film Festival last year, is an intriguing glimpse at a little-known world and a moving testament to the potential that exists there as much as anywhere else — although even its inhabitants have trouble believing it.

Nadim Sawalha (“Syriana”) is the title character, although he’s not really a pilot. He’s mistaken for one by the neighbourhood children when he returns one day wearing a cap he found in the trash at work — he’s a janitor in Amman’s airport. He tries to come clean, but realizes these poverty-stricken children might need dreams more than they need the truth. He captivates them with tales of his travels, encouraging them to reach for the stars.

Two boys especially need Raed’s help. Tareq (Udey Al-Qiddissi) is a smart boy, but his father pulls him out of school to sell wafers on the street. Murad (Hussein Al-Sous) is the group’s sole skeptic; his abusive father has turned him into a young cynic who declares, “People like us don’t become pilots.”

They’re not the only ones struggling in society. Nour (Jordan television presenter Rana Sultan) is a real pilot. Beautiful and independent, she’s a modern woman with an old-fashioned father who would rather see her barefoot and pregnant than pursuing a career high up in the skies. (*washingtontimes.com*)

Priyanka Chopra perfect choice for ‘Baywatch’

Los Angeles **Hollywood star** Dwayne Johnson has praised his co-star and Indian actress Priyanka Chopra and says she is the perfect choice for the forthcoming film “Baywatch”. Johnson on Thursday took to *Twitter* to post: “Hard to balance real malevolence (hostility) with charm and humour. Perfect choice for our ‘Baywatch’...Priyanka Chopra.”



Priyanka, who will be seen playing a negative character Victoria Leeds in the upcoming film, re-tweeted the Hollywood star’s compliment.

Internationally, the actress also featured in the American drama TV show “Quantico”.

“Baywatch” is an upcoming American action-comedy film directed by Seth Gordon, based on the television series of the same name. The film stars Dwayne Johnson and Zac Efron. (*IANS*)

Orlando Bloom speaks up on terror threats

London

Actor Orlando Bloom has spoken of how terror threats made him more concerned about being in public spaces with his six-year-old son.

The actor, 40, said recent global attacks, combined with his work on upcoming espionage thriller “Unlocked”, had heightened his nerves, reports *mirror.co.uk*.

He said: “Sometimes I will be in parks, or big theme parks, with (my son), suddenly I think, ‘Oh, this is a bit? this could be one of those weird places where something?’” (*IANS*)



Mike Peters of The Alarm performs at “Dare to be Different” Premiere during 2017 Tribeca Film Festival yesterday in New York City (AFP)

OUT & ABOUT

HOW TO REACH US

"Out & About", a ready reckoner for the events taking place on the island, is published from Friday to Tuesday. To be included, please use one of the following: news@dt.bh, or

MARK YOUR Calendar

KIDNEY CARE EXHIBITION

Date: May 4-6
Venue: The Indian School Bahrain

Thanal Bahrain Chapter is gearing up for a Kidney Care Exhibition from May 4 to 6 at the Indian School Bahrain with the support of the Ministry of Health (MoH) in order to spread awareness about kidney care and arrange free kidney screening. The organisers said MoH has agreed to loan all the specimens required for the exhibition like human body, kidney and other human organs to exhibit for the educational and demonstration purpose. MoH and Thanal has established a mutual partnership for disseminating awareness initiative among the public in the Kingdom focusing mainly the expatriates.

Thanal is a charitable organization rendering various humanitarian services like dialysis and palliative care centres, medical clinics, ambulance services etc and running the biggest stand alone dialysis facility in India equipped with 80 dialysis machines functioning in four units by doing more than 5,000 dialysis every month, thus benefitting almost 500 under-privileged patients.

The public can register online to attend the event by visiting www.thanalbahrain.com. For further details contact 38384504, 33433530, 39798122, 39605806, 39857759.



CANNES FESTIVAL IN BAHRAIN



Date: May 3
Venue: Alliance Française

The Café des Images (Alliance Française Cinema Club) invites you to celebrate the Cannes Festival with the screening of Laurent Cantet's masterpiece *Entre les murs / The Class* (Gold Palm at the 2008 Cannes Film Festival) on Wednesday, 3rd May, 2017 at 7:30pm at Alliance Française (Isa Town, Educational area).

The talented Bahraini film director Salman Yousif (*Steps, There Will Be Light, The Rooster*) attended Laurent Cantet's masterclass at 2015 Femis summer university (French National Film school). He will share with the public his experience with this remarkable film director and his understanding of the film thanks to his unique experience in France.

In the first part of the evening, as usual, a Bahraini short movie will be shown. For this special Cannes celebration, the film *Nostalgia* will be shown in the presence of the film director, Ahmed Fardan.

At the end of the screening, a debate will be held by Mr. Dominique Chastres, Counsellor for Cooperation and Culture of the French Embassy, and Mr. Salman Yousif.

The public will be given the chance to enjoy a French buffet dinner before the screening of the films and during the intermission.

FILM: LION

Date: May 10, 7pm
Venue: Bahrain Cinema Club Juffair

Lion is a 2016 biographical film directed by Garth Davis (in his feature debut) and written by Luke Davies, based on the non-fiction book *A Long Way Home* by Saroo Brierley with Larry Buttrose. The film stars Dev Patel, Rooney Mara, David Wenham and Nicole Kidman.

The film, which had its world premiere at the Toronto International Film Festival on September 10, 2016, was given a limited release on November 25, 2016, by the Weinstein Company before opening generally on January 6, 2017. It was released in Australia on January 19, 2017 and in the United Kingdom on January 20, 2017.

WORLD LAUGHTER DAY CELEBRATIONS

Date: May 7
Venue: St Christopher's School, Saar.

HIGHLIGHT

INDIAN CLUB SET TO HOST CARNATIC MUSICAL TRIBUTE EVENING

Date: May 13
Venue: The Indian Club

Indian classical music fans are in for a real treat as The Indian Club plays to host to a rich and spectacular musical tribute concert to the Great Composers of Carnatic Kritis which is titled as – "Samarpanam", by Ms. Ananya Ashok, a renowned and famous award winning vocalist and disciple of Madurai Sri. T.N. Seshagopalan.

The tribute concert, organized by Nellai Entertainers in association with The Indian Club, will be held at the Club's Sanskar Hall on Saturday 13th May, starting at 6.30pm; Ms. Ananya Ashok will be accompanied on Mr. Shajith Shankar on the Mridangam, Mr. Jayakumar on the violin and Mr. Sajeevan on the Ghatam.

Hailing from a very musically family, Ms. Ananya received her formal training from renowned violinist, Smt. Anuradha Sridhar; Ms Ananya has performed at venues and sabhas right across India – namely Chennai, Kerala, Bangalore, Mumbai, Delhi, Mysore and Coimbatore, as well as international venues across USA and Singapore; Ms Ananya is "A" Grade artist of all India Radio and doordarshan and performed in other private TV channels. She is a the recipient of The ACTA Music Fellowship award in 2011 from the State of California for her she is also perusing her Masters in carnatic music at the madras University.

This will undoubtedly be a popular event for all music enthusiasts and with free entry for all, there is sure to be a big crowd – get there early and grab your seat for what promises to be a great evening's entertainment.

For further details admission to "Samarpanam" concert will be free to all music lovers, For more details about this Program pls call Mr. Nanda Kumar (Entertainment Secretary) on 3643 3552 and Mr. Ilango (The program coordinator) on 3913 2131.



The Saar Laughter Club is celebrating World Laughter Day on Sunday 7 May 6pm to 7.30pm at Infants Hall of St Christopher's School, Saar. World Laughter Day is observed on the first Sunday of May. The World Laughter Day came into existence in 1998; the day was introduced by Dr Madan Kataria, the founder of the worldwide Laughter Yoga Movement. Laughter yoga showed an exponential growth and became popular world wide. It resulted into 8000 Laughter Clubs worldwide on all the 5 continents. World Laughter Day is celebrated across the world with an aim of promoting world peace, brotherhood and friendship among all. This day reminds the society that laughter is the best medicine to ward off dangers of modern day monotonous and mechanized lifestyles. People from different walks of life celebrate World Laughter Day with great enthusiasm crossing all social, professional and personal barriers. The celebration includes Laughter March, Video presentation, Laughter Yoga, Grounding Dance followed by prayer for World Peace. Admission is free, Participants need to register the names. For registration and more details 39867041

FILM: LA LA LAND

Date: May 17, 7pm
Venue: Bahrain Cinema Club Juffair

La La Land is a 2016 American romantic musical drama film written and directed by Damien Chazelle, and starring Ryan Gosling and Emma Stone as a musician and an aspiring actress who meet and fall in love in Los Angeles. The film's title refers both to the city of Los Angeles and to the idiom for being out of touch

with reality.

Chazelle wrote the screenplay in 2010 but did not find a studio willing to finance the production without changes to his design. Following the success of his 2014 film *Whiplash*, the project was picked up by Summit Entertainment. *La La Land* was premiered at the Venice Film Festival on August 31, 2016, and was released in the United States on December 9, 2016. It has grossed \$440 million worldwide on a production budget of \$30 million.

La La Land received critical acclaim and was regarded as one of the best films of 2016. Critics praised Chazelle's screenplay and direction, Gosling and Stone's performances, Justin Hurwitz's score and the film's musical numbers. It won in every category it was nominated for at the 74th Golden Globe Awards, with a record-breaking seven wins, and received 11 nominations at the 70th British Academy Film Awards, winning five. It received 14 nominations at the 89th Academy Awards, tying the record for most nominations with *Titanic* (1997) and *All About Eve* (1950), and won 6 Academy awards for Best Director, Best Actress (Stone), Best Cinematography, Best Original Score, Best Original Song ("City of Stars") and Best Production Design.

FILM: PATERSON

Date: May 3, 7pm
Venue: Bahrain Cinema Club Juffair

Paterson is a 2016 drama film written and directed by Jim Jarmusch. The film stars Adam Driver as a bus driver and aspiring poet named Paterson and Golshifteh Farahani as his wife who dreams of being a country music star and opening a cupcake business. It was selected to compete for the Palme d'Or at the 2016 Cannes Film Festival, where it won the Palm

Dog Award. The film was released in Germany on November 17, 2016, by K5 International. It was then released in France on December 21, 2016, by Le Pacte, and released in the United States on December 28, 2016, by Amazon Studios and Bleecker Street.

GULF PROPERTY SHOW

Date: May 9 to 11
Venue: Bahrain Exhibition Centre

The Gulf Property Show is a boutique showcase for the real estate and property development sectors, that aims to highlight present and future developments in the Kingdom of Bahrain and the Northern Gulf, and provide the opportunity to promote Bahrain's property assets as well as regional and international opportunities for investors in commercial and residential real estate. You can be assured of the best property deals and expertise to help make the dream of owning or investing in real estate come true. This event will showcase & promote products & services from Local & International Real Estate Developers, Investors, Service Providers & Consultants.

THE PEARLING PATH EXHIBITION

Date: Till 4 August 2017, 8:00am - 8:00pm
Venue: Bahrain National Museum

Four years after the inscription of the "Pearling, Testimony of an Island Economy" site on the UNESCO World Heritage List, the exhibition will showcase the built vision for the site through architectural models, images, studies and mock-ups of the different components of the project. From the conservation aspects to the new architectural interventions, the exhibition will give an indepth overview of this unique project that aims to spearhead the rehabilitation of the Old City of Muharraq.

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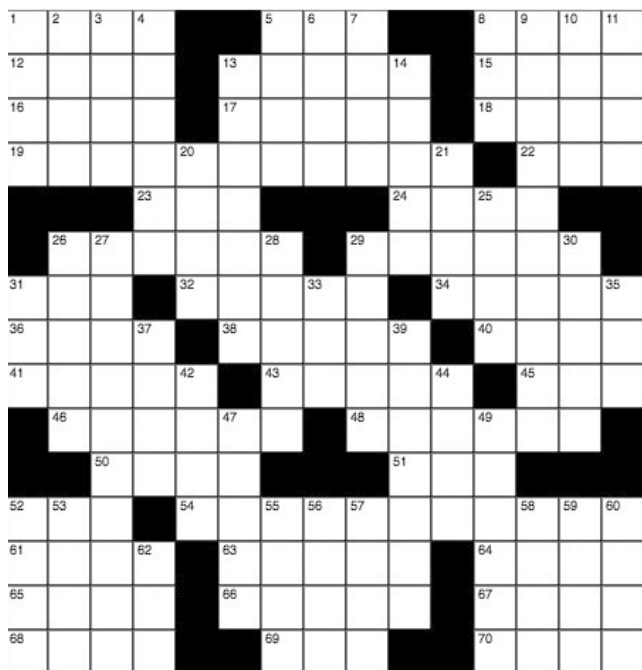
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CROSSWORD



Across

1- Story line;; 5- Foul;; 8- On ___ with (equal to);; 12- Capital city of Peru;; 13- Spy in Canaan;; 15- Gaucho's weapon;; 16- Put a lid ___;; 17- Staggering;; 18- Fast jets, for short;; 19- Squirt gun;; 22- Tree syrup;; 23- Shad delicacy;; 24- Nada;; 26- Fix, as a shoe;; 29- Counsel;; 31- Reject;; 32- Natural talent;; 34- Borden cow;; 36- Cornerstone abbr.;; 38- Pong maker;; 40- Fizzy drink;; 41- Biblical king;; 43- Single-handedly;; 45- No longer working (abbr.);; 46- One who enjoys inflicting pain;; 48- Mild breeze;; 50- Nightclub of song;; 51- Sundial number;; 52- Floor covering where the cat sat;; 54- Act subtracting;; 61- End in ___ (draw);; 63- Honda model;; 64- Unit of loudness;; 65- Light gas;; 66- Put into law;; 67- ___ Day vitamins;; 68- Transmit;; 69- Author Le Shan;; 70- Singer Sedaka;;

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION



Down

1- Agricultural implement;; 2- Director Wertmuller;; 3- Fail to include;; 4- Spuds;; 5- Adriatic port;; 6- Some are pale;; 7- Insect-repelling chemical;; 8- Bodybuilder's pride;; 9- Having possession;; 10- Neighbor of Sask.;; 11- Coarse file, angry tone of voice;; 13- First-magnitude star;; 14- Light-colored hair;; 20- It's over your head;; 21- Deep affection;; 25- Guitarist Lofgren;; 26- Ascends;; 27- Something extracted;; 28- Really bother;; 29- ___ con pollo;; 30- Down source;; 31- O.T. book;; 33- Proverb ending?;; 35- Absorb, as a cost;; 37- Extinct bird;; 39- Not precise;; 42- Immerses;; 44- Large-scale;; 47- Gravy, for one;; 49- Tries to pick up;; 52- ___ best friend;; 53- To ___ (perfectly);; 55- Twining plant stem;; 56- Spot on the tube;; 57- Costa ___;; 58- Actress Skye;; 59- That's ___ haven't heard;; 60- Oscar winner Patricia;; 62- Finish;;

Your star today

(Mar 21st - Apr 20th)



Today you should feel especially sensual. You will want to bask in the pleasure of being in love. A passionate encounter could occur at your home, probably after a wonderful meal you've prepared. You could have a frank discussion about the future of the relationship. You might decide to try living together if you don't already.

(Apr 21st - May 21st)



A warm, interesting phone call from a current or potential love partner could have you longing for this person's company. You should have a lot to say to each other and so spend a lot of time on the phone. A meeting could be arranged, probably somewhere in your neighbourhood.

(May 22nd - Jun 21st)



An unexpected but welcome financial windfall could lead to some long-desired changes in your living situation. You may decide to move, or you could opt for a less drastic course of action, such as redecorating or remodelling. A household member could move out or someone new could move in. These are all very positive changes that will make a big difference in your life.

(June 22nd - July 23rd)



You're looking great today! A current or potential love partner who lives nearby is likely to be all too aware of this. Your heightened sensuality should be very apparent! A long walk with your friend could involve conversation that brings you closer together. You might spend most of the evening together.

(July 24th - Aug 23rd)



Your aesthetic sense may increase, leading to the discovery of an artistic talent you may not have known you had. You could decide to develop this talent, possibly by enrolling in a class. A current or potential love partner might decide to come with you, creating a new venue for bringing you closer together. This should prove very exciting.

(Aug 24th - Sep 23rd)



A social event, possibly involving a group you're affiliated with, could put you in touch with a lot of friendly, intriguing people who share your interests. Among them could be a potential romantic partner, or a current partner could accompany you to this event. Whichever it is, both of you are likely to feel good about the event.

(Sep 24th - Oct 23rd)



You could be introduced to a celebrity you admire, probably a woman, perhaps at a lecture or book signing. This could make a profound difference in your life, as this person may inspire you. A romantic partner could meet her as well, and the two of you should have a lot to discuss over dinner. Relax and enjoy your evening.

(Oct 24th - Nov 22nd)



A social event that involves the discussion of intellectual topics could occur today. You could decide to go with a love partner. You're likely to enjoy the gathering so much that you may stay late into the night and then spend another hour or so discussing it with your partner. Afterward, anything could happen! In the future you will remember tonight as magical.

(Nov 23rd - Dec 21st)



Some intense communication could take place today between you and a love partner, possibly about your future together. It's likely to lead to some positive developments in your life, possibly including a move to the next level of commitment. If you aren't involved now, a friend could introduce you to someone new, perhaps at a social gathering. Look your best throughout the day!

(Dec 22nd - Jan 20th)



Today you may feel especially sensual and passionate. This is the perfect evening to schedule quality time with a current or potential love partner. You're probably looking and feeling attractive, and this fact isn't likely to be lost on your friend. Scatter some pillows, add some flowers, put out some cheese, fruit, and white wine, and be prepared for anything!

(Jan 21st - Feb 19th)



A social event or gathering that involves work could put you in touch with interesting people, including a potential love partner! Someone new on the scene could stir your blood like it hasn't been stirred in a long time. Whether or not you choose to pursue this attraction depends on your situation, but at least you will have some fun today.

(Feb 20th - Mar 20th)



A new or long-term romantic relationship could be advanced to the next level of commitment. The chemistry between you is strong and you're compatible on several levels. Today you will experience passion like never before! Some intense but honest and very positive discussion about the relationship's future is likely to take place, followed by an intimate encounter.

BEETLE BAILEY



SUDOKU

	4	1				7		
			1	8				
	8						3	6
				6	2			1
6			9	2				3
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				6	9			
		3				6	8	

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

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

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.



British police officers secure a cordon in a residential street in north-west London where firearms officers shot a woman

UK on terror alert

London British police warned yesterday they were facing an "increased level of terrorist activity", the day after a knifeman was arrested near parliament and a woman was shot in a separate police raid.

Just weeks after the attack on the Houses of Parliament that left five people dead and scores injured, London is once again on high alert as Britain prepares for a snap election on June 8.

"Yesterday was an extraordinary day in

London," Deputy Assistant Commissioner Neil Basu said, after confirming six arrests overnight.

"I wanted to reassure the public that this increased level of terrorist activity is being matched by our action... We are making arrests on a near daily basis."

A 27-year-old man remains in custody after being arrested near parliament on suspicion of terrorism offences and possession of knives, in what police confirmed had been an ongoing investigation.

Just hours later, armed police raided a property in north London as part of an unrelated counter-terrorism investigation, firing CS gas as they entered and shooting a woman in her 20s.

Six people have been arrested as part of the probe, while the woman -- who is also suspected of involvement -- remains in a serious but stable condition in hospital.

"Due to these arrests that have been made yesterday, in both cases I believe we have contained the threats they posed," Basu said. (AFP)

Human DNA uncovered in caves without bones

Washington International scientists have uncovered prehistoric human DNA from caves without bones, an advance that could shed new light on human history and evolution.

The study published in the journal *Science* is based on 85 samples from sediments dating to the Pleistocene, a period that extended from 550,000 years ago until 14,000 year before the modern era.

The samples came from eight caves in Belgium, Croatia, France, Russia and Spain.

These archeological sites are already well known to have been occupied by long-lost



An archeologist sampling sediment for genetic analysis of Neanderthals and Denisovans, as well as by a variety of animals that are now extinct. "This work represents an enormous scientific breakthrough," said Antonio Rosas, scientist at Spain's Natural Science Museum in Madrid.

#PollToday



Bahrain's traffic management system is getting smarter day-by-day, with the latest addition being smart cameras to detect yellow box violation. So, what do you think? Will it be effective?

Yes No Cant Say



"North Korea has to decide they're ready to talk to us about the right agenda -- and the right agenda is not simply stopping where they are for a few more months or a few more years and then resuming things."

Rex Tillerson
US Secretary of State

Rest in sight

Secret Cell Found in Philippines Police Station



A dozen people have been found stuffed inside a closet-sized cell hidden behind a book shelf in a Philippine police station.

Bangladesh Islamists blow themselves up

Four suspected Islamist fighters blew themselves up at a hideout in Bangladesh, ending a 24-hour standoff, police said yesterday.

Watchdog warns on global media freedom

Global press freedom has hit a 13-year low, threatened by US President Donald Trump's media bashing and restrictions pursued by both democratic and authoritarian governments.

British soldier who killed Afghan fighter freed

A British soldier jailed for killing an injured Taliban fighter in Afghanistan was freed yesterday after his sentence was reduced from murder to manslaughter, his lawyer said.

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Seoul rejects US demand to pay for missile system

Seoul Seoul yesterday brushed aside US President Donald Trump's suggestion it should pay for a \$1 billion missile defence system the two allies are installing in South Korea to guard against threats from the North.

The first parts of the Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) system have already been delivered to a former golf course in the South -- infuriating China -- at a time of heightened tensions over Pyongyang's nuclear and missile programmes.

Top US officials have said THAAD will be operational "within days".

"I informed South Korea it would be appropriate if they paid. It's a billion-dollar system," Trump was quoted as saying by the Reuters news agency. "It's phenomenal, shoots missiles right out of the sky."

Macedonia parliament violence injures 100



Police face protesters gathered outside Macedonia's parliament

Skopje Scores of people were injured as violence erupted in Macedonia's parliament after nationalist protesters stormed the building in anger over a vote for a new speaker, the interior ministry said yesterday.

The chaos in Skopje broke out on Thursday evening, with dozens of demonstrators -- including a group of masked men -- breaking a police cordon and entering parliament waving Macedonian flags, shouting and singing the national anthem.

Footage from the scene showed chairs being thrown as fistfights broke out in the parliamentary press room, while Zoran Zaev, leader of the opposition Social Democrats (SDSM), had blood running down his face and shirt.

One female SDSM deputy is seen yanked by the hair while other women climb down from a balcony in a bid to escape.

An interior ministry statement on said 102 people had been treated at city hospitals, including MPs and police officers.

Berlin terror cell nabbed after Italy arrests

Rome Italian police said yesterday they had helped their German counterparts neutralise a Berlin-based Islamist terror cell with links to Christmas market attack suspect Anis Amri.

The dismantling of the 11-strong group was completed at the end of January after nearly two months of investigations triggered by two of them being picked up at the Italian port of Ancona on December 4, 2016, according to the anti-terrorism wing of Italy's state police force.

Italian authorities believe Congolese national Lutumba Nkanga, 26, and Moroccan Soufiane Amri, 22, were planning to travel to Istanbul en route to joining Islamic State in Iraq or Syria.

Their departure was delayed by a Greek ferry strike and it was during the delay that they were subject to an identity check which revealed that Germany had banned Soufiane Amri from leaving the country.

There are aliens out there says Ridley Scott

PROMETHEUS



1
Release: 2012
Dir: Ridley Scott
Rotten Tomatoes: 72%
Global box office: \$403.4m
Set 30 years before events of original *Alien* movie, scientist **Elizabeth Shaw** (Noomi Rapace) discovers remains of archaeological star map on Earth. It points to same region of space first seen in *Alien*. She joins crew of "*Prometheus*", including synthetic human **David** (Michael Fassbender), and journeys to planet **LV-223**, in search of origins of humanity. Instead, she finds remains of ancient race who were developing biological weapons that could cause extinction of human race

ALIEN: COVENANT



2
Release: May 12, 2017 (UK)
Dir: Ridley Scott
Bound for remote planet on far side of galaxy, crew of colony ship "*Covenant*" find what they believe to be uncharted paradise. It soon reveals itself to be dark and dangerous world inhabited by synthetic **David**

New instalment



Alien movies chronology

Alien: Covenant, the sixth movie in the hugely successful *Alien* canon, sees original director Ridley Scott, take the series back to its horror film roots. Here's what's happened so far in the almost 40-year-old billion dollar franchise

Kane (John Hurt) becoming a little too familiar with alien eggs in *Alien* (1979)

SPOILER WARNING

ALIEN (original movie)



3
Release: 1979
Dir: Ridley Scott
Rotten Tomatoes: 97%
Global box office: \$104.9m
U.S. commercial starship "*Nostramo*" is diverted to desolate planetoid after receiving distress signal from derelict alien spacecraft. While exploring alien ship, crewman **Kane** (John Hurt) finds chamber full of eggs, one of which releases alien creature that attaches to his face, rendering him unconscious. Parasite soon dies and Kane awakens, seemingly fine. Soon afterwards, alien organism bursts from his chest and grows rapidly into terrifying 2.5m-tall creature that begins killing helpless crew one-by-one, until only **Ellen Ripley** (Sigourney Weaver) remains

ALIENS



4
Release: 1986
Dir: James Cameron
Rotten Tomatoes: 98%
Global box office: \$131.1m
After 57 years in hypersleep, sole survivor of *Nostramo*, Ripley, awakens aboard Earth space station. Her story of alien monster that killed her crew is disbelieved, until contact is lost with planetoid (from original movie, known as **LV-426**) now home to terraforming human colony. Ripley, against her better judgement, accompanies squad of Colonial Marines, including **Corporal Dwayne Hicks** (Michael Biehn), aboard spaceship "*Sulaco*" to investigate. Once there, they discover colonists have been wiped out after finding derelict alien ship and its deadly cargo of eggs

ALIEN³



5
Release: 1992
Dir: David Fincher
Rotten Tomatoes: 44%
Global box office: \$159.8m
Escape pod carrying survivors of *Sulaco* is jettisoned onto ore refinery/prison planet **Fiorina "Fury" 161**. Ripley and damaged synthetic **Bishop** (Lance Henriksen) are only survivors. Unknown to them, alien facehuggers are also aboard and before long, new alien-dog hybrid is killing inmates and guards

ALIEN: RESURRECTION



6
Release: 1997
Dir: Jean-Pierre Jeunet
Rotten Tomatoes: 54%
Global box office: \$161.4m
Set 200 years after events in *Alien³*, experimental military clone **Ripley 8** (her DNA mixed with that of alien) and band of mercenaries, including synthetic human **Annalee Call** (Winona Ryder), must escape and destroy ailing **USM Auriga** spaceship before its cargo of lethal aliens reaches Earth

Spin-offs (merging two popular sci-fi franchises)

Alien vs. Predator (AvP)
Release: 2004
Dir: Paul W. S. Anderson
Rotten Tomatoes: 21%
Global box office: \$172.5m
Industrialist **Charles Bishop Weyland** (Lance Henriksen) discovers ancient Antarctic arena – proving grounds for *Alien* and *Predator** monsters

AvP: Requiem
Release: 2007
Dir: The Brothers Strause
Rotten Tomatoes: 12%
Global box office: \$128.9m
Set immediately after *AvP*, **Predalien** hybrid crashes spaceship into small town in Colorado. Veteran *Predator* arrives to clean up hybrid alien infestation

Paris
"*Alien*" creator Ridley Scott says he's convinced that there are aliens out there -- and one day they could come for us.

The veteran director said on Thursday he believed in higher beings as he prepared to release the sixth episode of the sci-fi horror series, "*Alien: Covenant*", next month.

"I believe in superior beings. I think it is certainly likely. An expert I was talking to at NASA said to me, 'Have you ever looked in the sky at night? You mean to tell me we are it?' That's ridiculous.

"The experts have now put a number on it having assessed what is out there. They say that there are between 100 and 200 entities that could be having a similar evolution to us right now.

"So when you see a big thing in the sky, run for it," he joked.

"Because they are a lot smarter than we are, and if you are stupid enough to challenge them you will be taken out in three seconds."

"*Alien: Covenant*", the second of the prequel films, is set in 2104 on board a spaceship carrying 2,000 cryogenically frozen colonists to a distant planet when they chance upon an uncharted paradise.

But their voyage soon turns into a gory nightmare that makes "*Alien*"'s original "chestbuster" scene seem tame in comparison.

'Hideous beyond belief'

The "neomorph" aliens in the new film are based on the goblin shark "which has a jaw which hinges in two ways. It's scary, hideous beyond belief actually," Scott said.

The 79-year-old British-born director -- who was also the brains behind "*Blade Runner*" -- said he never tired of scaring people out of their skins.

"When I did the first '*Alien*' I had to get a sense of responsibility because the reaction to the kitchen ("chestbuster") scene with John Hurt was beyond anything I expected -- and it was not good," he said.

"But the film was very successful because people are perverse."

He said he could not believe the terror he had created when he went to see people watching the film.

"Everybody was half underneath the seat watching by the time you get to the kitchen scene. There was a woman underneath the seat with her husband holding her. I said this is not healthy."

Scott, however, claimed that he was unshockable.

"Nothing scares me. I have a 9mm (pistol)," he said.

"If there is a problem I tend to close down into calm. When you walk in in the morning on a film and 600 people turn and all look at you, that is scary," he said.

"*Alien: Covenant*" has a religious subtext, the director insisted.

He said he was "agnostic", but this did not stop him making a film about Moses, "*Exodus: Gods and Kings*", in 2014.

"Either religion is the greatest trick played on mankind. Or it is not, and that poses some great questions, and this film is a great context for those," he said.

The film sees Irish actor Michael Fassbender return to his role as the cerebral android David which he played in the last prequel "*Prometheus*" in 2012.

But this time with a twist. Scott uses him to pose questions about the nature of humans.

"There is an artist in there somewhere," Fassbender said in an earlier interview.

"There's definitely an ego in there... So again these are very human things."

"We all want to leave something behind after we go. There's a legacy of some sort that we've left behind," he added.

Scott, who was knighted in 2003, is about to make a film about the Battle of Britain during World War II, when the Royal Air Force fought off the German Luftwaffe. (AFP)



Ridley Scott

*1987 sci-fi movie set in Central American jungle, follows band of soldiers (led by Arnold Schwarzenegger) who fight to survive being hunted by alien predator
Sources: Alien Vault (Aurum Press), Empire magazine, IMDB, Box Office Mojo, Rotten Tomatoes Pictures: © Twentieth Century Fox © GRAPHIC NEWS

Physical literacy seminar

Manama
A seminar on children physical literacy will take place today 10am at the Education Ministry's hall in Isa Town.

It is organised by the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports under the patronage of Supreme Council general secretary and Bahrain Olympic Committee vice-president Shaikh Salman bin Ebrahim Al Khalifa.

Canadian professor and long-term planning expert Istvan Balyi will be conducting the seminar, which is an attempt to develop the physical abilities of children in their first stages of education, hence boosting their basic athletic skills.

Professor Balyi has worked with 17 national Canadian teams as an expert consultant for high athletic performance in key sports, such as athletics, ice skating, free skating, water skating, football, water polo, basketball, kayak boats and short-distance speed skating.

As one of the architects of the Long-Term Athlete Development (LTAD) model, he has served as an advisor for 50 sports in 7 countries and facilitated the use of LTAD for more than 20 countries and worked with 17 Canadian national teams as a high-performance consultant and been responsible for athletic development planning and periodisation for multiple Olympic medalists.

Thiago to stay in Bayern

Berlin
Bayern Munich announced they have extended the contract of Spanish playmaker Thiago Alcantara until 2021.

A day after Bayern took out the buy option to sign France winger Kingsley Coman from Juventus after a loan spell, Thiago has also added two years to his Bayern contract.

The 26-year-old Thiago signed in 2013 when Bayern's ex-coach Pep Guardiola insisted he was the player he wanted brought from Barcelona.

The attacking midfielder has been outstanding this season as a key element of Bayern's star-studded attack and has made 20 appearances for Spain since 2011.

Mixed success for Chak de India in softball cricket

Manama
Chak de India defeated Tisca by six wickets in the latest Group D matches of The Indian Club Indian Expatriates Seven-a-Side Softball Cricket Tournament 2017 at its premises in Gudaibiya.

Batting first, Tisca were bowled out for 22 in six overs and then Chak de India reached the target in 2.4 overs after scoring 25 without loss.

In a second match, Chak de

India lost by 10 runs to Telli Kings as the later finished on 39 for four in six overs and then restricted the former to 29 for four in six overs.

In another match, Supernet Cargo were dismissed for 51 in 5.5 overs as they defeated RIB by 16 runs after they struggled to 35 for three in 6 overs.

Matches take a break until next Tuesday as the club hosts various Labour Day celebrations.

DHL's Annual Memorial Trophy Rugby Match

Manama
DHL Barbarians will be vying for the trophy when they take on Bahrain Select during DHL's annual memorial rugby match. Currently in its eighth year, it pays tribute to the DHL colleagues who sadly lost their lives whilst working in Kabul, Afghanistan in 2008.

To honour their memory, members of DHL's rugby team from across the world have been flying into Bahrain every year since 2009, to take part in the match and help raise funds in support of local charities.

All donations generated

during the 2017 event will be distributed to the RIA School for Autistic Children, the BSPCA, the Bahrain Red Crescent Society, The Christian Cemetery in Salmabad and Bahrain's very own Dog Father who runs a rescue shelter for animals.

The match will kick off on 4 May at the Bahrain Rugby Club in Saar at 6:45pm. This year, the event will also feature a DHL-sponsored Junior Memorial match for the under-8s and under-14s which will run from 5-6pm on the same day and act as the curtain raiser to the main game.



In pictures, highlights from the relay



Manama

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, affirmed increasing organisation of triathlon races in Bahrain offers a greater opportunity to discover talents in this sport and provides youth with the opportunity of developing their abilities and capabilities.

These remarks came on the sidelines of Shaikh Khalid's participation in the Bahrain Triathlon relay, which was held for the first time in the Kingdom, featuring more than 300 contestants, who were divided

into teams of three members; each one had to compete in a 375 metre swim, 10km cycling and a 2.5km run.

Shaikh Nasser said that the increase in the number of triathlon races held in the Kingdom gives clear indications of the extent of the spread of this difficult sport among the Bahraini society.

"This is positive and calls us for more efforts to increase youth participation and developing plans in line with the vision and strategy of the Bahrain Olympic Committee," explained Shaikh Nasser, who praised the broad participation in the relay race by both Bahrainis and expatriates here and neighbouring countries and increasing sports tourism.



News Breaker rides to win

DT News Network
Manama

The pre-race favourite News Breaker owned by Al Nasseriyeh, trained by Allan Smith and ridden by Brett Doyle won the sixth and richest race for the Owners Cup for locally bred three years and upwards over 2,000 metres and worth BD6,000 on the 25th and concluding meeting of the season yesterday at the Rashid Equestrian and Horse Racing Club in Sakhir.

Coming in second place a length behind was the second favourite Knight and Day, also owned by Al Nasseriyeh, trained also by Allan Smith and ridden by Ahmed Makki, with third place a further half length behind was Call A Friend owned by Al Mallah Syndicate, trained by Ramzi Al Baqlawi and ridden by Saleem Ghuloom.

A further half length behind in fourth place was the third favourite Snake Eagle owned by Al Nasseriyah, trained by Allan Smith and ridden by Abdul Rahim Jassim.

Other results (jockey/horse):
Race 1: Shaikh Hamad bin



Action from the race
Abdulla bin Isa Al Khalifa Cup for locally bred handicap (0-70) 3 years and upwards. 2,000m Straight BD2,000.

- 1) Caped Crusader/Abdul Rahim Jassim,
- 2) Filfila/Ali Hassan,
- 3) Stevie G/Ali Samir,
- 4) Ghafiya/Andrew Elliott.

Race 2: Shaikh Mohammed bin Abdulla bin Isa Al Khalifa Cup for imported Mares and Fillies 3 years and upwards. 2,000m BD2,000.

- 1) Sahara/Andrew Elliott,
- 2) Fei Kuai/Saleem

- Ghuloom,
- 3) Izmir/Alberto Sanna,
- 4) Who's That Chick/Abdulla Faisal.

Race 3: Al Rouda Cup for Arabian WAHO class 3 years and upwards. 1,800m BD2,500.

- 1) Al Saqlawy 1578/Hussain Al Saffar,
- 2) Obeyan 1620/Alberto Sanna,
- 3) Krayaan 1646/Brett Doyle,
- 4) Al Jellaby 1434/Hussain Makki.

Race 4: Shaikh Isa bin

Abdulla bin Isa Al Khalifa Cup for imported handicap (0-90) 3 years and upwards. 1,600m BD2,000.

- 1) Punk/Abdulla Faisal,
- 2) Prometheus/Hassan Al Saffar,
- 3) Tom Hark/J.P.Guillambert,
- 4) Emerald/Ahmed Makki.

Race 5: Zaid bin Theeb Kobra Group Industry and Trade Cup for imported 3 years and upwards. 1,200m BD3,000.

- 1) Curtain Call/Abdul Rahim Jassim,
- 2) Celtic Man/Brett Doyle,
- 3) Northern Thunder/Alberto Sanna,
- 4) Sir Mike/Hussain Al Saffar.

Race 7: Shaikh Abdulla bin Isa Al Khalifa Cup (Chairman Committee of Rashid Equestrian and Horse Racing Club) Cup for imported 3 years and upwards. 2,400m BD3,000.

- 1) Pressure Point/Brett Doyle,
- 2) Shogun/Andrew Elliott,
- 3) Wakame/Hassan Al Saffar,
- 4) Vale De Sol/Hussain Makki.

Kuwait beat Bahrain by 128 runs

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Bahrain were defeated by 128 runs against Kuwait in its fourth match and the fifth round of round-robin matches yesterday in the International Cricket Council (ICC) 2017 World Cricket League (WCL) Asia Region Division One in Chiang Mai, Thailand.

Battling first, Kuwait were dismissed for 228 in 44.5 overs with the main scorers being Ali Zaheer (78 off 72 deliveries, 6x4, 4x6), opener Mohammed Asghar (37 off 24, 3x4, 3x6) and man of the match Mohammed Amin (34 off 33, 3x4, 1x6).

Highlights of the Kuwaiti innings were the 56-run sixth wicket partnership between Ali Zaheer and Imran Ali (13 off 25) which boosted the total from 162 for five to 218 for six in the 41st overs, while opener and man of the match Mohammed Asghar and Usman Waheed (17 off

48, 2x4) earlier put on 50 runs for the second wicket.

Bahrain's wickets were taken by Babar Ali (three for 38) in 10 overs, Tahir Dar (two for 30) in 10, Mohammed Iqbal Noor (two for 37) in 9.5, Janaka Chaturanga (one for 35) in 8 and Jabbar Amjad (one for 42) in 4.

In reply, Bahrain were dismissed for a disappointing 100 in 33.1 overs as they never really got started in pursuit of the challenging total, with the top scorer being Mohammed Sameer (47 off 66, 5x4, 2x6), with the only other double figure scores coming from Gamini Arachchige (15 off 47, 1x4) and Janaka Chaturanga (10 off 3, 1x4, 1x6).

The only significant partnership was the third wicket worth 45 runs by Mohammed Sameer and Janaka Chaturanga as they moved the score along from 14 for two to 59 for three after 17.3 overs.

Kuwait's wickets were claimed by Mohammed Asghar (four for 13) in 8, Haroon Shahid (three for 25) in 10, Sajid Manzil (two for 15) in 4 and Bastaki Fahad (one for none) off one delivery.

Bahrain prepared for this championship with five friendly matches in Sri Lanka, winning three and losing two, getting acclimatised and getting used to turf wickets.

Under head coach Rexie Arunvasagam and manager Syed Rizwan Shah, the squad comprises the captain, Azeem Ul Haq, Tahir Dar, Babar Ali, Junaid Aziz, Gamini Arachchige, Imran Ali Butt, Janaka Chaturanga, Mohammed Rafeh, Aamar Shahzad, Mohammed Sameer, Mohammed Iqbal, Awad Khan, Bilal Mansoor and Jabbar Amjad.

Other scores:

- 1) Qatar 339 all out in 48.5 overs (Zaheer Ibrahim 80,

Dharmang Patel 76, Kamran Khan 69; Feng Yu 6/77, Zhang Yu Fei 2/54) bt China 74 all out in 30.5 overs (Zhuang Yu Fei 19, Ge Yongsheng 16) by 265 runs. Man of the Match: Feng Yu.

- 2) Saudi Arabia 98/4 in 17.4 overs (Ibrarul Haq 34no, Inayat Saeed 25; Damber Gurung 2/35, Suprit Pradhan 2/51) bt Bhutan 97 in 26.4 overs (Tenzin Wangchuk 21, Kumar Subba 17; Shaoib Ali 5/17, Hammad Saeed 2/18) by 6 wickets. Man of the Match: Shaoib Ali.

- 3) Standings (after five rounds): (played-won-lost-points): Saudi Arabia (4-4-0-8), Qatar (5-4-1-8), Kuwait (4-2-2-4), Thailand (4-2-2-4), Bahrain (4-2-2-4), Bhutan (4-1-3-2), China (5-0-5-0).

Today's schedule:

- 1) Bhutan vs Kuwait,
 - 2) China vs Bahrain,
 - 3) Thailand vs Saudi Arabia.
- Bye: Qatar.

Football

Scores as of closing

Italian Serie A:



Atalanta 1 Juventus 1

German Bundesliga:



Bayer Leverkusen 1 Schalke 04 4

Spanish La Liga:



Villarreal 3 Sporting Gijon 1

French Ligue 1:



Angers 1 Lyon 2

English Championship:



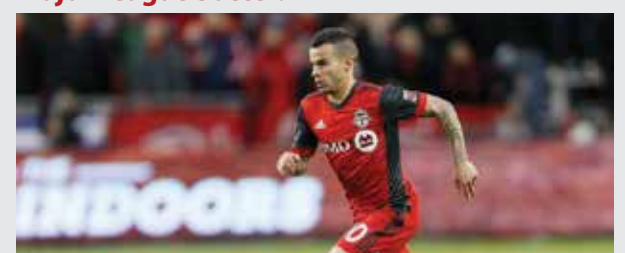
Cardiff 0 Newcastle 2

Scottish Premiership:



Ross County 3 Inverness 0

Major League Soccer:



Toronto FC v Houston

Froome helps Viviani to win

Payerne

Italian sprinter Elia Viviani missed the cut for Sky's Giro d'Italia lineup yesterday but bounced back by winning stage three of the Tour of Romandie in Switzerland.

As the poor weather of recent days cleared Viviani was helped out in his win in the 187km run around Payerne by Sky leader and three time Tour de France winner Chris Froome, who led out the sprint team and is favourite to emerge as overall winner come Sunday.

After he snatched the overall lead in the prologue on Tuesday another Italian, Fabio Felline, maintained that lead again Friday ahead of Germany's Maximilian Schachmann and Spain's Jesus Herrada.

Saturday's race features four challenging mountain climbs and a summit finish but the final stage is an all-decisive go-for-bust individual time trial around Lausanne and Lake Geneva.

Murray, Nadal enter semi-finals

Barcelona

Andy Murray saved match point in gaining revenge on Spain's Albert Ramos-Vinolas and nine-time champion Rafael Nadal cruised into the semi-finals of the Barcelona Open yesterday.

Ramos-Vinolas beat the world number one on Murray's return from an elbow injury in the third round of the Monte Carlo Masters last week.

He threatened to repeat that upset when he served for the match in the third set, but Murray battled back to edge out the world number 19 by 2-6, 6-4, 7-6 (7/4) after three hours on court.

"It was obviously a very tough match," said Murray, who got his wish for match practice ahead of next month's French Open after taking a late wildcard to enter the draw in the Catalan capital. Ramos-Vinolas had the chance to serve it out when he broke for 5-4, but nerves seemed to get the better of him as three errors handed Murray the break back.

Murray raced out to a 4-0 lead in the tiebreak and saw it out as Ramos-Vinolas's efforts over the past two weeks finally began to take their toll. The Wimbledon champion faces Dominic Thiem in Saturday's semis after the Austrian ended Japanese lucky loser Yuichi Sugita's unlikely run to the quarters 6-1, 6-2.

Nadal also enjoyed a comfortable afternoon as his quest for a 10th Barcelona title continued unhindered with a 7-6 (7/1), 6-2 win over Korean qualifier Hyeon Chung.

Sharapova into semis

Stuttgart

Maria Sharapova eased into the semi-finals of Stuttgart's WTA tournament after seeing off qualifier Anett Kontaveit on Friday for her third-straight win on her comeback after a 15-month doping ban.

The 30-year-old five-time Grand Slam winner has yet to drop a set in Stuttgart and powered past Estonia's Kontaveit, ranked 73rd, for a 6-3, 6-4 quarter-final win in one hour, 23 minutes.

This was another impressive display from the Russian, who hit four aces, 28 winners and just two double faults, while she converted five of her six break points.

"I served quite well and held my serve which gave me confidence, so I'm happy," said Sharapova.

"We haven't played each other before, so the first six games were just about working each other out.

"I kept myself in good shape, because once you lose it, it's hard to get it back," she added when asked about her fitness on court after 15 months out.

In Saturday's semi-final, the former world number one will face France's Kristina Mladenovic, ranked 19th in the world, who beat Spain's Carla Suarez Navarro 6-3, 6-2.

"She is showing great

form at the moment, it's a semi-final, so I expect a really tough match," said Mladenovic on Sharapova.

The Russian only made the main draw for Stuttgart after being given a wild card as her ranking was wiped out after testing positive for meldonium at the 2016 Australian Open. Mladenovic was one of the players who criticised the decision to give Sharapova wild cards in Stuttgart, Madrid and Rome.

But Sharapova gave a terse answer when asked if her

opponent's comments would motivate her to reach Sunday's final: "not at all".

She has been in commanding form as she waits to learn on May 16 whether she will be granted a wild card for the main draw of next month's French Open. However, if she wins Sunday's final, Sharapova will rank approximately 125th in the world -- high enough to at least allow her a qualifying place at both Roland Garros and Wimbledon. (AFP)

Results from 187km third stage:

1. Elia Viviani (ITA, Sky) 4hr 27min 42sec,
2. Sonny Colbrelli (ITA, Bahrain) same time,
3. Michael Schwarzmann (GER, Bora) s.t.,
4. Alexander Edmondson (AUS, Orica) s.t.,
5. Samuel Dumoulin (FRA, AG2R) s.t.,
6. Youcel Reguigui (ALG, Dimension) s.t.,
7. Max Richeze (ARG, Quick-Step) s.t.,
8. Moreno Hofland (NED, Lotto-Soudal) s.t.,
9. Viacheslav Kuznetsov (RUS, Katusha) s.t.,
10. Juan Jose Lobato (ESP, Lotto-NL) s.t.

Overall standings

1. Fabio Felline (ITA, Trek), 12hr 40min 24sec,
2. Maximilian Schachmann (GER, Quick-Step) at 8sec,
3. Jesus Herrada (ESP, Movistar) s.t.,
4. Primoz Roglic (SLO, Lotto-NL) 0:09,
5. Ion Izagirre (ESP, Bahrain) 0:12,
6. Bob Jungels (LUX, Quick-Step) s.t.,
7. Jose Goncalves (POR, Katusha) 0:13,
8. Ruben Fernandez (ESP, Movistar) s.t.,
9. Michael Albasini (SUI, Orica) 0:14,
10. Jonathan Castroviejo (ESP, Movistar) s.t.

Selected others

36. Chris Froome (GBR, Sky) 0:29,
46. Richie Porte (AUS, BMC) 0:33,
49. Tejay Van Garderen (USA, BMC) 0:34



Ferrari finds the winning



1. Sebastian Vettel (GER/Ferrari)
2. Kimi Räikkönen (FIN/Ferrari)
3. Valtteri Bottas (FIN/Mercedes)
4. Lewis Hamilton (GBR/Mercedes)
5. Max Verstappen (NED/Red Bull-TAG Heuer)
6. Daniel Ricciardo (AUS/Red Bull-TAG Heuer)
7. Felipe Massa (BRA/Williams-Mercedes)
8. Nico Hülkenberg (GER/Renault)
9. Kevin Magnussen (DEN/Haas-Ferrari)
10. Sergio Pérez (MEX/Force India-Mercedes)
11. Esteban Ocon (FRA/Force India-Mercedes)
12. Fernando Alonso (ESP/McLaren-Honda)
13. Jolyon Palmer (GBR/Renault)
14. Romain Grosjean (FRA/Haas-Ferrari)
15. Carlos Sainz Jr (ESP/Toro Rosso-Renault)
16. Stoffel Vandoorne (BEL/McLaren-Honda)
17. Daniil Kvyat (RUS/Toro Rosso-Renault)
18. Pascal Wehrlein (GER/Sauber-Ferrari)
19. Lance Stroll (CAN/Williams-Mercedes)
20. Marcus Ericsson (SWE/Sauber-Ferrari)

(average: 223.680 km/h)

Rank	Driver	Time	Laps
1	Sebastian Vettel	1:34.120	36
2	Kimi Räikkönen	1:34.383	36
3	Valtteri Bottas	1:34.790	36
4	Lewis Hamilton	1:34.829	34
5	Max Verstappen	1:35.540	15
6	Daniel Ricciardo	1:35.910	26
7	Felipe Massa	1:36.261	39
8	Nico Hülkenberg	1:36.329	38
9	Kevin Magnussen	1:36.506	31
10	Sergio Pérez	1:36.600	38
11	Esteban Ocon	1:36.654	39
12	Fernando Alonso	1:36.765	27
13	Jolyon Palmer	1:36.771	22
14	Romain Grosjean	1:37.039	31
15	Carlos Sainz Jr	1:37.083	36
16	Stoffel Vandoorne	1:37.125	25
17	Daniil Kvyat	1:37.300	35
18	Pascal Wehrlein	1:37.441	30
19	Lance Stroll	1:37.747	36
20	Marcus Ericsson	1:37.819	29

Practices times

Sochi

Championship leader Sebastian Vettel topped the times for Ferrari ahead of his team-mate Kimi Räikkönen in Friday's second free practice for this weekend's Russian Grand Prix.

The four-time champion German and the Finn, who was fastest in the morning, made a bold statement of intent in a session that proved they are ready to end Mercedes' three-year domination.

Vettel clocked a best lap in one minute and 34.120 seconds to lead the way by two-tenths of a second with Finn Valtteri Bottas third ahead of his struggling Mercedes team-mate Briton Lewis Hamilton.

Three-time champion Hamilton, who is second in the title race seven points adrift of Vettel, has won twice at the Sochi Autodrom where Mercedes have led every lap and won every race since the event began in 2014.

Dutch teenager Max Verstappen was fifth, despite stopping on circuit following a loss of power, ahead of his Red Bull team-mate Australian Daniel Ricciardo.

Brazilian Felipe Massa, showing some of his best form

again this season after taking a u-turn on retirement, was seventh for Williams ahead of German Nico Hulkenberg of Renault, Dane Kevin Magnussen of Haas and Mexican Sergio Perez of Force India.

The session left champions Mercedes scratching their heads as Ferrari proved they are capable of easy supremacy on a track where no other team has ever enjoyed success.

Mercedes have won all of the three previous races held at the Sochi Autodrom and led every lap, and Vettel said he

felt Mercedes had been "sand-bagging" -- deliberately holding back to lure Ferrari into a false sense of superiority.



Formula

