

Olivia Newton-John diagnosed with cancer

Olivia Newton-John, the Australian singer who found worldwide fame in the hit movie “Grease”, has revealed she has been diagnosed with cancer for the third time.

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THE DAILY tribune

Anderson seals England’s fifth Test win over India

20 SPORTS



WORLD 12 Russia begins biggest ever military games

Iran reiterates nuke weapon threat

Tehran

Iran increased its threat to regional security on Tuesday by boasting that its nuclear program was more advanced than ever.

Ali Akbar Salehi, head of the Atomic Energy Organization and vice president to Hassan Rouhani, said that if US President Donald Trump succeeded in dismantling the 2015 deal to curb the program, Tehran would resume uranium enrichment with more sophisticated equipment.

“If we have to go back and withdraw from the nuclear deal, we certainly do not go back to where we were before,” he said. “We will be standing on a much, much higher position.”

Iran stores centrifuges to enrich uranium at its underground Natanz facility, under surveillance by the UN nuclear watchdog, the International Atomic Energy Agency. Salehi said it would build a new facility at Natanz that will produce more advanced centrifuges.

US warns Iran over attacks

Washington

The US warned Iran on Tuesday it will “respond swiftly and decisively” to any attacks by Tehran’s allies in Iraq that result in injury to Americans or damage to US facilities.

The statement by the White House press secretary accused Iran of not preventing attacks in recent days on the US Consulate in Basra and the American Embassy compound in Baghdad.

Strong US relations stressed



His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa yesterday received retired US General Anthony Zinni and Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Arabian Gulf Affairs in the Near East Bureau at the US Department of State Tim Lenderking at Sakhir Palace, in the presence of His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Prime Minister. HM the King welcomed the two US officials and reviewed with them deep-rooted historic relations binding the two countries and means of further strengthening joint ties, hailing steadily-growing cooperation in all fields.

Bahrain honoured

The visit by Nobel Peace Prize winners will remain engraved in memory, says HRH the Premier

● HRH the Premier said that the current challenges unfolding in many regions necessitate more international concerted action to create the required conditions for peace.

● The Premier expressed thanks to the members of the delegation for their press statements in which they hailed Bahrain’s development strides.

Manama

His Royal Highness Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa yesterday hailed the visit of the heads of states and Nobel Peace Prize laureates to the Kingdom.

HRH the Premier described the landmark visit as being historic and memorable, bringing together on the land of peace, three heads of states and peace laureates, whose achievements are recognized all over the world.

The Premier expressed deepest thanks and appreciation to the heads of states and organi-

sations, recipients of the Nobel Prize, for accepting the invitation to visit the Kingdom, hailing their strenuous efforts to promote and bolster peace all over the world.

“This landmark visit will remain engraved in the memory for its high significance and crucial timing,” he said, describing the visit of the ‘Men of Peace’ as an international recognition of Bahrain’s role in advocating global peace.

HRH the Premier delivered the keynote address as he hosted a dinner banquet at the Ritz Carlton in honour of the heads of states and organisations as well as recipients of the Nobel Peace Prize.

The delegation comprised former President of South Africa Frederick William de Klerk, for-

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This landmark visit will remain engraved in the memory for its high significance and crucial timing.

HRH THE PREMIER

mer President of Poland Lech Walesa, former President of East Timor Jose Ramos-Horta and Under-Secretary-General and former Executive Director of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme Anna Tibajuka, and Nobel Peace Prize Laureate for 2014 Kailash Satyarthi.

HRH the Premier said that the current challenges unfolding in many regions necessitate more

international concerted action to create the required conditions for peace which will bolster the strenuous efforts exerted by countries and societies to achieve sustainable development and build a more prosperous future.

The Premier expressed thanks to the members of the delegation for their press statements in which they hailed Bahrain’s development strides. He reiterated Bahrain’s keenness on pursuing this cooperation for the sake of peace, security and peace in the world, which emanates from its firm belief in noble message of peace, the cornerstone of countries’ security, stability and development.

Former Executive Director of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT) Anna Tibajuka addressed

the event, congratulating His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, HRH the Premier and His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa the Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Prime Minister on Bahrain’s development strides and success in overcoming all challenges.

She paid tribute to HRH the Premier for his dedicated efforts which enabled the Kingdom of Bahrain to make landmark development strides, hailing the Kingdom’s cooperation in various fields, particularly its support to Human Habitat projects.

“The Kingdom of Bahrain is at the forefront, spearheading future-oriented development projects which changed the Kingdom into a civilized and advanced country”, she said.



HRH the Premier with the delegation of Nobel Peace Prize winners.



03 ‘I’m a proud Bahraini Jew’

04 Call for games watchdog to make children risk free

05 No efforts ongoing to employ persons suffering from autism



PEACE CORNER

Afghan cafe puts freedom back on the menu

Helmand

Afghanistan’s Helmand province, long notorious for its security challenges, is one of the most dangerous places for foreign forces operating in the country.

The area is also known for its opium trade and has a reputation as a Taliban stronghold. Even today, residents live in a state of perpetual fear since the extremist forces have yet to be fully defeated.

Nevertheless, there is an urge among Helmand’s youth to live and enjoy life. In a socially conservative culture that has left people starved for entertainment, many have discovered the magic of Ayenak Restaurant and Cafe in Nawa district.

The cafe and restaurant were designed for young people who want to forget war, relax and enjoy their evenings



For young people in Helmand who want to relax and enjoy their evenings and get a respite from the pressures of war, Ayenak Restaurant and Cafe is the place to go.

at a venue surrounded by a beautiful landscape with the added option of swimming in the river or visiting gardens laden with fruit.

The breathtaking beauty of the place draws visitors from across Helmand and Kandahar. Most come with friends to unwind. The restaurant also offers guests Afghan food, tea, coffee, juices and shisha.

“Our cafe can accommodate about 400 guests at one time. It has a huge yard, cabins and places for people to sit outside,” said Abdul Shakur Alham, the 26-year-old owner of the outlet.

However, Ayenak cafe is not only a tourist attraction but also a symbol of defiance. While many outlets in the main cities offer flavored tobacco and shisha openly, this is the only shop providing the service in an insecure, Taliban-dominated area.

Kingdom’s urban boom lauded

The delegation of Nobel Peace Prize winners tours heritage sites, Khalifa Town; hails Kingdom’s achievements

Manama

A delegation of former Presidents and Heads of organisations who won the Nobel Peace Prize, currently on a visit to the kingdom, yesterday paid visits to a number of heritage sites, landmarks and vital development projects in the kingdom.

Cabinet Affairs Minister, Mohammed Al Mutawa, and Shaikh Hussam bin Isa Al Khalifa accompanied the delegation during the tour.

Members of the delegation toured the “Khalifa Town” housing project in the Southern Governorate, and were informed about its facilities, modern services and construction design combining Bahraini heritage and modern architectural styles.

They were also briefed about the project’s importance in supporting the kingdom’s policies and the government’s plans to meet the citizens’ housing needs.

They voiced admiration for the “Khalifa Town”, noting that the tour provided them with an opportunity to be informed closely about the tremendous efforts being exerted by the Kingdom of Bahrain to achieve a housing and urban boom, com-



Ms Al Hammadi briefs the delegation on Gravity Indoor Skydiving facility.

mensurate with the advanced status the country enjoys at the international level in the field of human development.

They stressed that the government, under the leadership of His Royal Highness Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa, has achieved many success stories in the field of sustainable development which earned the admiration and appreciation of international organisations.

They added that the civilisational, urban and housing boom currently witnessed by the kingdom is a living proof of its landmark achievements in various fields.

Members of the delegation then visited the “Gravity Indoor Skydiving” building in Zallaq, and were informed by its Gen-

eral Manager, Khawla Al Hammadi, about the Gravity Village’s outstanding facilities and services.

They were also briefed about the kingdom’s ongoing preparations to host the 3rd FAI World Cup of Indoor Skydiving 2018.

They expressed admiration for “Gravity” which includes the longest glass tunnel for indoor skydiving in the world, which, they said, is a distinguished monument that reflects Bahrain’s progress in various fields.

They lauded the kingdom’s provision of opportunities that boost the youth and sports movement, and support innovative projects that enhance the Bahraini economy’s competitive potentials, giving the importance of such projects in boosting the kingdom’s status

on the sports and tourism map at the regional and global levels.

They asserted that the outstanding level of the “Gravity” village and its advanced services will contribute significantly to the kingdom’s success in hosting the 3rd FAI World Cup of Indoor Skydiving 2018, which, they said, will re-affirm the kingdom’s ability to host mega international events thanks to its world-class sports facilities.

The high-level delegation visited the site of Qal’at al-Bahrain (Bahrain Fort) in the Seef region, which is a major heritage site that bears witness to Bahrain’s modern history.

Members of the high-profile delegation also visited the “Tree of Life”, which is one of the main tourist destinations in the kingdom.



The delegation during their visit to Southern Town.



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big story

‘I’m a proud Bahraini Jew’

Retracing the past glory of Bahraini Jews, who were once an integral part of the local society

● Manama was one of the most sought-after places for the members of the Jewish community in the region, which contributed to the creation of intellectual and cultural affinity between the Islamic and Jewish religions.

● While Jewish men worked in the various industries sectors of the Kingdom including shipping, Jewish women were mainly employed as teachers and nurses here.

TDI | Manama
Sarain Al Mahadeen



A file picture showing Salman Sweiry, a prominent Bahraini businessman and member of the Jewish community with Royal Family members.



A file picture shows Salman Sweiry greeting His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa.

The Jewish community, which once flourished in the Kingdom bears testimony to the greatness of the land of tolerance.

Two centuries ago, Jews were an integral part of the Bahraini society contributing immensely towards its economy, trade and banking sector.

Out of 500 Bahraini Jews, only 37 now live in the Kingdom, but the community has a significant presence in the social scene.

Houda Nonoo, a prominent member of the community was the former Kingdom's envoy to the US, while Nancy Khedouri, another Bahraini Jew is a member of the Shura Council.

Speaking to Tribune, Moses Sweiry, a Bahraini Jew now residing in the UK, said the Kingdom has always remained a land of religious coexistence and tolerance.

“My father was a well-known businessman in the Kingdom. We migrated to the UK after his health worsened. I was the only Jew at school but never suffered any discrimination at the hands of my friends or classmates.

“Everyone in the Kingdom I know accepted our religion and we were very much part of the

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As a Bahraini Jew, I am proud of my identity and feel fortunate to have my freedom of worship and my ability to preserve my tradition here.
MS KHEDOURI

Bahraini society. I continue to visit the Kingdom as I have a large number of friends there.”

Sweiry family is one of the Bahraini Jewish families which migrated to the West before the emergence of the Zionist state in Palestine.

Dr Youssef Al Mutairi, author of

37

Bahraini Jews live in the Kingdom, as of today.

“The Jews in the Gulf” asserts that there were no Jews in the region after the First World War, except in Bahrain.

Manama was one of the most sought-after places for the members of the Jewish community in the region, which contributed to the creation of intellectual and cultural affinity between the Islamic and Jewish religions.

“There is a common cultural and linguistic background, and that is why the Jews did not live in their own neighbourhoods. The American Mission schools in the Gulf, i.e. the missionary centers, accepted students from all religions, thus contributing to the integration of Jews into the Gulf society,” Dr Youssef had observed.

Ms Khedouri, a member of the Shura Council, stressed that the Jewish community is very well integrated into the Bahraini society.

“Throughout my life in Bahrain, I have never had any bad situations. On the contrary, I have grown up and dealt with my Bahraini friends from all religions. We still have friendly relations. We join together in joys and sorrows, and I thank God for this blessing.

“As a Bahraini Jew, I am proud of my identity and feel fortunate to have freedom of worship and my ability to preserve my tradition and culture amid Bahrain's religious diversity. Despite religious differences, we stand united in the name of Bahrain.”

These days not many Bahrainis know about the presence of

”
I was the only Jew at school but never suffered any discrimination at the hands of my friends or classmates in the name of religion.
MR MOSES



A document showing the ownership over the Kingdom's Jewish Synagogue.

Jews in the Kingdom. But decades before, this was not the case.

Bahraini Bahja Al Haddad recalled her Jewish friend Umm Ashour who once lived in her neighbourhood. “Umm was like

our relative. She shared with us our Shi'ite festivals and traditions including ma'atam. Jewish women were good in stitching garments and we used to buy garments from them in return for

money, eggs or spices.”

While Jewish men worked in the various industries sectors of the Kingdom including shipping, Jewish women were mainly employed as teachers and nurses here.

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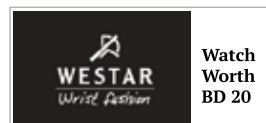
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Bahrain through the lens

The Philippines Embassy in cooperation with the Bahrain Financial Harbour, hosted a VIP Gala Night as part of the 'Bahrain Through Our Eyes Exhibit'. The event was held under the patronage of Shaikh Rashid bin Khalifa Al Khalifa at the Harbour Gate West Tower of the Bahrain Financial Harbour. Shaikh Rashid, Philippine Ambassador Alfonso A Ver, members of the diplomatic corps and the business community, as well as leaders and members of the Filipino community attended. The exhibit features various art works showcasing Bahrain, as seen through the lens of Filipino artists. The art works include paintings using oil, acrylic, water-based paint, charcoal and mixed media, as well as photography. The exhibit, which is part of the activities celebrating the 40th anniversary of bilateral relations between the Philippines and the Kingdom, will end today.



Call for games watchdog to make children risk free

The existing standards of regulations don't comply with Arab culture, says expert

● Mr AlTajer said that he had initiated a project which he volunteered to create gaming standards for the Middle East, but the project got side-tracked in less than a year.

TDT | Manama
Mohammed Zafran

To help parents decide if games are appropriate for their children, Bahrain should dedicate an organisation



A few games like the 'Momo Challenge' even led to many children committing suicides.

dedicated to rating video games with Bahraini culture in mind, an expert opined.

Video games ratings tailored to Bahraini and Arab culture would immensely help parents decide what games they can allow their children to play, according to Founder of Bahrain Game Developers and Managing Director of INFINITEWARE Ameen AlTajer.

The gaming expert who has been a prominent figure in game development and gaming community in Bahrain said that as gaming becomes more popular, the country may need to take such measures to help parents who may know little about gaming and games.

He said that currently there are only two types of game standards - the European standard and the American standard. "However, these standards do not take into consideration the Middle Eastern culture."

"Culture and the norms in this region is different from the West and the Far East, so the standards needs tailored to the region and ratings should be devised.

"There are different standards that we have towards nudity, profanity, blood and religion when compared to the West. So we need to adopt our own standards of rating.

"At the same time I am not supporting country to censor what comes in. That would not be fair. I think it should be the parents who should be able to make this choice. So what I endorse is not filtering data but to put rating on them so that parents can easily decide if the game could be good or bad for their children."

"The standards should be closely relevant to the place you come from and the culture a person belongs to. Internationally-accepted standards are not enough.



There are different standards that we have towards nudity, profanity, blood and religion when compared to the West. So we need to adopt our own standards of rating.

MR ALTAJER

"Parents need something more relevant to the country and the culture. If there are such local ratings, it will be much easier for parents to decide. The whole responsibility lies with the parents."

Giving additional tips to parents on how to ensure that children do not play games that are inappropriate, he said, "Create an account on your android for your child and let them play games. Always associate this account to your account so you know what games they download. And if they download any bad games not suitable to your house, then you know what to do."

Mr AlTajer said that he had initiated a project which he volunteered to create gaming standards for the Middle East, but the project got side-tracked in less than a year.

"I wanted to create standards for the region but after starting my businesses, I completed half of it with help from some prominent figures in the Middle East gaming community. But after launching my business, the project got side tracked," he said.

Iranian efforts to destabilise Bahrain rapped

Cairo

Minister of Foreign Affairs, Shaikh Khalid bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, participated in the 150th ordinary session of the Arab League Council at the ministerial level, which was held yesterday, at the Arab League's headquarters in Cairo.

The Council of the Arab League passed a resolution condemning the continuing Iranian interference in the internal affairs of the Kingdom of Bahrain, Iran's support for terrorism, training of terrorists, smuggling of weapons and explosives and stirring up sectarian strife.

The resolution also stressed supporting the Kingdom in all its measures to fight terrorism and the terrorist groups in order to maintain its security and stability.

The Council welcomes designating members of the so-called "Al Ashtar Bridges" in the Kingdom of Bahrain as terrorists, stressing that this stance reflects the determination of world countries to fight all forms of terrorism.

The Council further affirmed its support to a number of the Kingdom's candidacies for several posts at the United Nations and its specialized agencies.

During the meeting, they discussed ways to enhance joint Arab action, follow up the developments of the Palestinian crisis and the Arab-Israeli conflict, and activate the Arab peace initiative.

They discussed the latest developments in Syria and the importance of not intervening in the internal affairs of Syria. The meeting also discussed the latest developments in Libya, Yemen, Sudan, and other issues.

Shaikh Khalid also participated in a special meeting attended by Arab foreign ministers on UNRWA status, on the sidelines of the 150th ordinary session of the Arab League at the ministerial level.

During the meeting, the Arab countries affirmed their positions to support the central and developmental role played by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA).

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No efforts ongoing to employ persons suffering from autism

Autism Society head raps both public and private sector for not taking any sincere efforts to employ autism patients

● The Ministry of Labour and Social Development said that 33 persons with disabilities (26 males and 7 females) were employed through the Services Centre for the Disabled.

● The ministry stressed that the ‘Tamkeen Programme for Career Empowerment’, is one of the most prominent programmes on which the Center depends to address the jobs issue faced by disabled individuals.

TDT | Manama
Thamer Tayfoor

The Kingdom’s authorities and the private sector have failed to employ nearly 100 citizens suffering from autism, who have the capacity to perform jobs.



Special skill-training programmes are needed to make people suffering from autism capable of performing jobs.

Until now there have been no honest efforts to employ individuals suffering from autism, Zakaria Hashim, head of the Autism Society told Tribune.

“Centres and schools accept autistic children up to the age

of 16. After this age, there is no place for them to go. The government should come up with a plan to employ individuals suffering from autism as a majority of them

have capabilities to perform jobs. “They can perform many tasks

including office jobs. It seems the government has no plans to employ them, while the private sector refrains from hiring them.”

Meanwhile, the Ministry of Labour and Social Development said that 33 persons with disabili-

”
Centres and schools accept autistic children up to the age of 16. After this age, there is no place for them to go. The government should come up with a plan to employ individuals suffering from autism as a majority of them have capabilities to perform jobs.

MR HASHIM

ties (26 males and 7 females) were employed through the Services Centre for the Disabled.

The ministry pointed out that the Centre registered 66 new cases in 2017 which include persons suffering from different disabilities. “They were evaluated and a resume was created for each new registrar. Also, a large group of companies were approached to schedule appointments and search for vacancies.”

The companies were approached to support the people with disabilities. The Centre

has conducted field visits to 25 companies and institutions, and 20 vacancies were reported, the ministry said.

“There were around 160 job seekers suffering from various disabilities. An employment statement for the physically challenged was issued to 32 people.”

The ministry said that the Centre is concerned with providing pastoral, rehabilitative and professional services to people with disabilities.

The Centre also provides a range of services that meet their daily and living needs, such as finding them jobs that suit their abilities and providing them with appropriate training, in coordination with institutes, companies and organisations, it added.

The ministry stressed that the ‘Tamkeen Programme for Career Empowerment’, is one of the most prominent programmes on which the Centre depends to address the jobs issue faced by disabled individuals.

“The idea is to strengthen the employment of people with disabilities, by training them to develop their abilities, acquire different skills and help them find suitable employment opportunities.”

BIPA with UNDP launch Public Administration Innovation Labs

TDT | Manama

The Bahrain Institute of Public Administration (BIPA) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has signed a project document at the UN House here.

The project aims to establish Innovation Labs which will support the strategic path of the government’s actions towards achieving inclusive sustainable development.

The Innovation Labs will aim to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of government performance through developing an innovative agenda that will highlight the proposed solutions

for government agencies.

The signing ceremony was headed by Dr Raed Mohammed bin Shams, Director General of BIPA together with Amin El Sharkawi, United Nations Resident Coordinator and United Nations Development Programme Resident Representative.

The Innovation Labs are in line with the Institute’s four strategic objectives for enhancing services aligned with the developmental aspirations, providing optimal resource management and leadership enabling service provision, enhanced and supportive policies for the processes of sustainable development, and providing a culture of continuous change and innovation for development.

Is 2018 turning out to be a year of suicides?

TDT | Manama
Harpreet Kaur

Two more expatriates in the Kingdom have committed suicide, taking this year’s suicide toll among the residents to 30.

The victims were a 28-year-old woman and a man, both Indian nationals.

The woman, Shamli Panthayil, was found hanging in her apartment room in Gudaibiya, yesterday.

Sources said Shamli was employed as a nurse with a private clinic and was living with her husband Lithin Sukumaran, who worked for the Manama Tower Hotel.

“Shamli’s husband is in Kerala to visit his family. The family has been trying to contact her since morning. After trying for hours, they asked some of their relatives here to check on her.

“They came to the apartment and broke open the door since it was locked from inside. Upon finding Shamli hanging from the ceiling, they alerted the police, who rushed to the scene,”



Shamli



Swamy

the sources said.

“It is a shocking a news. In our knowledge, she did not have any financial difficulties,” the sources added.

A social worker told Tribune that the body of the deceased is being kept at the SMC morgue and steps are being taken to fly the body home.

In another incident, an Asian expatriate ended his life by hanging himself on Monday.

The deceased was identified as Swamy Kandi, who hailed from the Indian state of Andhra Pradesh.

He was working for a contracting company. Social workers told Tribune that efforts are on to fly the body home.

Six cases of expat suicide have been reported in the past two weeks.

Many social organisations in the Kingdom have initiated many programmes to tackle the rising number of suicides among the expatriate community.

These include setting up a help desk, providing financial support as well as offering counselling services.



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‘Beat the heat’ initiative brings relief to workers

Water bottles, fruits and caps distributed to workers across the Kingdom as part of the initiative



Discover Islam in association with Al Hilal Hospital and BHR4All held a free Medical camp at Al Hilal Hospital, Adliya, yesterday from 8am to 1pm. According to organisers, nearly 150 benefited from free health check-ups.



A volunteer distributes water bottles to workers as part of the campaign.

TDI | Manama
Mohammed Zafran

To help workers cope with the end of the summer work ban and to help them ‘beat the heat’ a charity initiative is being run until the end of summer.

The work ban may have ended but volunteers in Bahrain hope to provide relief through other means. The initiative by Discover Islam was launched on August 31 just as the summer work ban ended.

Sayed Haneef, a representative of Discover Islam said that the initiative is being held to ease the difficulty experienced by the workers during the summer heat.

The temperatures are still high, and so this initiative is aimed at helping workers cope with the heat. We cover various areas across Bahrain and we provide food and water.

MR HANEEF

He said that hundreds of boxes containing food and water have been distributed across Manama and Muharraq. “The temperatures are still high, and so this initiative is aimed at helping workers cope with the heat. We cover

various areas across Bahrain and we provide food and water.

“We have set up a make shift table at bus stops where we base ourselves during the drive. We provide the aid to those at the bus stop, those who are waiting for the buses, workers who are passing by or even the bus drivers who also appreciate such help.

“The packets we distribute include a bottle of water, a banana, an orange and a cap. We have distributed it to cleaners, construction workers or anyone we think needs the help. We have covered areas in Manama as well as Muharraq. Hundreds of packets have been distributed so far, we plan to continue this until the end of summer.”

156

summer work ban violations were recorded by the Labour Ministry inspectors.

Tribune previously reported that the summer work ban ended on August 31 and that this year’s compliance rate with the ban was 98.5 percentages, senior Ministry officials confirmed. Officials

noted 156 violations were recorded from companies caught flouting rules.

There have been calls for extending the work-ban to September as well because of the expected heat-wave during the month. Bahrain Health and Safety Society have been campaigning for the work ban to be put in place from June 15 and end on September 15, from 12pm to 3pm.

The society pointed out that there have been increased instances of heat-waves in recent years while temperatures have become hotter and more humid, necessitating a change in the work-ban plan. Other countries in the GCC have already implemented a three month work-ban extending from June to September.

Prosecution witnesses to be heard in arson case

TDI | Manama
Ali Tarif

Prosecution witnesses will give evidence on October 3, 2018, in an arson case, in which a man allegedly torched his friend’s father’s car following a dispute over BD50.

The dispute began after his friend took a dig at the accused for stealing BD50, which he denied.

The accused could not stand this allegation and hence he torched his friend’s father’s car as an act of revenge, the prosecutors said.

“He was my friend and one day I stayed with him. When I woke up, I saw him searching in the room for something. I asked him as to what he was searching for.

“He told me about BD50 missing and began accusing me of stealing it. I got very angry as I could not stand this allegation.

He told me about BD50 missing and began accusing me of stealing it. I got very angry as I could not stand this allegation.

ACCUSED

tion. I went to the nearby petrol station and got petrol before burning the car,” the accused told prosecutors.

On the flip side, the friend of the accused told prosecutors that the accused stole the car and drove it to an isolated area before torching it.

The accused’s friend’s father reported the incident to police.

“After a few hours of reporting the case to police, I got a call from the Civil Defence saying that my car has been burnt in an isolated area,” the father said.

Bahraini man on trial for kissing female colleagues

TDI | Manama
Ali Tarif

The High Criminal Court will hear today the case of a Bahraini man who is accused of molesting female colleagues at his office.

The defendant is accused of harassing two women during their first 30 days of joining the company.

The first woman reported to police officers that the defendant shocked her by kissing at their office after he summoned her to do some tasks.

“I got the job in the company through a friend. And after one month of starting my work, he called me to his cabin to complete some tasks on the computer. He locked the door and kissed me,” the first victim said.

“After a few hours, he called me to apologise. However, he flirted with me and I disconnected the line and never answered his phone calls,” she added.

Meanwhile, her co-victim reported a similar incident. “After 10 days of beginning my work,

He said he wanted a chocolate. I didn’t understand but he meant that he wanted a kiss.

SECOND VICTIM

I was in his office to discuss which companies I can contact. After the meeting, he shook my hand and he tried to molest me. “He said he wanted a chocolate,

I didn’t understand but he meant that he wanted a kiss. I rejected his proposal and I left his office directly,” the second woman told prosecutors.

“On another day, he called me to his office to discuss some work-related issues. The electricity went off and he attempted again to sexually assault me. I later discovered that he had arranged an Asian man to disconnect the electricity when I was in his office.”

The women shared their experiences later and decided to file a complaint against him.

Housemaids’ trial adjourned

TDI | Manama
Ali Tarif

The High Criminal Court has adjourned the case of two maids accused of attacking police officers until October 3, 2018, to assign a lawyer for them.

The accused are an Ethiopian woman, aged 35, and a 21-year-old Indonesian woman.

According to court files, the Ethiopian domestic servant broke the hand of a woman police officer out of her fear for handcuffs.

The 35-year-old maid was detained at

When I saw the handcuffs, I got desperate and I attacked the police officer. I regret my acts and am sorry for what happened.

ACCUSED MAID

the Public Prosecution premises for an unpermitted stay in Bahrain and her victim was assigned to accompany her.

The Ethiopian woman is said to have

caused a chaotic scene when police officers, including the victim, attempted to handcuff her.

“When I saw the handcuffs, I got desperate and I attacked the police officer. I regret my acts and am sorry for what happened,” the Ethiopian woman said.

The Indonesian woman was with the Ethiopian maid at the same detention. And it is alleged that she also had attacked police officers.

However, she refuted the claims during questioning.

Both women were earlier charged by the Public Prosecution with attacking on-duty police officers.

TENDER NOTICE

The Embassy of India, Bahrain invites bids/ quotations for Cleaning Services for its Chancery cum Residential Complex. For details, please check the Tenders page of the Embassy’s website at <http://eoi.gov.in/bahrain> or send email to hoc.bahrain@mea.gov.in

business

China set to seek trade sanctions against US

The world's second largest economy is seeking WTO permission to slap trade sanctions on US over anti-dumping practices taken against Chinese products

AFP| Geneva

China is planning to ask the World Trade Organization next week for permission to impose sanctions on the United States over anti-dumping practices taken against some Chinese products. The WTO said yesterday that a special meeting of its Dispute Settlement Body would be convened on September 21 to discuss developments in a five-year-old trade dispute between the world's top two economies. The case dates back to December 2013, when China filed a dispute against the United States, taking issue with the way Washington assesses whether exports have been "dumped" at unfairly low prices onto the US market. The use of anti-dumping duties are permitted under international trade rules as long as they adhere to strict conditions, and disputes over their use are often brought before the WTO's



In October 2016, a panel of WTO experts found the case largely in China's favour

Dispute Settlement Body. In this specific case, China alleged that the United States, in violation of WTO rules, was continuing a practice known as "zeroing", which calculates the price of imports compared to the normal value in the United States to determine predatory pricing. In October 2016, a panel of WTO experts found largely in China's favour in the case, in-

cluding on the issue of "zeroing". The United States, which has repeatedly lost cases before the WTO over its calculation method, said in June last year that it would implement the panel's recommendations within a "reasonable" time frame. This past January, the DSB set an August 22 deadline for Washington to bring its practices in line with the 2016 ruling.



The WTO said a special meeting of its Dispute Settlement Body would be convened on September 21 to discuss the trade dis between the two economies

According to WTO rules, the plaintiff in such cases can request permission to impose sanctions if the parties have not reached agreement on a satisfactory compensation within 20 days of the WTO deadline. Washington will nonetheless still have the right to oppose any sanction decision, opening the way for a lengthy arbitration process that could take months to settle.

Karak Break!



MOHAMED ISA

Berit & the Boiled Eggs

On the 24th of July 2018, I woke up to a beautiful morning in Widnau, Switzerland. As usual, I was the first guest to hit the restaurant floor at 6:30. Ms. Berit, the Chef, greeted me with a warm & sincere smile: "Guten Morgen!" And she continued with her special task, sketching happy faces on her boiled eggs. You cannot help it but smile and be happy when you see the eggs. I asked her: "Why do you do this? Isn't an extra job for you?" She answered: "I've been doing this for the past 24 years. It only takes me five minutes, but it makes our guests happy for an entire day." What an attitude! She is on a mission to delight the guests of the hotel. This concept of doing something small that makes a big difference with the customers is nothing new. It is a long time practice by many successful companies. These companies realize an important fact: It is all about the customer experience. If the experience makes them happy, they will come back for more. If not, they will not deal with you anymore!

Now, here is similar story. The hero of it is Ammar. He is one of the top Bahraini baristas of Starbucks in Bahrain. One time, I had a meeting with a friend of mine from Oman. As usual, the barista sketched a happy face on the paper cups. I expected that. So, the payoff regarding customer experience was not that big. After a few sips, Ammar came with another cup. He said: This is a gift for you. I was delighted. He sketched me on the cup. If you think about it, I am too easy to sketch. Just draw an egg-shaped head, two small eyes, a nose and a goatee-beard. And there you have - Mohamed Isa.

However, my Omani friend was so delighted because, on the other side of the cup, there was a detailed sketch of him including his traditional Omani turban. I still have the cup in my house as a souvenir. And I posted about this experience on my social media network. I also became an unofficial public relation machine for Starbucks. I talk about this experience whenever I deliver talks about customer service.

In your company, why don't you think of ways of making your customers happier? Look for small ways or gestures that will make your products & services stick in the minds of your customers. Small things that make a big difference. Small things that will make them long to come back for more. Small things that will make them happy to pay you with a smile. Take a lesson from the Berit & the boiled eggs

Mohamed Isa is an award-winning speaker & best-selling author. Reach him at mohamed@3dspeaking.com.

DPW to take legal action against Djibouti

AFP| Dubai

Dubai's global port operator DP World said yesterday it will pursue all "legal means" to defend its claim to a Djibouti terminal after the African nation nationalised the facility. The decision by Djibouti on Sunday to nationalise the Doraleh Container Terminal came after the government scrapped a 50-year concession contract with DP World, triggering a dispute between the two sides. DP World said it has won three rulings from Britain-based courts over the matter, most recently an injunction at the High Court in London on August 31. The Dubai-based firm said yesterday that nationalising Doraleh amounted to "an attempt to flout an injunction of

the English High Court," which barred Djibouti authorities from taking control over the facility. The concession agreement between DP World and Djibouti signed in 2006 is governed by English law and through the London Court of International Arbitration, the port operator said. The disputed terminal is an essential facility for supplies to neighbouring landlocked Ethiopia and is located in the strategic Horn of Africa. The Djibouti government had a two-thirds stake in the venture but claimed that the terminal had effectively come under the control of DP World. The terminal had been run by DP World since 2006, but in late February Djibouti cancelled the contract saying its national sovereignty was being compro-



Djibouti on Sunday nationalised the Doraleh Container Terminal

vised. Currently, Hong Kong-based China Merchants Port Holdings Company owns a 23.5-percent stake in the facility. Djibouti on Monday accused DP World, which operates 78 terminals in 40 countries, of waging a judicial and media "guerrilla" war.



Pancily Varkey, General Manager of BFC (fourth from right) handing over the keys of the MG - ZS SUV to Javed Iqbal Khan (fourth from left), the winner of the Grand Prize of the BFC Big Bonanza final draw, held on September 2. BFC gave away car and cash prizes during the three-month-long campaign. A total of 1001 BFC customers received the prizes.

Mondelez stockpiles biscuits for Brexit

AFP| London

Mondelez International, owner of British chocolate maker Cadbury, is stockpiling ingredients, confectionery and biscuits in the event of a no-deal Brexit, the US snack-food group's European boss said yesterday. "Like the whole of the food and drink industry in the UK, we would prefer a good deal that allows the free flow of products as that would have less of an impact to the UK consumer," Mondelez Europe President Hubert Weber told

The Times newspaper. "However, we are also preparing for a hard Brexit and, from a buffering perspective for Mondelez, we are stocking higher levels of ingredients and finished products, although you can only do so much because of the shelf life of our products. "We have a contingency plan in place to manage ... as the UK is not self-sufficient in terms of food ingredients, so that could be a challenge." Hopes for a Brexit agreement between Brussels and London rose this week, but British police have

reportedly drawn up contingency plans for civil unrest if Britain crashes out of the EU, citing fears of shortages of food and goods. US food giant Kraft Foods bought Cadbury in 2010 in a deal then worth £11.9 billion, after a protracted takeover battle. Two years later, Kraft was split into two: Mondelez, the global snacks company, and Kraft Foods Group, the North American grocery products giant. Kraft and Heinz then merged three years after that to form Kraft Heinz.

Greek PM vows not to repeat past mistakes

AFP| Strasbourg, France

Greek Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras vowed yesterday not to repeat the “mistakes and behaviour of the past” that led his country to the brink of financial collapse.

Tsipras told the European Parliament that Greece would “continue our path of fiscal stability”, after pledging to voters at the weekend to cut taxes and boost spending to kickstart the economy.

Greece endured eight years of austerity under three successive international bailouts -- worth a total of 289 billion euros (\$330 billion) -- put together in 2010, 2012 and 2015 to save the country from collapsing under its debt mountain.

The third programme ended last month and Tsipras has pledged to lead Greece’s “rebirth” by cutting property and sales tax, boosting the income of hundreds farmers and middle-class Greeks and rethinking a pension cut agreed with creditors earlier this year.

But in an address to members of the European Parliament in the French city of Strasbourg, Tsipras insisted there would be no return to the “waste and corruption” that had led Greece to bankruptcy, saying there would be a “historic break with the past, it is a new beginning”. “Our exit from the last programme of fiscal adjustment does not mean that we will go back to the past in our country -- quite the contrary. We are determined to avoid the mistakes and the behaviour of the past that led to the crisis,” Tsipras said.

Japanese firm to buy IDT for \$6.7bn

AFP| Tokyo

Japanese semiconductor firm Renesas yesterday announced a deal to buy California-based IDT in a cash deal valued at \$6.7 billion. Shares in Renesas spiked 5.54 percent on the news, before dropping back slightly in the late morning.

The deal is expected to be closed in the first half of next year, following approval by IDT shareholders and the relevant regulatory authorities, Renesas said in a statement. Renesas said it planned to finance the deal using bank loans worth 679 billion yen (\$6.1 billion) as well as some cash reserves.

The Japanese firm said the deal with IDT, also a semiconductor manufacturer, should “strengthen its presence in the industrial and automotive segments.”

Renesas Electronics, the world’s biggest supplier of automotive microcontroller chips, was created through a merger of the chip units of Hitachi, Mitsubishi Electric and NEC. The firm suffered from fierce competition from low-cost rivals and in 2013 was bailed out by a government-backed fund.

Global stocks dip on fresh trade war fears



Key European markets London and Frankfurt ended lower yesterday

AFP| London

European and US stock markets came under pressure yesterday on fears of a new escalation in the burgeoning trade war between China and the United States, dealers said.

China is planning to ask the World Trade Organization for permission to impose sanctions on the US over anti-dumping practices taken against some Chinese products.

“The strained trading relations between the US and China have taken a new turn,” CMC analyst David Madden said of the move which he said “could trigger a reaction from President Trump and investors are exiting equities as a result”.

Key European markets London and Frankfurt both ended lower, while Paris managed to edge into positive territory.

Wall Street, which had opened lower, also posted small gains approaching midday in New York on bargain-hunting.

Hong Kong fell 0.7 percent

“The European indices took a tumble after it was reported that China is seeking permission from the World Trade Organization to impose sanctions on the United States, relating to America’s non-compliance with a dumping duties ruling tracing back to 2013

CONNOR CAMPBELL
ANALYST, SPREADEX

and is now more than 20 percent from its record touched in January, putting it in a bear market.

Shanghai ended down 0.2 percent around lows not seen since January 2016.

However, Tokyo rose 1.3 percent as exporters were support-

Key figures around 1540 GMT

London - FTSE 100:	▼ 0.2 percent at 7,273.54 points (close)
Frankfurt - DAX 30:	▼ 0.1 percent at 11,970.27 (close)
Paris - CAC 40:	▼ 0.3 percent at 5,283.79 (close)
EURO STOXX 50:	■ 3,310.42
New York - Dow:	▼ 0.3 percent at 25,923.80
Tokyo - Nikkei 225:	▼ 1.3 percent at 22,664.69 (close)
Hong Kong - Hang Seng:	▼ 0.7 percent at 26,422.55 (close)
Shanghai - Composite:	▼ 0.2 percent at 2,664.80 (close)
Euro/dollar:	▼ \$1.1581 from \$1.1594 at 2100 GMT
Pound/dollar:	▼ \$1.2994 from \$1.3027
Dollar/yen:	▼ 111.55 yen from 111.13 yen

ed by a weaker yen.

President Donald Trump had already ramped up the China-US tariffs row late last week by threatening to tax all imports from the Asian giant, sending equities further into the red on Monday.

The WTO case dates back to December 2013, when China filed a dispute against the United States, taking issue with the way Washington assesses whether exports have been “dumped” at unfairly low prices onto the US market.

According to WTO rules, the plaintiff in such cases can request permission to impose sanctions if the parties have not reached agreement on satisfactory compensation within 20 days of the WTO deadline.

Washington will nonetheless still have the right to oppose any sanction decision, opening the way for a lengthy arbitration process that could take months to settle.

Asian markets dip

Earlier Tuesday, Asian investors also trod uneasily as concerns

over trade and emerging markets dragged on confidence.

Hong Kong fell 0.7 percent and is now more than 20 percent from its record touched in January, putting it in a bear market.

Shanghai hit lows not seen since January 2016.

However, Tokyo rose 1.3 percent as exporters were supported by a weaker yen.

Argentina crisis

Dealers are also awaiting developments in Argentina, which is holding talks with the International Monetary Fund on accessing bailout cash as it looks to avert an all-out crisis.

The country’s troubles, along with worries in Turkey and South Africa, have led to concerns of contagion in other emerging markets or even the global economy.

“Presumably, market participants are feeling a little anxious about the brewing trade tensions between the US and China,” said analyst Patrick O’Hare at Briefing.com in a note before the opening bell.

German investor confidence picks up in September

AFP| Frankfurt

Confidence among investors in Germany continued a rebound from summer lows in September, a regular survey showed yesterday, but remained in negative territory.

The ZEW economic institute’s barometer, based on a poll of 197 analysts and financial players, added 3.1 points for a reading of -10.6.

While the survey period saw currency crises in Turkey and Argentina worsen and weak industrial production and orders data at home, “the outlook for Germany improved slightly despite these unfavourable effects,” ZEW president Achim Wambach said.

“Significant fears among participants regarding economic developments have calmed slightly again, which might be down to the new trade agreement between the United States and Mexico” reached in late August, he added. Any signs that President Donald Trump’s protectionist instincts are being soothed is welcome for Germany, whose economy with its massive trade surplus and powerful multinational firms is sensitive to new barriers to international exchange.

Aside from respondents’ brighter expectations for Germany in the coming months, their judgement of the present situation in both Germany and the 19-nation eurozone improved, as did their view of the outlook for the single currency area.

But despite the less gloomy picture, September’s headline reading remains well below the ZEW survey’s long-term average of 22.9 points

Google fights French ‘right to be forgotten’

AFP| Brussels

Google clashed with France in a top EU court yesterday arguing it feared for freedom of speech if forced to apply Europe’s “right to be forgotten” principle worldwide.

“The court is hearing a wide range of testimonies today, which is highly unusual for a case like this,” said a legal source at the European Court of Justice in Luxembourg, on condition of anonymity.

The two sides are battling over a shock 2014 decision at the same court, that imposed a right for individuals, under certain conditions, to have references to them scrubbed from search engine results.

The US tech giant firmly opposed the decision, but complied with the ruling by delisting search references once requested across its European domains, such as Google.fr or Google.de -- but not Google.com or domains outside the European Union.

France’s data regulator, the Commission Nationale de l’Informatique et des Libertés (CNIL), opposed the distinction and said the firm should apply the delisting to all exten-

sions, regardless of the national domain name.

In 2016, CNIL fined Google 100,000 euros (\$112,000) for non-compliance and Google appealed the case to France’s highest court, which in turn has referred to the ECJ for an opinion. Google argues that its application of the right to be forgotten is already effective in France for well over 99% of searches.

Lawyers for CNIL believe that a global implementation for the EU’s “right to be forgotten” is the only way to ensure European rights are upheld. On Tuesday, EU court judges heard a long list of stakeholders, including lawyers from CNIL, Google as well as representatives from human rights groups that fear abuses of the EU’s “right to be forgotten” rule by authoritarian states outside the bloc.

“If European regulators can tell Google to remove all references to a website, then it will be only a matter of time before countries like China, Russia and Saudi Arabia start to do the same,” said Thomas Hughes, Executive Director of ARTICLE 19, a rights organisation.

Alibaba, Mail.ru to form e-commerce venture

AFP| Vladivostok, Russia

Chinese e-commerce giant Alibaba and Russian technology group Mail.ru yesterday said they would launch a joint e-commerce venture in Russia and former Soviet countries.

The deal comes as e-commerce is developing rapidly in Russia though hindered by the country’s vast size and problematic infrastructure, including an often unreliable postal service. The two groups, along with the Russian sovereign wealth fund RDIF and telecom operator MegaFon, announced the creation of a “strategic partnership” as Russia hosts an economic forum in the far eastern city of Vladivostok.

Alibaba and Mail.ru said in a statement that the partnership will “launch a leading social commerce joint venture in Russia and the CIS (Commonwealth of Independent States).”

The new company will be called AliExpress Russia -- based on the name of an existing Alibaba platform.

It will be 48 percent owned by Alibaba, 24 percent by MegaFon, 15 percent by Mail.ru



The deal comes as e-commerce is developing rapidly in Russia

and 13 percent by the RDIF, the statement said, without disclosing any valuations involved.

Russia’s RBK media group reported that the RDIF would invest up to \$300 million. The deal involves MegaFon selling Alibaba its 10 percent stake in Mail.ru. Alibaba, co-founded by tech billionaire Jack Ma in 1999, reported revenues of \$39.9 billion for the year ending March.

It already plays a major role in e-commerce in Russia through its AliExpress and Tmall plat-

forms. Ma announced Monday that he will step down as head of Alibaba in a year’s time.

On Tuesday Ma attended a meeting of international business people with President Vladimir Putin at the Eastern Economic Forum in Vladivostok, but was not at the press conference announcing the deal.

“We want this to be a Russian business,” Alibaba Group president Michael Evans said at the press conference.

Saudi stocks slump on emerging markets woes

- Banks drag Saudi market lower; SABIC up after China deal
- Emaar Properties, Emirates NBD down in Dubai; Emerging market stocks hit 15-month low

Reuters| Dubai

Saudi Arabia's stock market dipped yesterday as lingering trade disputes weighed on emerging markets.

MSCI's emerging-market index sank 0.6 percent to a 15-month low amid investor concern over the potential fallout from any escalation in the trade dispute between the United States and China.

The Saudi index swung between gains and losses before finishing the day 0.2 percent



The Saudi index shed 0.2pc yesterday

down. Banks were the market laggards, with Arab National Bank dropping 2.4 percent, Samba Financial Group down 0.9 percent and National Commercial Bank declining by 1.2 percent.

Al Rajhi Bank fared better with a 0.8 percent gain.

Shares in Saudi Basic Industries Corp (SABIC) edged up by 0.7 percent after it signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with China's Fujian provincial government to build a petrochemicals complex.

In Dubai, meanwhile, market bellwethers Emirates NBD and

Closing Bell

SAUDI	▼ 0.2%	» 7,694
DUBAI	▼ 0.6%	» 2,833
ABU DHABI	▲ 0.1%	» 4,993
QATAR	▼ 0.4%	» 9,932

Emaar Properties dipped by 1 percent and 0.9 percent respectively, against a 0.6 percent fall for the wider index.

Emaar issued a statement denying local media reports that it will provide 10-year visas to investors, saying that the authorities are responsible for issuing visas.

In Abu Dhabi, First Abu Dhabi Bank reversed an early slump to close 0.3 percent up while Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank rose 1.7 percent. The main index closed 0.1 percent higher.

Qatar's index firmed by 0.4 percent, continuing a rise that has pushed up the index by 16.4 percent so far this year.

Oil up as Iran sanctions squeeze supply

Reuters| London

Oil prices rose yesterday as U.S. sanctions squeezed Iranian crude exports, tightening global supply despite efforts by Washington to get other producers to increase output.

Brent crude oil was up 50 cents at \$77.87 a barrel by 1335 GMT. U.S. light crude was up 22 cents at \$67.74.

"The impact of the U.S. sanctions on Iran is firmly being felt," said Tamas Varga, analyst at London brokerage PVM Oil. "The biggest worry is obviously the amount of Iranian oil that is disappearing from the market."

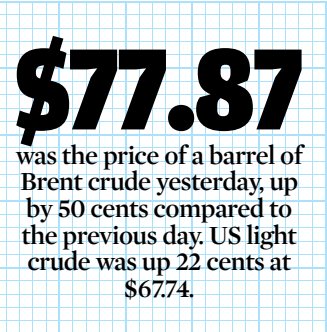
Washington has told its allies to reduce imports of Iranian oil and several Asian buyers, including South Korea, Japan and India appear to be falling in line. But the US government does not want to push up oil prices, which could depress economic activity or even trigger a slowdown in global growth.

US Energy Secretary Rick Perry met Saudi Energy Minis-

ter Khalid al-Falih on Monday in Washington, as the Trump administration encourages big oil-producing countries to keep output high. Perry will meet with Russian Energy Minister Alexander Novak on Thursday in Moscow. Russia, US and Saudi are the world's three biggest oil producers by far, meeting around a third of the world's 100 million barrels per day (bpd) of daily crude consumption. Their combined output has risen by 3.8 million bpd since September 2014, more than the peak output Iran has managed over the last three years.

Russian Energy Minister Alexander Novak said on Tuesday that Russia and a group of producers around the Middle East which dominate the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries may sign a new long-term cooperation deal at the beginning of December, the TASS news agency reported. Novak did not provide details.

A group of OPEC and non-OPEC producers have been vol-



untarily withholding supplies since January 2017 to tighten markets, but with crude prices up by more than 40 percent since then and markets significantly tighter, there has been pressure on producers to raise output. As Middle East markets tighten, Asian buyers are seeking alternative supplies, with South Korean and Japanese imports of U.S. crude hitting a record in September. US oil producers are seeking new buyers for crude they used to sell to China before orders slowed because of the trade disputes between Washington and Beijing.

Indian Rupee pulls back from record low

Reuters| Mumbai

The Indian rupee hit a lifetime low yet again yesterday amid strong dollar demand from foreign banks, but the currency pared some of its losses later in the day following a Reserve Bank of India (RBI) intervention, dealers said.

The rupee has been the worst performing Asian currency this year. Despite strong GDP growth, the currency has weakened about 12 percent this year amid higher oil prices and a broad sell-off in emerging markets, widening India's current account deficit and a worsening balance of payments that slipped into the red in April-June for the first time in six quarters. After opening on a stronger footing on Tuesday, the rupee weakened to a record low of 72.75 to the dollar.



Rupee slid to 72.75 against the dollar

It recovered some of its losses to close at 72.7075 after the RBI likely sold dollars in the market to stem the weakness.

"There is no point in predicting a range for the rupee at the start of the day," said the chief forex dealer at a state-run bank. "Nowadays no prediction on the bottom of the rupee works."

Indian bonds also fell tracking a weaker rupee, which

could stoke inflationary pressures given the rising cost of crude oil and other imported commodities.

The 10-year benchmark bond yield rose to 8.19 percent, its highest level since Nov. 17, 2014.

Another forex dealer said it appears that some banks are selling bonds to get rupee funds for buying dollars.

"This is adding to the (dollar) demand and pushing the rupee down further," said the dealer at a state-run bank.

Foreigners have sold a net \$6.5 billion so far this year with most of the outflows in debt markets where investors have seen heavy mark-to-market losses due to the plunging rupee. Going forward, investors will closely watch the central bank's policy moves and its stance on rupee intervention, traders said.

Indian stocks plummet 1pc

Reuters| Mumbai

Indian shares fell more than 1 percent for a second straight session yesterday, as markets globally braced for a potential escalation in the Sino-U.S. trade dispute, while the rupee continued its downward spiral touching a fresh life-low. China will ask the World Trade Organization next week for permission to impose sanctions on the United States, for Washington's non-compliance with a ruling in a dispute over U.S. dumping duties that China initiated in 2013, a meeting agenda showed on Tuesday. The NSE Nifty ended down 1.32 percent to 11,287.50, while the benchmark BSE Sensex was down 1.34 percent at 37,413.13. Both indexes marked their worst closing levels since Aug. 2.

US job openings up at record high

Reuters| Washington

US job openings surged to a record high in July and more Americans voluntarily quit their jobs, pointing to sustained labor market strength and confidence.

Job openings, a measure of labor demand, increased by 117,000 to a seasonally adjusted 6.9 million, the Labor Department said in its monthly Job Openings and Labor Turnover Survey, or JOLTS on Tuesday. That was the highest level since the series started in December 2000.

In a sign of confidence in the labor market, more Americans voluntarily quit their jobs in July, pushing the quits rate to 2.4 percent, the highest level since April 2001, from 2.3 percent in June.

Ticking Point



NITIN NOHRIA/ MICHAEL E. PORTER

They manage using broad integrating mechanisms

CEOs must avoid trying to do too much themselves. It just isn't possible for them to make or even ratify most decisions directly. Instead, effective CEOs put in place well-designed structures and processes that help everyone else in the organization make good choices. These inform, support, enable and integrate the work of others while building the organization's capabilities.

The most powerful integrating mechanisms include strategy (on which CEOs in our study spent an average of 21% of their work time), functional and business unit reviews (25% of their time), developing people and relationships (25% of their time), matching organizational structure and culture with the needs of the business (16% of their time), and mergers and acquisitions (4% of their time).

HARNESSING STRATEGY. The CEO's single most powerful lever is ensuring that every unit — and the company as a whole — has a clear, well-defined strategy. Strategy creates alignment among the many decisions within a business and across the organization. By spending time on strategy, a CEO provides direction for the company, helps make its value proposition explicit and defines how it will compete in the marketplace and differentiate itself from rivals. Strategy also provides clarity on what the company will not do. A compelling strategy — if well understood throughout the organization — is motivating and energizing. And without clarity on strategy, the CEO will be drawn into too many tactical decisions.

In large, complex firms, CEOs can almost never spend enough time on strategy — they must constantly be working to shape it, refine it, communicate it, reinforce it and help people recognize when they may be drifting from it. CEOs must also ensure that the strategy is renewed from time to time and based on changes in the environment. Portfolio choices such as divestitures, mergers and acquisitions are critical to strategy, and a CEO must be personally involved with them.

Effective CEOs put in place well-designed structures and processes that help everyone else in the organization make good choices

ALIGNING ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE AND CULTURE. To foster appropriate decisions across the company, the organization's structure needs to be aligned with its strategy. Otherwise, the CEO will be drawn into endless adjudication among units. It can also become a big drain on the CEO and others if

the organization is constantly lurching from one structure to another.

Culture — which encompasses an organization's values, beliefs and norms — is another key CEO lever for reinforcing strategy and influencing how the organization as a whole goes about doing its work. CEOs can shape a company's culture in many ways, from the time they spend talking about it at various forums, to personally living the valued behaviors, to recognizing, rewarding and celebrating those who exemplify the desired culture while taking corrective action with those who don't. It is the CEO's job to champion the organization's culture and constantly look for opportunities to strengthen it.

DESIGNING, MONITORING AND IMPROVING PROCESSES. CEOs must ensure that the company's strategy is being well executed. This will occur when the organization has rigorous processes through which work — such as marketing plans, pricing, product development and strategy development itself — is done. Good processes bring together the best organizational knowledge and keep the CEO from continually having to override decisions.

Formal reviews are essential to monitoring whether the company is delivering the required process performance. Though these consume a quarter of a CEO's total work time, they allow CEOs to track progress, provide regular feedback, uphold high standards and ensure timely course corrections. Reviews are also necessary to make sure that lessons learned are used to enhance the various processes through which work gets done.

However, excessive participation in reviews can get the CEO too involved in the company's operations and mired in unnecessary details. We talked a lot with the CEOs in our study about this problem. We have found, again and again, that many have a hard time shedding the COO or president roles they may have previously held. Some also forget that their senior team should bear the primary responsibility for many reviews and keep the CEO informed on a regular basis.

When CEOs fail to delegate reviews to direct reports who can handle them, they erode the autonomy and accountability of their management teams. That doesn't help CEOs get the best out of others.

Michael E. Porter is a university professor at Harvard, based at Harvard Business School in Boston. Nitin Nohria is dean of Harvard Business School

Three million people with

President Bashar Assad's forces are about to attack Idlib, the last rebel held province in Syria. Fears of mass slaughter is increasing



KAREEM SHAHEEN

The first thing that struck me when I saw Idlib, the rebel-held province in northwestern Syria, in April last year was how green the country was. Olive and cherry trees lined the pockmarked roads leading from the Turkish border down to the province's towns. Smoke rose in the distance in the aftermath of an airstrike or an exploding shell, and the buildings in most towns were scarred by blows from the sky.

I had travelled to Idlib to report on the chemical attack in the town of Khan Sheikhun by President Bashar Assad's regime, which killed over 80 people. I remember watching Abdulhamid al-Yousef, a father of two, hold his son and daughter before their burial; they were poisoned by the very air they breathed. According to the independent United Nations Commission of Inquiry, Assad's air force was responsible for the chemical gas attack, which killed Yousef's wife and children, along with several other relatives.

A friend trying to comfort the distraught Yousef told him a story about "al-sirat," a bridge that Mus-

lims believe people must cross on the day of judgment. Al-sirat is believed to be thinner than a hair and leads to the gates of paradise. "On the day of judgment, those who lose their children and bear the tragedy with forbearance will be reunited with them," the friend said. "Their children will have wings and will fly them across al-sirat to the gates of paradise."

Yousef seemed to wake up. "And their mother too? Ahmad and Aya will be there? And Hammoudi and Ammoura?" he said. Ahmad and Aya were his children. Hammoudi and Ammoura, his nephews.

The moment still gnaws at me.

Over the past week, a gathering storm pointed to an impending assault by Assad's regime and his Russian patrons on Idlib, with aid agencies warning of a humanitarian catastrophe that could drive new waves of refugees into neighboring Turkey. Russian airstrikes have already killed 13 people in Idlib. Assad's forces are shelling the area, and his Iranian and Russian allies have chosen dehumanizing language and described the militants in Idlib as "this festering abscess that needs to be liquidated."

Idlib is billed as the endgame in a war that has claimed more than half a million lives, displaced half of Syria's population, driven millions into "safe" refuge abroad and triggered the xenophobic, populist explosion in Europe and



Preparing for the worst in a makeshift shelter in an underground cave in Idlib, Syria.

beyond that exposed the fragility and hollowness of the vaunted global liberal order.

But Idlib is also the last refuge of some three million people. Hundreds of thousands living in the province were already displaced from their homes elsewhere in Syria by the steady march of Assad's army and allied sectarian militias, backed by the remorseless bombing campaign carried out by the Russian air force.

Many will die, many will flee, many will be buried under the rubble. It happened before. It will happen again. We know it. We are complicit in our knowledge, indifference and inaction.

Idlib has turned into a microcosm where all the regional and international power brokers have claimed a stake, where all the forces that gave rise to and were birthed by Syria's traumatic uprising are struggling in a catastrophic battle whose price, as usual, will be paid for by innocent civilians.

In refugee camps, at memorial services, in the rubble of bombed-out buildings, Syrians shared their stories, wanting to be heard. Sometimes they stopped talking during our conversations because they recognized the futility of it all. I often shared their frustration but continued reporting in order to create a record, hoping that

nobody would say we didn't know. Syria taught me that knowledge does not lead to accountability. The families who were buried under the rubble will not get justice. Those who had to start over in foreign lands and were vilified for having the temerity to want to raise their children in safety won't either. Neither will those who drowned on the way to European shores, nor will those who were besieged and starved to within an inch of their life get justice.

The parents whose children killed by sarin gas appeared covered in small, white shrouds on newspaper front pages won't either. And justice will remain elu-

Could there be another Chinese

A small elite is concentrating power under President Xi Jinping. But the stronger it gets



YI-ZHENG LIAN

All summer there have been uncommon signs that opposition to President Xi Jinping may be growing in China, even Beijing itself. He featured less prominently than usual in official headlines. Important members of the Chinese Communist Party criticized his straitjacketed response to the trade war with the United States. A national scandal over several hundred thousand faulty vaccines broke while Xi was on a tour in Africa to sell his pet project, the "One Belt, One Road" initiative.

It was such an extraordinary series of mishaps and policy errors and then complaints that one wondered whether they were a concerted, if veiled, attack on Xi.

But who would dare be the enemy of China's most powerful leader since Mao? Xi has no known ideological opponents. Many of the country's most powerful officials have been jailed, felled by his signature anti-corruption campaign or have died. Earlier this year, the constitution was amended to eliminate term limits, includ-

ing for the president.

Just over five years into Xi's reign, the cast of characters in China's power struggles has come into focus. On the one hand are the so-called Red Aristocrats, with Xi as their flag bearer. On the other stand the Plebeians — my phrase — headed by leaders from previous administrations, most notably Jiang Zemin.

Red Aristocrats come from the families of the old-guard revolutionaries who held top posts upon the founding of the Chinese communist republic in 1949. Those revolutionaries mostly lived and worked together on the former imperial grounds of Zhongnanhai, coalescing into a tight social group, until the Cultural Revolution dispersed them. Officials with a direct lineage to those founders, who claim to be the republic's rightful heirs, have experienced a resurgence under Xi.

The term "Plebeians" refers to officials without significant pre-1949 revolutionary pedigrees who rose to the top of the ruling hierarchy or were catapulted there after Mao and later Deng Xiaoping marginalized old-timers.

These two factions now dominate China's New Class, to borrow the Yugoslav Milovan Djilas' phrase for Soviet communist elites. Both are self-interested,

corrupt and authoritarian, but they exhibit significant policy differences and have become dangerously antagonistic.

The Red Aristocrats want the CCP and the state sector to control markets and corporations, a carry-over from their Marxist founding fathers. The Plebeians are more pro-market, presumably because they consolidated power (and accumulated wealth and privileges) during Deng's overhaul of the Maoist economy in the 1980s.

Under Xi, the Red Aristocrats have gutted the lie-low-bide-time approach favored by Deng and his successors for an expansionist and hypernationalist position reminiscent of Mao's.

Lenin liquidated Russia's czarist aristocracy, the bourgeoisie and the affluent peasants known as "kulaks." In the 1930s, Stalin killed off most of the first Bolsheviks. The New Class that subsequently emerged in the Soviet Union consisted mostly of technocrats with undistinguished political backgrounds.

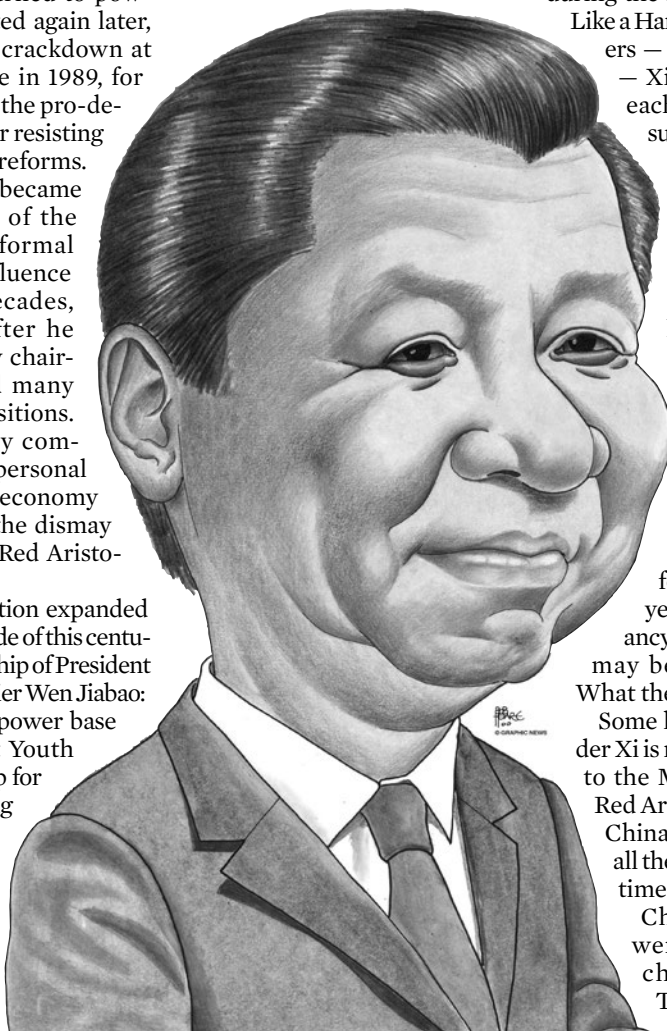
Mao was different, and his legacy today is as well. He, too, liquidated landowners. And he sidelined, humiliated and exiled many of his comrades from before 1949. But he did not have them killed off. After he died in 1976, members of

the old guard returned to power. They were ousted again later, by Deng after the crackdown at Tiananmen Square in 1989, for sympathizing with the pro-democracy students or resisting Deng's capitalistic reforms.

That year Jiang became general secretary of the CCP. He wielded formal power or great influence for nearly two decades, including long after he ceased being party chairman, and planted many loyalists in key positions. His people, mostly commoners, amassed personal wealth as China's economy skyrocketed — to the dismay and envy of many Red Aristocrats.

The Plebeian faction expanded during the first decade of this century, under the leadership of President Hu Jintao and Premier Wen Jiabao: They tapped their power base in the Communist Youth League, a boot camp for commoners wishing to be credentialed for party membership.

But then came Xi, a high-carat Red Aristocrat whose father was a senior leader



during the republic's early years. Like a Hamlet kicking out usurpers — a popular comparison — Xi promptly went after each of the two Plebeian subgroups.

He first aimed his anti-corruption campaign exclusively at Plebeians — mostly, in the beginning, at Jiang's people but then later also at stalwarts of the youth league. Then in 2016, he openly humiliated the league, cut its funding and placed it under the CCP's — meaning, his own — control.

If Xi stays in power for more than two five-year terms, the ascendancy of the Red Aristocrats may become unstoppable. What then?

Some lament that China under Xi is returning ideologically to the Maoist era. But if the Red Aristocracy keeps rising, China's politics may regress all the way back to medieval times.

Chinese society underwent radical structural changes between the Tang dynasty (618-907) and the Song dynasty

1923

Southern Rhodesia, today called Zimbabwe, is annexed by the United Kingdom.

1974

Juventude Africana **Amílcar Cabral** is founded in Guinea-Bissau.

1977

South African anti-apartheid activist **Steve Biko** dies in police custody.

2011

The National **September 11 Memorial & Museum** in New York City opens to the public.



nowhere to go

sive for the mother whose feet bled searching for news of her son in the dungeons of Syria's security services. Many Syrians I spoke to often wondered why the world did nothing to help them, why the West — a substitute term for the United States — stopped at offering mere words, why every act of horror evoked mere outrage and posturing at the United Nations Security Council.

Americans often have little awareness of just how pervasive their country and way of life is in the Middle East. An activist in Raqqa described to me living under the Islamic State rule by referencing the American television series "The Blacklist" to explain how humans adapt to criminality.

Many lives have been changed, upended or destroyed by the direct or indirect reach of the United States, whether they were Yazidis saved by the United States' intervention in Iraq, or were buried under the rubble by the American-led coalition's airstrikes in Mosul and Raqqa.

The story many Americans believe in and propagate about their country is one molded in the Cold War ethos of spreading liberalism and freedom, a story that people in desperate straits sometimes clung to. After the 2013 chemical attack by Assad's regime in Syria, which killed over 1,000 civilians, many

Idlib has turned into a microcosm where all the regional and international power brokers have claimed a stake, where all the forces that gave rise to and were birthed by Syria's traumatic uprising are struggling in a catastrophic battle whose price, as usual, will be paid for by innocent civilians.

Syrians hoped the United States would enforce President Barack Obama's red line. Even later, in 2016, Aleppo vainly waited for American help that never came.

The prolongation of the war led to the rise of extremist groups the United States is now fighting in Syria. When Ghouta, a suburb of Damascus, came under siege this year, the Syrians were no longer waiting for the world to help.

The narrative of America's liberalizing fiction is a convenient one because the United States not only accepted the prevalence of totalitarian dictators in the region and elsewhere, but also abetted and fostered them in the pursuit of its interests. I did not know what to say to the Syrians who wrote to me every day while under siege, hoping that interven-

tion by a benevolent force would put an end to their suffering.

The United States intervened in Syria to protect its "national security" interests, not to protect civilians. America intervened and killed a lot of civilians in its single-minded pursuit of the Islamic State terror group, a symptom of the region's ailments, rather than its cause. Red lines were breached, the perfunctory calls for the dictator to step down were made, and the thirst for moral outrage was quenched, as people continued to die.

Half a million people died, and the only justice they can hope for is in the afterlife, when the scales, they believe, will be balanced.

I repeatedly find myself thinking of the graveyard near Yusef's home in Khan Sheikhun, where I stood after speaking with him, staring at the freshly dug graves of his wife and children, at the cinnamon soil. Those graves remain a testament to the fiction of the international community and international law.

Arab fairy tales start with a line: "Kan ya ma kan." "It was, or it wasn't." The myth is yours to believe in or to deny.

"Kan ya ma kan," there was an international community.

"Kan ya ma kan," there were values of justice and decency.

(Kareem Shaheen is a former Middle East correspondent for The Guardian.)

e revolution?

ts, the more vulnerable it may be

(960-1279). Naito Konan, a prominent Japanese Sinologist, noted in the 1910s and 1920s that before the enlightened autocracy of the Song era, China had for many decades been ruled by an informally hereditary aristocracy whose emperors also filled top government posts and controlled the civil service examinations. The emperors created a closed, self-serving and rapacious elite — until the entire system suddenly collapsed.

Naito noted that for decades the dynasties remained stable even as emperors were often overthrown by other aristocrats. It was another historian, Nicolas Tackett, who recently explained why the aristocracy was finally done in, and why so quickly. After examining hundreds of epitaphs on graves from the ninth century, he concluded that the Tang empire was brought down by Huang Chao, a disgruntled salt-merchant-turned-rebel, who tapped popular discontent to wage a rebellion that swiftly turned into a blood bath — a class genocide that physically annihilated the entire medieval aristocratic class.

This is a precedent that should worry China's leaders today.

Xi's camp may seem powerful, but his base is quite small: The Red Aristocrats number only about 40,000 people, according to one

If Xi stays in power for more than two five-year terms, the ascendancy of the Red Aristocrats may become unstoppable. What then? Some lament that China under Xi is returning ideologically to the Maoist era. But if the Red Aristocracy keeps rising, China's politics may regress all the way back to medieval times.

of them. And within his camp lurk dangerous challengers. Xi came to power as a compromise candidate. A plot to snatch the CCP's leadership by another, charismatic, Red Aristocrat — Bo Xilai — was foiled just months before Xi took the party's helm in late 2012. (Bo was then sentenced to life imprisonment for corruption.) There have been rumors — and sometimes official claims — of attempted coups, including just last year.

As the elite behind Xi congeals into a political aristocracy, it is also overseeing the closing down of Chinese society, through restrictions on the internet, social profiling and extensive surveillance, or the extraordinary repres-

sion of ethnic Uighurs in Xinjiang province. Corruption remains rampant, and protests and other public expressions of popular discontent continue despite more severe crackdowns.

If in the years ahead Xi's Red Aristocrats become even more entrenched and social mobility is further obstructed by vested interests, economic exploitation will intensify, fueling class differences. As the Plebeians head toward defeat, strife among powerful oligarchs within the Red Aristocracy will take center stage.

Whether a modern-day Huang Chao would then appear — and Chao would know how to galvanize a disgruntled population into rising up — no one can tell, of course. But some people seem to worry about the possibility.

In 2012, Wang Qishan, a confidante of Xi's and the head of his anti-corruption effort at the time, called on senior CCP members to read Alexis de Tocqueville's "The Old Regime and the Revolution," about the popular uprising that toppled the monarchy in France in 1789. Mentioning Huang probably would have struck too close to home.

(Yi-Zheng Lian, a commentator on Hong Kong and Asian affairs, is a professor of economics at Yamanashi Gakuin University, in Kofu, Japan, and a contributing opinion writer.)



TOP
4
TWEETS

01



I admire Apple most for their focus. They don't have a venture arm. They don't run incubators or accelerators. They don't want to host you. They focus on what they do best: making sure you have to replace all your accessories and connectors each time you buy a new Apple product.

@bigyahu

02



On this, the most solemn of anniversaries, may we never forget the events of 9/11 or the brave men and women who were lost. And may we also be reminded that we responded to this tragedy as Americans, regardless of our subtle differences.

@ChiefJacksonKPD

03



Over the years, I've come to think of the DC/Silicon Valley difference like this: The DC mindset is shaped by watching solvable problems prove impossible to solve. The Silicon Valley mindset is shaped by watching impossible problems prove possible to solve.

@ezraklein

04



Bitcoiners 2009: central banks are evil, be your own sovereign bank, something something coming collapse of filthy statist bucks Bitcoiners 2018: we just got regulatory approval for multiple USD-backed stablecoins and are also pushing for several Bitcoin ETFs to be approved

@ofnumbers

Disclaimer: (Views expressed by columnists are personal and need not necessarily reflect our editorial stances)

Wide Angle

Personal morality of political leaders: Does it matter?



JOEL INDRUPATI

“How can we believe someone who takes an oath of office but can't keep an oath of fidelity”? This angry tweet from a viewer was scrolling across the screen, as I watched a TV panel discussing the Boris Johnson scandal.

Incensed at the news that Boris Johnson, the former Foreign Secretary of UK and former Mayor of London, is divorcing his wife of 25 years, amidst accusations of his cheating, many viewers expressed great anger and disdain.

How can he, who must've made his wedding vows to be faithful 'till death us do part', suddenly leave his wife like this? Where is fidelity in the marriage?

But then, many other viewers felt differently too. They said this was no big deal. Why should his personal life be allowed to affect his political career? His wife and children are of little consequence, when it comes to his own political achievements and aspirations.

I was actually watching 'CNN Talk with Max Foster' — even though on this particular occasion it was being hosted and moderated by the beautiful Bianca Nabilo. The panel discussion was titled, 'Boris Johnson Scandal: Does Personal Morality matter in Modern Politics'?

Like someone on the panel had said, Boris Johnson is a brand, a persona, which he has been building for years. So, who knows, it could even help him fight Theresa May as a possible future Prime Minister of UK.

“Not getting along with your wife has nothing to do with a lack of morality”, said a viewer's comment on screen.

Another commentator gave his or her version of moral code: “Extra marital affairs are not immoral, but lying about them, is!”

I found this thought-provoking. This 'perceptive' commentator obviously believes that 'lying about an affair' is immoral. But an 'extra marital affair' is itself not immoral.

We are living in a world where 'morality' is carelessly assumed, if not completely misunderstood. The definition of 'morals' has become 'relative' in the light of our fast diminishing beliefs in - if not in the complete absence of - 'absolutes'.

Absolute moral values have often come to us from religious texts. And once we negate these values, citing great societal changes, 'relativism' increases. And 'relativism' can often twist thoughts in any way to justify our actions.

Whether we believe that eating the forbidden fruit from the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil, by Adam and Eve, has brought in the moral dimension to human beings, or whether we believe that all of us have an innate collective conscience that defines morality, we will always be debating specific actions.

Especially, the actions of those in power. Because, they indirectly influence the direction of our own personal moral compasses.

“Immorality of leaders adds glamour to politics!” This other comment shocked me.

By now, readers must have realized, I was paying more attention to viewers' comments appearing on screen, than to the words of the panellists.

I'd realized that even though the intelligentsia was at the table, the real world was out there. And its members were expressing thoughts of their own, on morality, shaped by whatever they had been exposed to — from parents, family, school, movies, books and their own personal experiences.

On 'personal morality', the viewers were sparring better than the panellists as they compared Boris Johnson with Trump, Clinton, and Kennedy in the USA and with John Major, Macmillan and Churchill in the UK.

If immorality does give glamour to politics, is it then 'an advantageous defect' to have?

Like someone on the panel had said, Boris Johnson is a brand, a persona, which he has been building for years. So, who knows, it could even help him fight Theresa May as a possible future Prime Minister of UK.

It doesn't really matter that he'd once said, “My chances of being PM are about as good as the chances of finding Elvis on Mars, or my being reincarnated as an olive”.

world

Kim Jong Un calls for 2nd meet

Washington, United States

U.S. President Donald Trump has received a “very positive” letter from North Korean leader Kim Jong Un seeking a follow-up meeting after their historic summit in Singapore, the White House said.

“It was a very warm, very positive letter,” White House spokeswoman Sarah Sanders said, adding that the message showed Pyongyang’s “continued commitment to focus on denuclearization” on the Korean Peninsula.

“The primary purpose of the letter was to schedule another meeting with the president, which we are open to and are already in the process of coordinating,” she said Monday at the first White House press briefing in nearly three weeks.

EU nations urge not to demolish W. Bank village

Jerusalem, Undefined

Five European countries have urged Israel not to raze a Palestinian Bedouin village in the occupied West Bank, where authorities are allowed to move ahead with the demolition as early as Wednesday.

France, Germany, Italy, Spain and Britain on Monday issued a renewed call for Israel not to demolish the village of Khan al-Ahmar, where around 200 people live.

“The consequences a demolition and displacement would have on the residents of this community, including their children, as well as on the prospects of the two-state solution would be very serious,” the countries said in a joint statement.

China mulls censoring online religious content

Beijing, China

Chinese authorities have drafted sweeping new regulations that would severely restrict religious content online, including images or even descriptions of religious activities from praying and chanting to burning incense.

The move comes as Beijing tightens the screws on religion, especially for followers of Islam and Christianity.

The new rules would only allow members of officially licensed organisations to post certain kinds of religious content, according to a draft document published online Monday by the bureau of religious affairs.

Russia begins biggest ever military games

The week-long war games dubbed “Vostok-2018”(East-2018) “have kicked off” in far eastern Russia

● Latest addition is Iskander missiles that can carry nuclear warheads.

● Deployed several frigates equipped with Kalibr missiles

Chita, Russia | AFP

Russia launched yesterday what it called its largest ever military drills, with hundreds of thousands of troops taking part along with Chinese soldiers in a show of force NATO condemned as a rehearsal for “large-scale conflict.”

President Vladimir Putin is expected to attend the games after hosting an economic forum in Russia’s far eastern city Vladivostok where his Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping is one of the prominent guests.

The week-long war games dubbed “Vostok-2018”(East-2018) “have kicked off” in far eastern Russia, the defence ministry said.

Taking part in the drills are around 300,000 soldiers, 36,000



Russian President Vladimir Putin and his Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping cook pancakes while visiting “The Far East Street” exhibition on the sidelines of the Eastern Economic Forum in Vladivostok

military vehicles, 80 ships and 1,000 aircraft, helicopters and drones. Some 3,500 Chinese troops will take part.

The defence ministry released video footage of military vehicles, planes, helicopters and ships getting into position for the initial stage of the drills.

Putin praised Russia’s increas-

ingly close ties with China as he met with Xi at the economic forum in Vladivostok on Tuesday.

“We have trustworthy ties in political, security and defence spheres,” the Russian leader said. Xi for his part said the two countries’ “friendship is getting stronger all the time.”

The drills, which also include

Mongolian soldiers, have been condemned by NATO as a rehearsal for “large-scale conflict.”

The military exercises come at a time of escalating tensions between Moscow and the West over accusations of Russian interference in western affairs and conflicts in Ukraine and Syria.



Russia’s previous military exercise in the region, Vostok-2014, was almost half the size, with 155,000 soldiers participating.

The Russian army has compared the show of force to the USSR’s 1981 war games that saw between 100,000 and 150,000 Warsaw Pact soldiers take part in “Zapad-81” (West-81) -- the largest military exercises of the Soviet era. But Defence Minister Sergei Shoigu said these exercises are even larger.

“Imagine 36,000 military vehicles moving at the same time: tanks, armoured personnel carriers, infantry fighting vehicles -- and all of this, of course, in conditions as close to a combat situation as possible,” Shoigu said.

50 dead as Indian bus plunges into valley

New Delhi, India

Fifty people died when a bus carrying Hindu pilgrims plunged into a valley in southern India yesterday.

The bus carrying 80 people was returning from the famous Hindu temple of Kondagattu Anjaneya Swamy in the hilly southern state of Telangana when it skidded off the road.

Broken glass, slippers and luggage lay scattered next to lifeless bodies that were lined up at the scene, as locals pulled out survivors from the mangled vehicle. They then carried them uphill to get medical attention. Some climbed onto the bus and others tried to reach the injured through the front portion which was completely smashed.

NY commemorates 17th anniversary of Sep 11

New York, United States

New York yesterday honored the nearly 3,000 people killed on September 11, 2001 in a ceremony at Ground Zero, the site where hijacked Al-Qaeda planes brought down the Twin Towers.

The 17th anniversary was commemorated in fog and gentle rain by relatives of those who were killed, police officers, fire fighters and officials, who remembered what remains the



A young boy and his mother look down into the South Pool during observances at the annual ceremony at the Ground Zero memorial site

deadliest single attack on US soil. They gathered at the National September 11 Memorial and marked moments of silences at 8:46 am and 9:03 am, the exact times that the passenger jets struck the North and South Towers. New York Governor Andrew Cuomo, the US ambassador to the United Nations, Nikki Haley and Mayor Bill de Blasio, together with his predecessors, Michael Bloomberg and Rudy Giuliani, were among those who attended.

A million told to flee as Hurricane stalks eastern US

Charleston, United States

More than a million people were under evacuation orders in the eastern United States yesterday, where powerful Hurricane Florence threatened catastrophic damage to a region popular with vacationers and home to crucial government institutions.

The menacing Category 4 storm packed winds of 130 miles (215 kilometers) per hour over the Atlantic.

“This is one of the worst storms to hit the East Coast in



The guided-missile destroyer USS Nitze (DDG 94) departs Naval Station Norfolk on September 10, 2018 in preparation for Hurricane Florence.

many years,” President Donald Trump warned on Twitter. “Please be prepared, be careful and be SAFE!”

South Carolina Governor Henry McMaster ordered as many as one million coastal residents to leave their homes ahead of the storm’s projected arrival on Thursday. Schools in 26 of the state’s 46 counties were ordered closed from Tuesday.

The governor of neighboring North Carolina ordered an evacuation of the Outer Banks, barrier islands that are a popular tourist destination, and parts of

coastal Dare County.

Virginia, home to major government and military facilities, declared a state of emergency and 245,000 coastal residents there were ordered to evacuate by 8:00 am Tuesday including from the Eastern Shore, another popular beachfront getaway destination.

Hurricane Florence has the potential to bring disastrous flooding to areas of the eastern United States already soaked by heavy rain. It may be the strongest storm to hit the region in decades.

Pakistan mourns death of Kulsoom, wife of ex-PM

Kulsoom Nawaz, the wife of former Pakistan prime minister Nawaz Sharif, died of cancer in London

Islamabad, Pakistan

Kulsoom Nawaz, the wife of former Pakistan prime minister Nawaz Sharif, died of cancer in London yesterday as her husband remains locked up in jail in his home country following his fall from power.

Nawaz, 68, who was first lady of Pakistan three times, was diagnosed with lymphoma in August last year and had been receiving treatment at a private hospital in London for months.

“Yes, the death of Begum Kulsoom Nawaz is confirmed,” Maryam Aurangzeb, a spokesperson of Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N), Sharif’s party, told AFP.

Pakistani media reported that she had been put on life support and a ventilator earlier in the day.

Sharif was ousted from the premiership a month before his wife’s diagnosis.

He and the couple’s daughter Maryam Nawaz had left her in London and returned to Pakistan on July 13 this year in a bid to motivate support for the PML-N days before a general election.

They were immediately jailed for corruption, with the party losing the July 25 vote to Imran Khan’s Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf.

Sharif had been banned from running



Kulsoom Nawaz (courtesy of Yahoo)

and his return was seen as a failed gamble to save his political legacy.

Conspiracy theories claiming that Nawaz was actually healthy, and that the Sharifs were faking her illness to gain sympathy, swirled in the final weeks of the acrimonious campaign.

Nawaz had been at her husband’s side



Mrs. Kulsoom Nawaz was a brave woman

IMRAN KHAN, PRIME MIINISTER

throughout his decades-long political career, which saw him become prime minister of Pakistan three times while facing military coups, prison and exile.

“She was a brave lady,” Siddiq-ul-Farouq, a stalwart party loyalist, said, describing her as well-educated and dignified.

‘Devastating’

For years Nawaz stayed out of politics, focusing on the couple’s family and home life. The couple have four children.

But after Sharif was first imprisoned following a military coup in 1999 Nawaz stepped into the limelight, Farouq said.

“She told her father-in-law, ‘Dad, I have to go out,’ and he replied, ‘Daughter, you must go,’” he recounted.

Nawaz took over leadership of the par-

ty, defying house arrest to attend street rallies standing up to General Pervez Musharraf and demanding her husband’s release. Sharif was eventually allowed to go into exile in Saudi Arabia in 2007.

“She fought against cancer with a lot of courage,” Farouq added.

The newly-elected Khan, a former cricket hero who had campaigned against the Sharifs for his entire 22-year-long political career, sent his condolences Tuesday.

“The Pakistan High Commission in the UK has been directed to provide all possible assistance to facilitate the heirs of Mrs. Kulsoom Nawaz,” his office said in a statement.

“Mrs. Kulsoom Nawaz was a brave woman,” Khan was quoted as saying in the statement.

The US Embassy in Islamabad as well as the leaders of other political parties also sent condolences, as Pakistani social media was quickly flooded with messages.

“Feeling so sorry for Maryam and Mian sahib (Nawaz Sharif),” tweeted one user, Mobeen Shafaat. “They had to leave her behind, I don’t know what they’ll be going through right now. Devastating.”

Others speculated on whether Khan’s government would allow Sharif or his daughter to return to London to collect Nawaz’s body.

57 murders a day in S.Africa : minister
Cape Town, South Africa

South Africa’s murder rate rose again last year, official statistics showed Tuesday, with over 20,000 people killed across the country -- about 57 a day -- as police admitted they were struggling to keep control.

A total of 20,336 people were murdered in the 12 months to March this year, a rise of 6.9 percent over the previous year and one of the sharpest increases since the end of apartheid 24 years ago.

“Fifty-seven a day -- that’s how (many) South Africans are murdered. It borders close to the war zone, while there is a peace. And there is no war in South Africa,” Police Minister Bheki Cele told lawmakers in Cape Town.

Hanoi urges residents to stop eating dog meat

Hanoi, Vietnam

Hanoi officials urged residents yesterday to ease off eating dog meat, saying the popular dish is tarnishing the city’s image and risks spreading rabies.

Roasted, boiled or steamed, dog meat can be found in markets and food shops across the capital city famed for its tasty street food, and the meat is traditionally eaten with rice wine or beer.

But Hanoi People’s Committee on Tuesday warned residents to lay off canine meat to prevent the spread of rabies and other animal-borne diseases.

It also urged them to stop eating cat meat, often dubbed “little tiger” on Vietnamese menus, which is less popular than dog but still readily available in rural areas.

Rare Hermann’s tortoises stolen
Ajaccio, France

A turtle conservation park on the French island of Corsica is asking the public for help after 56 rare Hermann’s tortoises, considered a nearly threatened species, were stolen from the site.

The A Cupulatta park in Vero, about 30 kilometres (20 miles) northeast of Ajaccio, issued its appeal on Facebook on Monday after discovering the missing adult tortoises, recognisable by their distinctive black-and-yellow shells.

“These tortoises cannot be legally sold so can only be destined for trafficking,” the park wrote.

“They could contaminate wild populations with fatal germs, since they’ve been kept in captivity for a long time and have been exposed to animals and people which wild turtles aren’t used to seeing,” the park said.

“Share this message: the turtles may still be in Corsica,” it added.

ICC ‘undeterred’ after US sanctions

The Hague, Netherlands

The International Criminal Court yesterday said its work would continue “undeterred” after Washington threatened to prosecute its officials if Americans are charged with war crimes committed in Afghanistan.

“The ICC, as a court of law, will continue to do its work undeterred, in accordance with those principles and the overarching idea of the rule of law,” the tribunal said in a statement.

The Hague-based court’s response comes a day after the United States threatened to arrest and sanction court officials should they move to charge any American who

served in Afghanistan with war crimes.

White House National Security Advisor John Bolton called the Hague-based rights body “unaccountable” and “out-right dangerous” to the United States, Israel and other allies, and said any probe of US service members would be “an utterly unfounded, unjustifiable investigation”.

“If the court comes after us, Israel or other US allies, we will not sit quietly,” Bolton said.

The US was prepared to slap financial sanctions and criminal charges on officials of the court if they proceed against any Americans, he added.

But in response, the ICC declared itself an “independent

and impartial judicial institution”.

It also stressed that it would only investigate and prosecute crimes when the states will not or can not do so.

The Hague-based ICC was set up in 2002 with jurisdiction to investigate and prosecute the world’s worst crimes including genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity.

The court however does not have the capacity to arrest suspects and depends on member states for their cooperation.

The United States has not signed up to the court and in 2002 Congress passed a law enabling Washington to invade the Netherlands to liberate any US citizen held by the court.

32 killed, 128 injured in attack on protesters

Jalalabad, Afghanistan

A suicide attack on protesters in eastern Afghanistan yesterday killed at least 32 people, officials said, as an uptick in violence across the war-torn country dampens hopes for peace talks and elections.

There were chaotic scenes at several hospitals as medical staff struggled to treat 128 people wounded by the powerful blast in Nangarhar province.

Gul Majid was among scores of protesters blocking the highway between the provincial capital of Jalalabad and a major Pakistan border crossing when he “heard a big bomb”.

“Then I saw flesh, blood and people wounded all around me,” Majid told AFP outside one of the hospitals.

“I am still looking for my friends. I don’t know whether they are alive or dead.”

The men had been protesting over the appointment of a local police chief, provincial governor spokesman Ataullah Khogyani said.

Provincial health director Najibullah Kamawal and Khogyani both confirmed the latest casualty toll.

The attack came hours after a double bombing in front of a girls’ school in the provincial capital Jalalabad.

Students gain weight ‘to dodge military service’

Seoul, South Korea

Twelve inventive South Korean college students deliberately made themselves overweight to dodge mandatory military service, a branch of the armed forces in Seoul said Tuesday.

The students -- all classical music majors at the same university in the capital -- took protein powder and drank a large amount of juice on the day of their physical examination, the Military Manpower Administration said.

“The classmates shared tips on how to gain weight on an online chatroom,” it said, adding they drank an especially large amount of juice containing aloe vera pulp -- considered to stay in the body longer than other food.

Nearly every able-bodied



South Korean marines take part in a US-South Korea joint landing operation

South Korean man is required to enrol by age 28 in the military, for a minimum of 21 months.

Those deemed too overweight or underweight, or diagnosed

with certain diseases or disabilities, are exempted and usually assigned to positions in places like courts or public libraries.

The 12 wily students were

judged too overweight for conscription and were ordered to work for government services instead.

Two have already finished

their public service, while four are currently doing it and six are waiting to be assigned to positions at state offices.

The military said it had used “digital forensic technology” to uncover the ruse, suggesting it may have seen messages from the chatroom used by the students.

Officials have sent the case to prosecutors who will decide whether to charge the group.

If the students are later found guilty, they will have to undergo the physical examination again -- and may have to serve their time in the military after all, the army warned.

Attempts to dodge conscription are not uncommon, with efforts including deliberately dislocating arms or shoulders.

WORLD

features

Farewell to Kofi Annan

Nobel peace laureate Annan, who was the world body's first leader from sub-Saharan Africa, died on August 18 after a brief illness. He was 80



People pay their last respects to Kofi Annan, Ghanaian diplomat and former Secretary General of United Nations

AFP | Accra, Ghana

A steady stream of mourners yesterday paid their respects to the former UN secretary general Kofi Annan as he lay in state in the capital of his native Ghana.

The diplomat's body was flown back from Switzerland on Monday ahead of a state funeral and private burial in Accra on Thursday.

Nobel peace laureate Annan, who was the world body's first leader from sub-Saharan Africa, died on August 18 after a brief illness. He was 80.

Draped in Ghana's red, green and gold flag, his coffin was guarded by senior military officers in ceremonial uniform at the Accra International Conference Centre.

There were traditional dances and a choir sang hymns as the public filed past, taking their chance to say a proud farewell to one of the country's most famous sons.

Fritz Kitcher, who spent his career working in human rights for the United Nations in Geneva, said he had watched Annan rise through the ranks.

Now retired and back living in Ghana, he said Annan had taught him "the benefit of humility, the benefit of honesty, the benefit of decisiveness, and diplomacy from the grassroots".

Annan's role as the UN's first black African leader was "an honour for Ghana", Kitcher said.

'He lifted Africa'

"It was marvellous in our eyes, it



A military salutes the coffin of Kofi Annan

was one of these things that we can only dream... he lifted Africa and showed that we are also able to do great things," he told AFP.

Jennifer Asuako, a programme analyst with the UN in Ghana, said Annan was widely respected, humble and an inspiration to his colleagues.

She pledged to "keep the torch burning" on gender equality, an area where he showed great

dedication.

"He made the whole world understand promoting equality between men and women is not an issue of women only, but it's an issue for sustainable development," she said.

"There are a lot of Ghanaians who can take on the mantle and do similar, like he did, but not like him because he is a unique individual."



An artist paints a portrait of Kofi Annan at the entrance of Accra International Conference Centre in Accra

'Our great father'

Most of those queuing to pay their respects wore black and red mourning clothes, passing under large posters of the late diplomat to the sound of pulsating drums.

Cleaner Akwo Kwame Johnson, from neighbouring Ivory Coast said he wanted to pay his last respects to "our great father".

Whenever he saw Annan in the news, Johnson said he felt like he was watching a family member.

"He was a president to all the world," he added.

Pensioner Joyce Atiase said she was mourning the loss of a "great man". "We all loved him.

He played a major role for our country, he did his best," she said.

Anyekai Oddoye, who works in Ghana's cocoa sector, said he whispered a prayer as he passed his coffin and wished him well.

"Everyone respects him," she said, adding that the state honours were no more than he deserved.

"It shows the extent of how we hold him up here," she added.

Scores of world leaders past and present, as well as royalty, are expected in Accra for Annan's funeral on Thursday.

A private burial service will then be held in the city's military cemetery.

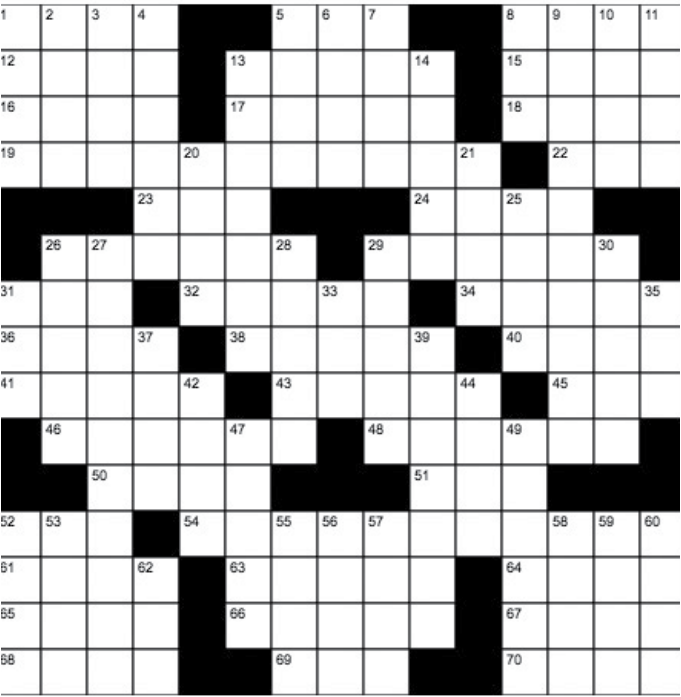


It was marvellous in our eyes, it was one of these things that we can only dream... he lifted Africa and showed that we are also able to do great things

FRITZ KITCHER, WHO SPENT HIS CAREER WORKING IN HUMAN RIGHTS FOR THE UNITED NATIONS IN GENEVA

entertainment

CROSSWORD



Across

1- Baseball's Felipe; 5- Sever; 8- Neat as ____; 12- Large cat; 13- Assumed attitudes; 15- Look ____ hands!; 16- Breathe hard; 17- Marisa of "My Cousin Vinny"; 18- Squabbling; 19- Know-it-all; 22- "Lord, is ____?": Matthew; 23- Actress Thurman; 24- Greek vowels; 26- Standards of perfection; 29- Deadly fly; 31- Article in Le Monde; 32- Nabisco's ____ Wafers; 34- Stone marker; 36-Gds.; 38- Wynonna's mom; 40- Seed covering; 41- Establish as the truth; 43- Sanctify; 45- Colorful moths; 46- Warns; 48- Poem of 14 lines; 50- Z ____ zebra; 51- Asian language; 52- Guggenheim

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION



display; 54- Burning; 61- Journalist Jacob; 63- Apartment sign; 64- Sketched; 65- Riding; 66- Put on cloud nine; 67- Cross letters; 68- Actress Turner; 69- Photo ____ (media events); 70- Codger;

Down

1- European chain; 2- Actor Neeson; 3- A Chaplin; 4- False; 5- Poultry enclosure; 6- West Point inits.; 7- New driver, often; 8- Doc bloc; 9- Pastry shop; 10- Monogram ltr.; 11- Don't look at me!; 13- Saliva enzyme; 14- Locations; 20- Counterfeiter catcher; 21- Fr. holy women; 25- ____ boy!; 26- Chief of the Vedic gods; 27- Devastation; 28- Thick slices; 29- Domesticates; 30- "Silas Marner" author; 31- Strike caller; 33- Chat room chuckle; 35- Capp and Capone; 37- Nights before; 39- Quarantine; 42- Actor Stoltz; 44- Hitch or glitch; 47- Govt. security; 49- Scandinavian; 52- Asian inland sea; 53- Moreno of "West Side Story"; 55- ____ contendere; 56- Envelope part; 57- Permits; 58- River of Tuscany; 59- Pianist Peter; 60- Ninny; 62- Health resort;

BEETLE BAILEY



WORD OF THE DAY

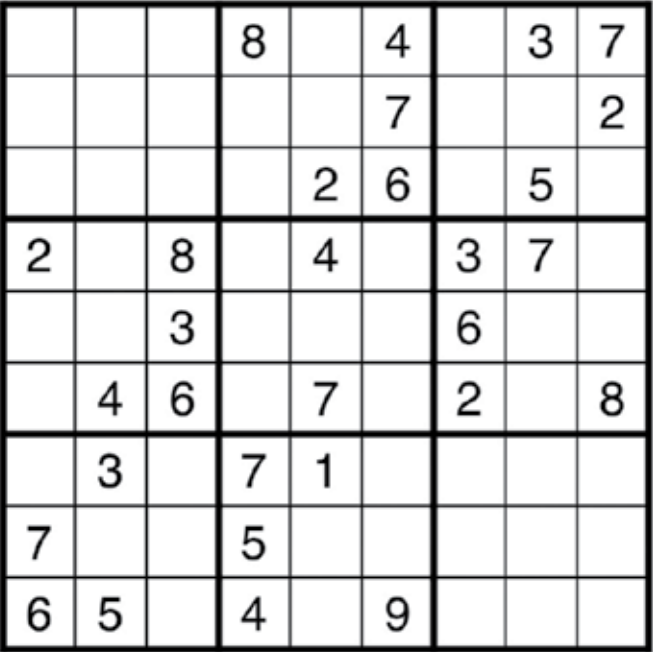
Deportment

Definition:
1 : the manner in which one conducts oneself : behavior

Did You Know
Deportment evolved from the verb de-

port, meaning "to behave especially in accord with a code," which in turn came to us through Middle French from Latin deportare, meaning "to carry away." (You may also know deport as a verb meaning "to send out of the country"; that sense is newer and is derived directly from Latin deportare.) Deportment can simply refer to one's demeanor, or it can refer to behavior formed by breeding or training and often conforming to conventional rules of propriety: "Are you not gratified that I am so rapidly gaining correct ideas of female propriety and sedate deportment?" wrote 17-year-old Emily Dickinson to her brother Austin.

SUDOKU



YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION



How to play

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

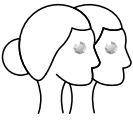
YOUR STAR TODAY



Aries
You've worked hard during the last few months and feel you deserve a break. This year you're likely to want to do something different from the norm, perhaps travel to a foreign land associated with a great spiritual tradition. You should feel closer to your loved ones and optimistic about the future. Enjoy!



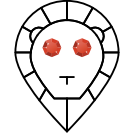
Taurus
You're likely to feel physically, emotionally, and spiritually strong and ready to tap into your inner power. Dreams may make it possible to release old traumas and move ahead. Take heart from past success, continue as you are, and enjoy your day.



Gemini
You're good at dealing with others, but today you should be especially so. Your intuition is strong and you're likely to instinctively understand others' thoughts, feelings, needs, and desires. You give freely of your experience, knowledge, and understanding. This brings others closer to you, which can work for you on many levels. Social events may bring new friends.



Cancer
You generally are good at sizing up other people and sensing their thoughts and feelings, Cancer, but today that talent is greatly enhanced by increased intuition. You should be feeling especially enthusiastic and optimistic today. Physically, you should be healthy and vigorous, and spiritually you should be strong.



Leo
Communication with close friends and a romantic partner should be especially beneficial today, Leo, since you're feeling more in touch with those close to you. Children could also be a source of joy today. Your creativity and inspiration are strong, so this is a great day to start new projects.



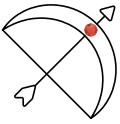
Virgo
You should be feeling especially determined and confident about your future. Your plans have worked out well. You're feeling close to family, as your intuition level is high and you can sense what they're thinking and feeling. Career and relationships look promising. Enjoy!



Libra
Your communications could be subtler than words. Today you're probably feeling especially optimistic, enthusiastic, and very inspired by your circumstances. Continue on your path!



Scorpio
Today you may spend much of your time giving material form to your ideas. You're intuitive by nature, but today your psychic gifts are operating at a high level. Don't write off any insights you receive. Instead, write them down. Don't forget to keep paper and pen next to your bed. You'll want to remember your ideas and dreams later.



Sagittarius
This is a time when you're likely to feel especially idealistic and hopeful. Your intuition is also strong. You might consider taking a trip to a distant state or foreign country, perhaps one associated with a great spiritual tradition. Wait a day or two and talk it over with friends before making any arrangements.



Capricorn
During this time, you'll feel especially intuitive, optimistic, and spiritually on a roll. Your relationships are probably going well. Your increased understanding of others' needs makes you generous with sympathy or assistance where needed. Enjoy your day.



Aquarius
Group activities that you attend today are likely to be spiritually oriented, such as group meditations. Though you're usually more intellectually inclined, today you should be feeling especially intuitive. Write down your thoughts and ideas lest you forget them. You may want to use them later.



Pisces
Some vivid and wonderful dreams might provide inspiration for future creative projects. Success in career and relationships is indicated. Don't be surprised if friends and colleagues line up for your support and guidance.

show

THE NUN
(18+) (HORROR/THRILLER) NEW
Ⓢ TAISSA FARMIGA, DEMIAN BICHR, BONNIE AARONS

CINECO (20) (IMAX 2D): 12.15 + 2.30 + 4.45 + 7.00 + 9.15 + 11.30 PM (1.00 AM THURS/FRI) (ATMOS): 10.30 AM + 12.45 + 3.00 + 5.15 + 7.30 + 9.45 PM + 12.00 MN (VIP I): 11.45 AM + 2.00 + 4.15 + 6.30 + 8.45 + 11.00 PM

SEEF (II) (1.00 AM THURS/FRI)

SEEF (I) 12.30 + 2.45 + 5.00 + 7.15 + 9.30 + 11.45 PM

SAAR 12.00 + 2.15 + 4.30 + 6.45 + 9.00 + (11.15 PM THURS/FRI)

WADI AL SAIL 10.30 AM + 12.45 + 3.00 + 5.15 + 7.30 + 9.15 PM + 11.30 PM

ALPHA
(PG-13) (ADVENTURE) NEW
Ⓢ KODI SMIT-MCPHEE, JOHANNES HAUKEUR JOHANNESSEN

CINECO (20) 12.30 + 2.45 + 5.00 + 7.15 + 9.30 + 11.45 PM + (12.45 MN THUR/FRI)

DAILY AT (VIP II): 11.30 AM + 1.45 + 4.00 + 6.15 + 8.30 + 10.45 PM

DAILY AT (3D): 11.15 AM + 1.15 + 3.15 + 5.15 + 7.15 + 9.15 + 11.15 PM

SEEF (I) 10.30 AM + 12.45 + 3.00 + 5.15 + 7.30 + 9.45 PM + 12.00 MN + (1.00 AM THUR/FRI)

SAAR 12.00 + 2.15 + 4.30 + 6.45 + 9.00 + (11.15 PM THURS/FRI)

WADI AL SAIL 11.30 AM + 1.30 + 3.30 + 5.30 + 7.30 + 9.30 + 11.30 PM

PEPPERMINT
(PG-15) (ACTION/CRIME/THRILLER/DRAMA) NEW
Ⓢ JENNIFER GARNER, RICHARD CABRAL, JOHN GALLAGHER JR.

CINECO (20) 12.15 + 2.30 + 4.45 + 7.00 + 9.15 + 11.30 PM + (1.00 AM THURS/FRI)

SEEF (II) 10.30 AM + 12.45 + 3.00 + 5.15 + 7.30 + 9.45 PM + 12.00 MN + (1.00 AM THURS/FRI)

SAAR 11.45 AM + 2.00 + 4.15 + 6.30 + 8.45 + (11.00 PM THURS/FRI)

WADI AL SAIL 12.00 + 2.15 + 4.30 + 6.45 + 9.00 + 11.15 PM

ENCHANTED PRINCESS
(G) (ANIMATION/ADVENTURE/COMEDY) NEW

CINECO (20) 11.15 AM + 1.00 + 2.45 + 4.30 PM

SEEF (II) 12.45 + 2.30 + 4.15 + 6.00 + 7.45 + 9.30 + 11.15 PM

THE MERCY
(PG-13) (ADVENTURE/DRAMA/BIOGRAPHY) NEW
Ⓢ RACHEL WEISZ, DAVID THEWLIS, COLIN FIRTH

CINECO (20) 10.30 AM + 12.45 + 6.00 + 11.15

SEEF (I) 11.30 AM + 1.45 + 4.00 + 6.15 + 8.30 + 10.45 PM

PALTAN
(PG-15) (HINDI/DRAMA/WAR) NEW
Ⓢ ARJUN RAMPAL, JACKIE SHROFF, ABDUL QUADIR AMIN

CINECO (20) 3.00 + 8.15 PM

SEEF (I) 11.30 AM + 2.30 + 5.30 + 8.30 + 11.30

WADI AL SAIL 3.15+ 8.15 PM

THE MEG
(PG-15) (ACTION/THRILLER)
Ⓢ JASON STATHAM, RUBY ROSE, BINGBING LI

CINECO (20) 11.30 AM + 2.00 + 4.30 + 7.00 + 9.30 PM + 12.00 MN

SEEF (II) 11.00 AM + 1.30 + 4.00 + 6.30 + 9.00 + 11.30 PM

WADI AL SAIL 10.45 AM + 1.15 + 3.45 + 6.15 + 8.45 + 11.15 PM

EL BADLAH
(PG-13) (ARABIC/COMEDY)
Ⓢ TAMER HOSNY, AKRAM HOSNI, MAJED EL MASRY, AMINA KHALIL

CINECO (20) 12.00 + 2.00 + 4.00 + 6.00 + 8.00 + 10.00 PM + 12.00 MN

SEEF (II) (12.45 MN THURS/FRI)

SEEF (I) 11.15 AM + 1.15 + 3.15 + 5.15 + 7.15 + 9.15 + 11.15 PM

SAAR 11.30 AM + 3.30 + 7.30 + (11.30 PM THURS/FRI)

WADI AL SAIL 11.30 AM + 1.30 + 3.30 + 5.30 + 7.30 + 9.30 + 11.30 PM

REPRISAL
(PG-15) (ACTION/CRIME/THRILLER)
Ⓢ BRUCE WILLIS, FRANK GRILLO, JOHNATHON SCHAECH

CINECO (20) 11.30 AM + 1.30 + 3.30 + 5.30 + 7.30 + 9.30 + 11.30 PM

SEEF (II) 11.00 AM + 1.00 + 3.00 + 5.00 + 7.00 + 9.00 + 11.00 PM

SAAR 1.30 + 5.30 + 9.30 PM

WADI AL SAIL 11.15 AM + 1.15 + 6.15 + 11.15 PM

THE EQUALIZER 2
(15+) (ACTION/CRIME/THRILLER)
Ⓢ DENZEL WASHINGTON, PEDRO PASCAL, ASHTON SANDERS

CINECO (20) 11.00 AM + 1.30 + 4.00 + 6.30 + 9.00 + 11.30 PM

SEEF (II) 10.30 AM + 1.00 + 3.30 + 6.00 + 8.30 + 11.00 PM

MILE 22
(15+) (ACTION/THRILLER)
Ⓢ MARK WAHLBERG, LAUREN COHAN, IKO UWAIS

CINECO (20) 10.45 AM + 12.45 + 2.45 + 4.45 + 6.45 + 8.45 + 10.45 PM

SEEF (II) 11.15 AM + 1.15 + 3.15 + 5.15 + 7.15 + 9.15 + 11.15 PM

HOTELTRANSYLVANIA 3: SUMMER
(PG) (ANIMATION/COMEDY/DRAMA)
Ⓢ ADAM SANDLER, ANDY SAMBERG, FRAN DRESCHER

CINECO (20) 11.00 AM + 1.00 + 3.00 + 5.00 + 7.00 + 9.00 + 11.00 PM

SEEF (II) 10.45 AM + 12.45 + 2.45 + 4.45 + 6.45 + 8.45 + 10.45 PM

MISSION: IMPOSSIBLE FALLOUT
(PG-15) (ACTION/THRILLER/CRIME)

Ⓢ TOM CRUISE, HENRY CAVILL, VING RHAMES

CINECO (20) 11.30 AM + 2.30 + 5.30 + 8.30 + 11.30 PM

SEEF (II) 12.00 + 6.00 PM + 12.00 MN

SKYSCRAPER
(PG-13) (ACTION/THRILLER/DRAMA)
Ⓢ DWAYNE JOHNSON, NEVE CAMPBELL, PABLO SCHREIBER

CINECO (20) 12.00 + 2.15 + 4.30 + 6.45 + 9.00 + 11.15 PM

CHRISTOPHER ROBIN
(PG) (FAMILY/ADVENTURE/COMEDY)
Ⓢ EWAN MCGREGOR, HAYLEY ATWELL, BRONTE CARMICHAEL

CINECO (20) 11.30 AM + 4.15 + 9.00 PM

SEEF (II) 11.45 AM + 2.00 + 4.15 + 6.30 PM

THE INCREDIBLES 2
(PG) (ANIMATION/ACTION/ADVENTURE)
Ⓢ CRAIG T. NELSON, SAMUEL L. JACKSON, CATHERINE KEENER

CINECO (20) 1.45 + 6.30 + 11.15 PM

OCEAN'S EIGHT
(PG-15) (COMEDY/CRIME)
Ⓢ SANDRA BULLOCK, CATE BLANCHETT, ANNE HATHAWAY

CINECO (20) 6.15 + 8.30 + 10.45 PM

STREE
(15+) (HINDI/COMEDY/HORROR)
Ⓢ RAJKUMMAR RAO, SHRADDHA KAPOOR, PANKAJ TRIPATHI

SEEF (II) 11.15 AM + 1.45 + 4.15 + 6.45 + 9.15 + 11.45 PM

JAWANI PHIR NAHI ANI 2
(PG-13) (URDU/COMEDY/ROMANTIC)
Ⓢ MAWRA HOCANE, KANWALJIT SINGH, HUMAYUN SAEED

SEEF (II) 3.00 + 9.00 PM

SATYAMEVA JAYATE
(PG-15) (HINDI/ACTION/THRILLER)
Ⓢ JOHN ABRAHAM, MANOJ BAJPAYEE, AISHA SHARMA

SEEF (II) 8.45 + 11.30 PM

AL KHROG AN AL NAS
(15+) (ARABIC/DRAMA/THRILLER) NEW
Ⓢ MOHAMED NAGATY, TARA EMAD, RANDA EL BEHIRY, NERMIN MAHER SABRI

SEEF (I) 2.15 + 7.00 + 11.45 PM

LAILA MAJNU
(PG-15) (HINDI/ROMANTIC/DRAMA) NEW
Ⓢ TRIPTI DIMRI, MIR SARWAR, AVINASH TIWARY

SEEF (I) 11.30 AM + 4.15 + 9.00 PM

MARADONA
(MALAYALAM) NEW
Ⓢ TOVINO THOMAS, LEONA LISHOV, CHEMBAN VINOD JOSE, SHALLU RAHIM

AL HAMRA 12.00 + 3.00 + 6.00 + 9.00 PM + (12.00 MN THURS/FRI)

Thai film company to retell cave saga



Phanumas Saengdee, a member of the “Wild Boars” football club, crawls inside a prop cave at an interactive exhibition in a mall in Bangkok

AFP | Bangkok, Thailand

A Thai-based film company has joined the scramble to retell the dramatic story of the 12 young footballers and their coach who were freed from a flooded cave, one of the producers said yesterday.

Since the ‘Wild Boars’ team were extracted from Tham Luang cave in northern Thailand two months ago, there has been a frenzy of media interest in the feel-good tale that captivated the world for weeks.

Documentary makers and Hollywood producers have tussled to get films off the ground, with journalists also spinning book deals from the real-life rescue mission.

A Bangkok production company called De Warrenne

Pictures are the latest to agree financing to make their version called “The Cave” with shooting planned for November.

“The project is already set,” producer Katrina Grose said, of a movie that will be directed by Tom Waller -- a Bangkok-based filmmaker of mixed Thai-Irish descent.

The operation to save the boys, who wandered into the cave after a football training session and became stuck as floodwaters surged in, involved expert cave divers from across the world.

They were found after 11 days huddled on a muddy ledge without food or fresh water, floodwaters lapping ominously below them.

An ex-Thai Navy SEAL died

in the run-up to the daring ex-traction of the group, who were heavily sedated as they were carried, pulled and dragged free from deep inside the cave.

Initially after their rescue officials imposed a blanket ban on coverage, fearing for the boys’ mental health with the world’s media camped up in rural Thailand.

But efforts to shield the team have crumbled with TV networks jostling for interviews and the Thai junta organising a seemingly endless stream of media events.

In one of the most bizarre, last Thursday, the boys were encouraged to crawl through a mock-up tunnel in a recreated cave in a Bangkok megamall, where a zone has been dedicated to the rescue.

‘Hotel Mumbai’ recounts horrors

Toronto, Canada

A hard-to-watch telling of the 2008 attacks in Mumbai, India in Anthony Maras’s “Hotel Mumbai” provoked tears and cheers at its world premiere at the Toronto film festival.

It is an “anthem of resistance,” the Australian director declared at a press conference.

“You had a whole lot of people from every conceivable background, racial, ethnic, from different socioeconomic groups who came together in the face of real adversity to survive,” Maras said.

The film received a standing ovation over the weekend for its searing, vivid dramatization of the events at the opulent Taj Mahal Palace Hotel, targeted by Lashkar-e-Taiba militants.

It was also praised by critics for its empathetic portrayal of both the victims and the perpetrators. Armie Hammer, who plays an American guest of the hotel, said: “The script was dripping in humanity.”

“You see the toll the attack has on the guests and the staff of the hotel, but you also see it, really for the first time that I can think of, on the actual perpetrators,” he said.



(L-R) Jason Isaacs, Tilda Cobham-Hervey, Anupam Kher, Nazanin Boniadi and Dev Patel attend the ‘Hotel Mumbai’ premiere during 2018 Toronto International Film Festival at Princess of Wales Theatre on 7 September in Toronto.

Nazanin Boniadi, who played his wife in the movie, had tears streaming down her face on stage during a post-premiere question-and-answer with the audience.

Jason Isaacs, cast as a Russian guest of the hotel, urged watching it with others in a cinema, saying it “connects you with other people and to recognize your common humanity.”

The hotel siege was part of a coordinated series of attacks in India’s most populous city

which left more than 160 dead and hundreds wounded.

The hotel’s executive chef Hemant Oberoi, who has been credited for saving many lives during the assault, was on hand for the premiere.

Anupam Kher plays him in the film, which was his 501st and, he said, the first to earn him praise as an actor from his mother: “She said ‘I cried, I was very moved by your acting.’”

The hotel was completely restored by 2010.

Olivia Newton-John diagnosed with cancer

Sydney, Australia

Olivia Newton-John, the Australian singer who found worldwide fame in the hit movie “Grease”, has revealed she has been diagnosed with cancer for the third time.

The 69-year-old told Australian television broadcaster Channel Seven that doctors had discovered a tumour at the base of her spine. She has since undergone radiation treatment, and is also treating the disease with natural therapies such as the use of cannabis oil.

“I’m still treating it, and I’m treating it naturally and doing really well, yeah,” she told the network late Sunday from her home in California.

Newton-John was diagnosed with breast cancer in 1992, but beat the disease. In 2013, she found out that she had cancer in her shoulder.

The entertainer said she has moments of despair, but is keeping positive.

“There are moments. I’m human. So if I allow myself to go there, I could easily create that, you know, big fear,” she added.



Olivia Newton-John.jpg

“There are moments. I’m human. So if I allow myself to go there, I could easily create that, you know, big fear

OLIVIA NEWTON-JOHN

Newton-John, a supporter of cancer charities since her first diagnosis,said she was also hopeful growing cannabis for personal medicinal use would become legal in Australia, like in California.

“In California it’s legal to grow a certain amount of plants for your own medicinal purposes. So he (husband John Easterling) makes me tinctures. It’s hard to say, they help with pain,” she said. “I’m very lucky that I live in a state where it’s legal and that I have a husband that is a plant-medicine man.”

sports

Hero's welcome for the athletics team

TDT | Manama

Member of the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports, member of the Bahrain Olympic Committee (BOC) and chairwoman of the Women's Sports Committee Shaikha Hayat bint Abdulaziz Al Khalifa welcomed members of the Bahrain national athletics team on return from the Czech Republic after taking part in the IAAF Continental Cup. The nationals had impressive results at the competition, the most significant of which was Salwa Eid winning the women's 400m gold medal.

Other athletes respectable finish were Winfred Yavi (3,000m steeplechase bronze), Aminat Yousif (400m hurdles, 5th place), Edidiong Odiong (200m, fifth place), Hajer Al Amiri (100m, seventh place).

Shaikha Hayat congratulated



The nationals had impressive results at the competition

the Bahrain delegation, headed by Bahrain Athletics Association board member Bader Nasser, and conveyed the greetings of

Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al

Khalifa, representative of His Majesty the King for Charity Works and Youth Affairs, Supreme Council for Youth and Sports Chairman, and BOC Pres-

ident. Shaikha Hayat commended the results and attributed that to the support of His Majesty the King, His Royal Highness the Prime Minister, Shaikh Nasser

bin Hamad Al Khalifa and Supreme Council first vice-chairman and Bahrain Athletics Association president Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa.

Moshiri increases stake in Everton

London, United Kingdom

Everton's majority shareholder Farhad Moshiri has significantly increased his control of the Premier League club after acquiring a larger stake yesterday.

Moshiri has bought another 18.7 per cent of Everton's shares through Blue Heaven Holdings Ltd.

The Iranian businessman already held 49.9 per cent of Everton after selling his stake in Arsenal to take charge at Goodison Park in February 2016.

Moshiri, whose personal wealth is estimated at \$1.7 billion (1.47 billion euros) according to Forbes, has taken his total holding to 68.6 per cent.

He is expected to elevate that further to 77.2 per cent by July next year.

"Everton Football Club today announces that major shareholder Farhad Moshiri has further committed to and increased his shareholding in the club," an Everton statement read.

Brave: 16 nations to compete in UAE

TDT | Manama

Brave Combat Federation has revealed that 16 nations will be represented in the 16th edition of the promotion.

Brave 16 will be hosted on 21st September at the Mubadala Arena in Abu Dhabi, UAE. The confirmed nations announced are Guyana, Jordan, Algeria, USA, Brazil, Russia, Lebanon, Tunisia, Sweden, South Africa, Italy, Albania, Bahrain, Philippines, Georgia and Canada.

Carlston Harris will represent Guyana for the first time in the main event as the champion of a global promotion. At the same time, Elias Boud-egzdame will create history as the first champion from Algeria and the

first champion in Brave Combat Federation to defend the championship more than once. Tunisia, Albania and Georgia will be represented for the first time in Brave Combat Federation. A total of 22 athletes will be competing in the fight night which marks the second time Brave Combat Federation is being hosted in Abu Dhabi, UAE.

"Brave Combat Federation is expanding its frontiers as a truly global mixed martial arts organisation by being inclusive and showcasing global talent from more nationalities. We aim to keep continuing the pace at which we are expanding. The initiative to support and develop mixed martial arts has received overwhelming response globally. The diversity of each of our events and the nations



Mohammed Shahid

represented is a testimony of our continuing growth", said Mohammed Shahid, President of Brave Combat Federation.

BTA Tennis season starts

TDT | Manama

Bahrain Tennis Academy (BTA), based at the Dilmun Club in Saar, has resumed classes for the 2018/19 season with programmes for students of all ages and levels.

Juniors from 3 years and up can enjoy learning the game using specialised equipment appropriate to their specific age and level in a variety of categories of junior development. Advanced players have the option of registering for private lessons.

For adults, there are four weekly Cardio Tennis sessions to choose from, Beginner Lessons and a new format 'Drill and Play' session for advanced players.

BTA director Dan Barrie said, "We are excited to begin the new season. Whatever the player's age, level or objectives, we encourage all those interested in learning the game or advancing their level to contact us to discuss which program is right for them."

Contact the Tennis Director at dan@bahraintennisacademy.com or 39697114 for more information.

UEFA club competition

Lausanne, Switzerland

European Club Association (ECA) chairman Andrea Agnelli has said that UEFA are clearing the way for the return of a third club competition, two decades after the disappearance of the Cup Winners' Cup.

Agnelli, who is also on UEFA's club competitions committee as well as being chairman of Juventus, said at the ECA's General Assembly in Split, Croatia, on Tuesday, that "the 'green light' has been given to introduce a third competition...as of the 2021/22 season".

The move would have to be validated at a future meeting of UEFA's Executive Committee, with the ECA later saying they expected a decision to be reached "before the end of the year".

European football's governing body confirmed only that it is "constantly reviewing the format of its competitions."

Nadal's absence 'changes everything'

Lille, France

France Davis Cup captain Yannick Noah says world number one Rafael Nadal's absence from Spain's team in this weekend's semi-final "changes everything".

The 17-time Grand Slam champion has helped Spain capture the annual trophy four times, in 2004, 2008, 2009 and 2011, but was ruled out of facing Noah's titleholders in Lille with a knee injury.

The long-standing problem flared up again at the US Open when Nadal had to retire trailing two sets to love in his semi-final against Juan Del Potro last week.

"As a tennis fan I'm disappointed that he won't be there," Noah told a press conference at Lille's Stade Pierre-Mauroy on Tuesday.

"As a captain, it changes everything for the match. The set-up is totally different, especially in terms of preparation.

"When Nadal plays, it's almost (a certain) two points for Spain.

"Now, that changes and we have to adapt to it."

With world number 55 Albert Ramos-Vinolas stepping in to replace the Spanish star Noah accepts that "of course we've got more chance".



Rafael Nadal of Spain leaves the court after withdrawing while playing against Juan Martin del Potro of Argentina during their Men's Singles Semi-Finals match at the 2018 US Open at the USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center in New York



It changes a lot, it changes everything, but it is like it is, and we have a very good team all the same

SERGI BRUGUERA,
SPAIN SKIPPER

But he cautioned: "On paper the Spanish team are still better than ours." Joining Ramos for Spain are Pablo Carreno Busta (21st in the world), Roberto Bautista Agut (26), Feliciano Lopez (74) and Marcel Granollers (101).

Representing France are Lucas Pouille (19), Richard Gasquet (24), Benoit Paire (54), Nicolas Mahut (150) and Julien Benneteau (57).

Spain skipper Sergi Bruguera agree with Noah that Nadal's absence has a massive bearing on the complexion of the Lille semi-final.

Australia squad for Pakistan

Sydney, Australia

Australia's 15-man squad announced Tuesday for two Tests against Pakistan in the United Arab Emirates next month:

Tim Paine (capt), Ashton Agar, Brendan Doggett, Aaron Finch, Travis Head, Jon Holland, Usman Khawaja, Marnus Labuschagne, Nathan Lyon, Mitchell Marsh, Shaun Marsh, Michael Neser, Matthew Renshaw, Peter Siddle, Mitchell Starc

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Desert auto rally

Amul, Turkmenistan

Turkmenistan’s authoritarian leader yesterday aunched the isolated country’s first international auto rally running through the Karakum desert and tracing a spur of the Old Silk Road.

The five-stage race involving more than 80 teams representing 20 countries is set to wind up on Saturday and will serve as a qualifying tournament for a longer, two-week rally through three African countries next year.

Speaking at the rally’s opening, President Gurbanguly Berdimukhamedov said the race from the eastern city of Amul -- a former hub on the old trade routes linking Europe and Asia -- to the western city of Hazar on the country’s Caspian coast would “bring peoples closer together.”

“We are holding the first international rally called ‘Amul-Hazar 2018,’” boomed Berdimukhamedov, who has in the past driven racing cars around for state media. “Welcome.”

Contestants will race across deserts and wild terrain spanning approximately 1,570 kilometers (975 miles).

Jean-Louis Schlesser, a French ex-Formula One driver and rally champion who is the director of the Amul-Hazar race, thanked over 150 participants including “the big names that responded.”

Russian rally raid truck driver Ayrat Mardeev and British car driver Harry Hunt are among the better-known competitors featuring in the Turkmen Desert Race.

PSG to launch cryptocurrency

Paris, France

French footballing giants Paris Saint-Germain are launching their own cryptocurrency after announcing a new partnership with Socios.com, a blockchain company based in Malta.

In a statement announcing the deal on Tuesday, Qatar-owned PSG did not reveal the length of the agreement or how much money they will make from it, although a source told AFP they expected it to be worth “several million euros”.

Socios.com describes itself as a “tokenized football fan voting platform”, with the title derived from the Spanish name given to members of La Liga giants Barcelona and Real Madrid.

PSG, who signed Brazilian superstar Neymar for a world record fee of 222 million euros (\$264m) last year, also want to “release rewards, exclusive content and all kinds of experiences” through the deal.

Socios.com founder Alexandre Dreyfus says his company’s idea is to “re-invent... in more of a 2.0 style” the concept of the “socio”, which in Spain means allowing fans to be directly involved in club decision-making.

A ‘dream’ come true

Monaco driver Charles Leclerc will replace Finnish veteran Kimi Raikkonen at Ferrari next season

AFP | Milan, Italy

Young Monaco driver Charles Leclerc will replace Finnish veteran Kimi Raikkonen at Ferrari next season with the former world champion returning to Sauber where he started his career, both Formula One teams announced on Tuesday.

The 20-year-old Leclerc -- a Ferrari Driver Academy graduate -- is a rising star of the sport winning GP3 in 2016 and Formula 2 in 2017, before making his debut in F1 this season with the Sauber team.

“Scuderia Ferrari announces that, at the end of the 2018 season, Kimi Raikkonen will step down from his current role,” the team said in a statement. “.. in the next Formula One racing season, Charles Leclerc will drive for the Team alongside Sebastian Vettel,” it added.

“Dreams do come true,” Leclerc posted on Twitter. “I’ll be driving for @scuderiaferrari for the 2019 Formula 1 World Championship.”

Leclerc has had a promising start to his rookie season, finishing sixth at the Azerbaijan Grand Prix, with 16 points from 14 races.

He has been nurtured by the Scuderia Ferrari for several years and is managed by Nicolas Todt, son of former Ferrari team principal and current FIA president Jean Todt.

“I will be eternally grateful to @scuderiaferrari for the opportunity given. To @nicolastodt for supporting me since 2011. To my family,” Leclerc added.

Leclerc also paid tribute to former French driver Jules Bianchi, who died aged 25 in 2015 from injuries he sustained at the Japanese Grand Prix.

“To Jules, thank you for all the things you learnt me, we will never forget you,” he added of Bianchi whom he knew from his karting days in south-east France.

The 38-year-old Raikkonen has entered 287 Grands Prix --- 144 for Ferrari -- winning 20 since his debut in 2001 with Sauber.

The Finn -- known as the “Iceman” -- achieved his 100th podium finish by finishing second at the Italian Grand Prix in Monza this month after claiming his 18th pole in style with F1’s all-time fastest lap.

This season he has had nine podium finishes and is third overall, 92 points behind Lewis Hamilton.

“During these years, Kimi’s contribu-



Charles Leclerc

tion to the team, both as a driver and on account of his human qualities, has been fundamental. He played a decisive role in the team’s growth and was, at the same time, always a great team player,” Team Principal Maurizio Arrivabene said.

Raikkonen left F1 two years after winning the world title with Ferrari and spent two years competing in the World Rally Championship, before returning to F1 with Lotus in 2012.

Raikkonen returns to F1 roots

Raikkonen moved back to Ferrari in

2014, and was a popular figure with over 87,000 fans signing a petition this week to keep him at the Maranello-based team.

“As a World Champion for Scuderia Ferrari, he will always be part of the Team’s history and family. We thank Kimi for all of this and wish him and his family a prosperous future,” the team added.

Sauber later confirmed Raikkonen would return to the team he made his debut with in 2001.

“The Alfa Romeo Sauber F1 Team is delighted to announce that Kimi Räik-

Factfile on Charles Leclerc

Name	:	Charles Leclerc
Date of birth	:	October 16, 1997
Place of birth	:	Monaco
Nationality	:	Monégasque
Height	:	1.80m
Team	:	2018: Sauber
Race number	:	16

Formula One career		
Grand Prix started	:	14
Teams	:	Sauber
(2018), Ferrari (from 2019)		
Debut	:	Australia
2018		
Points	:	13
Best result	:	6th in
Azerbaijan		

2017 champion	:	Formula Two
2016 champion	:	GP3

könen will join the team from 2019. The 2007 Formula One World Champion has signed for the next two seasons,” Sauber confirmed.

Raikkonen left Sauber for McLaren in 2002 before rejoining Ferrari in 2006.

He tweeted: “Guess who’s back?! Next two years with @sauberf1team ahead! Feels extremely good to go back where it all began!”

Sauber team principal Frédéric Vasseur said: “Signing Kimi Räikkönen as our driver represents an important pillar of our project, and brings us closer to our target of making significant progress as a team in the near future.

“Kimi’s undoubted talent and immense experience in Formula One will not only contribute to the development of our car, but will also accelerate the growth and development of our team as a whole.

“Together, we will start the 2019 season with a strong foundation, driven by the determination to fight for results that count.”

Vasseur added: “It has been a great pleasure to support Charles Leclerc in his rookie year in Formula One. Since his arrival, he has given the team great motivation.”

Fenati loses licence after pulling rival’s brake

AFP | Milan, Italy

Disgraced Moto2 rider Romano Fenati has lost his licence and been banned from competing in all events by the Italian motorcycling federation for grabbing a rival’s brake during the San Marino Grand Prix.

The 22-year-old Fenati had earlier announced he was retiring after being sacked by his Marinelli Snipers team and the Forward Racing team he was due to join next season.

Fenati has also been ordered to appear before a disciplinary hearing of the Italian federation on September 14 to present his version of events.

Both riders were speeding around the Misano track at over 200kph on Sunday when Fenati -- aboard a Marinelli Snipers-run Kalex bike -- leaned over and pressed fellow Italian Stefano Manzi’s brake lever. Manzi briefly lost his balance before regaining control of his Suter bike.



Fenati has been banned for grabbing a rival's brake during the San Marino Grand Prix.

Fenati’s actions followed Manzi’s attempt to overtake him a few laps earlier, with both riders running off the track.

The Italian apologised for his “disgraceful gesture” and said Tuesday he was retiring from sport and going back to complete his studies.

“I’m finished with the motorcycle world, I will not run again. I was wrong, it’s true: I apologise to everyone.”Fenati told Italian newspaper La Repubblica.

But he added: “Do you want to see my helmet and my leathers? There is a long black strip, the Manzi rubber. He attacked me three times and he could have killed me too, as you say.

“The last time I had it done to me was 500m before (the brake incident), then I thought ‘now I do the same, I’ll show you that I can be bad’ and maybe you will finally understand what it means.

“But I never thought to hurt him, I swear.”

US MMA fighter in Russia council

Moscow, Russia

The American professional mixed martial arts fighter Jeff Monson, who was granted Russian citizenship this year, has been elected to the local council of a small town near Moscow.

Elena Prochakovskaya, an official for the ruling United Russia party in the Krasnogorsk district, confirmed the MMA star's win to Russian news agencies Tuesday.

Despite not being a member of the Kremlin-aligned party, local United Russia members chose him as a candidate through an internal election.

"Actually I was invited to run by United Russia but I ran as an independent," he wrote on his Twitter account following nationwide local elections at the weekend.

The 47-year-old heavyweight fighter, who describes himself as an "anarcho-communist" and has anti-capitalist tattoos, was once drawn to the Russian Communist Party but has since distanced himself.

"Unfortunately I learned there are no communists in communist party in Russia," wrote Monson, who has fought under the nickname 'The Snowman'.

President Vladimir Putin officially bestowed Russian nationality on Monson this summer.

Maradona seeks rebirth in Mexican club

Osaka, Japan

Argentine legend Diego Maradona described his decision to coach second-division Mexican club Dorados as a rebirth after years battling addictions, as he officially became the team's new manager Monday.

Maradona, who has publicly struggled with drug addiction, alcoholism and obesity, raised eyebrows with the decision to accept a job in the heart of Mexican drug cartel country -- the rough-and-tumble state of Sinaloa.

But in his first press conference for Dorados, he described the job as a healthy new beginning after a long "sickness," alluding to the excesses of his past.

"I want to give Dorados what I lost when I was sick," he told the 200 journalists who packed the hotel conference room in Culiacan, the state capital, where he was officially presented as the struggling club's new coach.

"I was sick for 14 years. Now I want to see the sun, I want to go to bed at night. I never even used to go to bed. I didn't even know what a pillow was. That's why I accepted the offer from Dorados," he said.

Mexico was the scene of Maradona's greatest triumph as a player: leading Argentina to the 1986 World Cup title -- almost single-handedly, according to some.

Navratilova: Even if guys do it, it's wrong

New York, United States

Martina Navratilova, an 18-time Grand Slam singles champion, says Serena Williams was wrong in her outburst at the US Open women's finals even though she agreed there is a double standard.

Writing in an opinion article for the New York Times, the 61-year-old Czech-born American said a higher standard needed to be observed when Williams called chair umpire Carlos Ramos a "thief" and was penalized a key game in the second set.

"We cannot measure ourselves by what we think we should also be able to get away with," Navratilova wrote. "In fact, this is the sort of behaviour that no one should be engaging in on the court."

Williams, who was thwarted in her bid for a record-tying 24th Slam singles crown in losing to Japan's Naomi Osaka, said she was punished for saying something where men have said far worse without incurring such a penalty.

"Serena Williams has part of it right. There is a huge double standard for women when it comes to how bad behaviour is punished -- and not just in tennis," Navratilova said.

"But in her protests... she also got part of it wrong. I don't be-



Serena Williams of the US argues with chair umpire Carlos Ramos while playing Naomi Osaka of Japan during their 2018 US Open women's singles final match

lieve it's a good idea to apply a standard of, "If men can get away with it, women should be able to, too."

"Rather, I think the question we have to ask ourselves is this: What is the right way to behave to honour our sport and to respect our opponents?"

Williams was issued a warning for coaching, something her

coach sitting in the stands, Patrick Mouratoglou, admitted to doing.

Williams was unhappy at the violation call and complained to Ramos she hadn't taken any signals.

Williams later smashed her racket, resulting in a code violation and a point deduction, which she argued over with

Ramos.

"Ramos, effectively, had no choice but to dock her a point," Navratilova said.

"It was here that Ms. Williams really started to lose the plot. She and Mr. Ramos were, in effect, talking past each other.

"She was insisting that she doesn't cheat -- completely believable, but besides the point

“It’s difficult to know, and debatable, whether Ms. Williams could have gotten away with calling the umpire a thief if she were a male player

NAVRATILOVA

-- while he was making a call over which he, at that point, had little discretion."

Matters escalated and Williams called Ramos a "thief," incurring the crucial game penalty.

"It's difficult to know, and debatable, whether Ms. Williams could have gotten away with calling the umpire a thief if she were a male player," Navratilova wrote.

"But to focus on that, I think, is missing the point. If, in fact, the guys are treated with a different measuring stick for the same transgressions, this needs to be thoroughly examined and must be fixed."

Mancini defiant as Italy crisis deepens



Italy's coach Roberto Mancini

Milan, Italy

Roberto Mancini remains defiant his strategy will reap rewards after a 1-0 defeat to Portugal in the Nations League piled pressure on the Italy coach as the country craves a victory to ease the pain of their World Cup absence.

An Andre Silva strike just after the break ensured Portugal -- even without star striker Cristiano Ronaldo -- went top of their Nations League Group 3 with three points from their first game in Lisbon.

Italy have just one point from two games after being held 1-1 by Poland.

After the four-time champions' failure to qualify for the World Cup for the first time

in 60 years, relegation in the Nations League now looks a real possibility.

"We must grow," said Mancini. "If a young player doesn't play at a high level then it's clear that they'll struggle in the first few games."

"I didn't enjoy the defeat, but I did like the team's desire to keep trying right until the end, even if they were at risk of conceding a second goal."

"This was the right attitude to have. We don't want to be relegated and we still want to finish among the top teams in the group."

"Poland and Portugal have three matches left and we have two."

"We'll wait and see, but our objective is to form a squad for Euro 2020."

Bradley capture BMW crown

Philadelphia, United States

American Keegan Bradley snapped a six-year US PGA winless skid on Monday, paring the first playoff hole to defeat new world number one Justin Rose for the BMW Championship crown.

Bradley won his fourth career title, his third in a playoff, to deny Rose his third triumph of the season even though the runner-up effort was enough to see the Englishman atop the rankings for the first time in his career.

Rose lipped out a 15-foot par putt at the 72nd hole to shoot three-under par 67 and match Bradley, who closed with a 64, on 20-under 260 at rain-softened Aronimink in a final round delayed a day by showers. Bradley, the 2011 PGA Championship winner, had not won since taking the WGC Bridgestone Invitational. It was also his first title since abandoning the controversial belly putter.

"A lot has happened to me over these six years," Bradley said. "The belly putter was a tougher transition than I thought, and I kind of fell off the radar there for a little while."

"It has been tough to go from being on Ryder Cup teams, being on Presidents Cup teams, to outside the top 100 in the world. That was difficult."

Bradley responded by regrouping with coach Darren May and slowly revamping his



Keegan Bradley holds the championship trophies after winning the BMW Championship in a playoff on Monday at Aronimink

game to its peak form.

"I felt so calm today. It was really kind of strange because I don't normally look at leaderboards, but I looked all day and I felt so solid," Bradley said.

"It's so gratifying to get what comes with hard work. Sometimes you never even get it. To be back here and win this tournament is just incredible."

Rose, unlike Bradley, will be among five players who can capture the US PGA \$10 million season playoff crown by winning in two weeks at the season-ending Tour Championship in Atlanta.

"I'd love to go the Tour Championship winning because obviously I want to get to number one by winning golf tournaments, but today was fun," Rose said.

"I birdied 16 and 17. I knew Keegan was ahead of me doing the same thing, so I kind of was responding to that. Hit a great putt in regulation to (try and) win it, but then it was a poor playoff putt from me."

Americans Billy Horschel and Xander Schauffele shared third on 261 with Northern Ireland's Rory McIlroy on 262.

- Tiger shares sixth -

Tiger Woods, a 14-time major champion in his comeback season from spinal fusion, produced a closing 65 to share sixth place on 263 and ensure himself a spot in the 30-man finale. Jordan Spieth is likely to be fined \$20,000 for failing to play the minimum 25 tour events after failing to reach the Tour Championship.

He's done it

Anderson seals England's fifth Test win over India

AFP | London, United Kingdom

James Anderson became the most successful fast bowler in Test history when he sealed England's 118-run win over India at the Oval yesterday.

With just one wicket to fall, and Anderson needing one more to break the record of 563 he had shared with retired Australia great Glenn McGrath, the 36-year-old Lancashire paceman bowled Mohammed Shami to give England victory in the fifth Test and a 4-1 series win.

India, set a mammoth 464 to win, collapsed to two for three on Monday, with Anderson striking twice.

But a sixth-wicket partnership of 204 between KL Rahul (149) and Rishabh Pant (114) on Tuesday gave them hope of an unlikely victory.

Leg-spinner Adil Rashid, however, removed both century-makers in a burst of two wickets for three runs in two overs after tea to leave India struggling at 328 for seven.

The scale of India's task could be seen from the fact that no side have made more in the fourth innings to win a Test than the West Indies' 418 for seven against Australia at St John's, Antigua in 2002/03.

India resumed yesterday on 58 for three. Rahul was 46 not out and Ajinkya Rahane unbeaten on 10.

All eyes were on Anderson as he bowled yesterday's first over, with the overcast conditions seemingly in his favour. Rahul though clipped his sixth delivery of the day legside for four to complete a fifty -- the first by an India opening batsman this series.

But a stand of 118 ended when Rahane (37) miscued a sweep off Moeen Ali to Keaton Jennings at midwicket.

India's 120 for four was soon transformed into 121 for five when Ben Stokes had Test debutant Hanuma Vihari, who made 56 in India's first innings, caught behind for a duck.

But Rahul slapped Stokes over extra-cover for six to go into the 90s in extraordinary fashion before his top-edged pull for four off the all-rounder took him to 97.

The 26-year-old Rahul then pulled the paceman through mid-



England's Alastair Cook (L) and England's captain Joe Root pose with the Pataudi trophy (L) and the series trophy

off, another remarkable boundary, to complete his fifth hundred in 29 Tests off 118 balls including 16 fours and a six.

At lunch he was 108 not out in a total of 167 for five. Left-hander Pant, who

had hit off-spinner Ali for a one-handed six before lunch, gave Rahul superb support on an increasingly flat pitch as runs flowed freely.

Anderson came back on for a sec-

ond spell but could not break through, with England captain Joe Root's occasional off-spin also failing to yield a wicket.

Wicket-keeper Pant, who hoisted Rashid for six to go into the 90s, went to his maiden Test hundred in just his third match at this level when he repeated the shot off the Yorkshireman, the ball soaring high over long-on.

The 20-year-old had then faced a mere 117 balls, including 14 fours and three sixes.

At tea, India were 298 for five, needing 166 more runs to win.

But Rashid, a peripheral figure for much of the series, then took centre stage.

He turned one sharply out of the rough outside Rahul's leg-stump to clip the top of the right-hander's off-stump.

And his next over saw Pant, going for another big hit, hole out to Ali at long-off.

Anderson was denied the wicket he craved when diving wicket-keeper Jonny Bairstow dropped a low left-handed chance to reprieve Ravindra Jadeja.

But Sam Curran struck twice with the new ball when the left-arm paceman had both Ishant Sharma and Jadeja caught behind to leave India on the brink of defeat at 345 for nine.

Anderson then gave England the finish they wanted, bowling Shami middle stump.

5TH TEST SCOREBOARD

England 1st Innings 332 (J Buttler 89, A Cook 71, M Ali 50; R Jadeja 4-79, I Sharma 3-62, J Bumrah 3-89)

India 1st Innings 292 (R Jadeja 86 no, H Vihari 56)

England 2nd Innings 423-8 dec (A Cook 147, J Root 125; H Vihari 3-37, R Jadeja 3-179)

India 2nd Innings (target 464, overnight: 58-3)

KL Rahul b Rashid	149
S. Dhawan lbw b Anderson	1
C. Pujara lbw b Anderson	0
V. Kohli c Bairstow b Broad	0
A. Rahane c Jennings b Ali	37
H. Vihari c Bairstow b Stokes	0
R. Pant c Ali b Rashid	114
R. Jadeja c Bairstow b Curran	13
I. Sharma c Bairstow b Curran	5
M. Shami b Anderson	0
J. Bumrah not out	0
Extras (b10, lb16)	26
Total (all out, 94.3 overs, 411 mins)	345

Result: England won by 118 runs

Man-of-the-match: Alastair Cook (ENG)

Series: England win five-match series 4-1

James Anderson

564

Wickets make Anderson the most successful fast bowler in Test history

Australian cartoonist under fire for Serena sketch

AFP | Sydney, Australia

An Australian cartoonist faced withering criticism yesterday for portraying tennis superstar Serena Williams using -- what Harry Potter author JK Rowling described as -- "racist and sexist tropes".

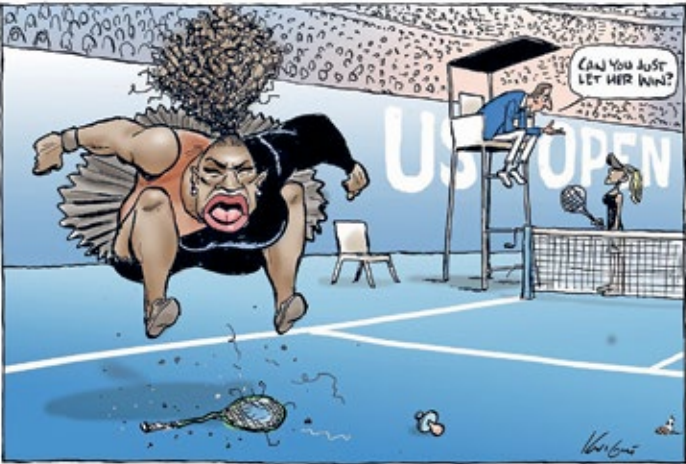
Mark Knight's caricature, published in Melbourne's Herald Sun newspaper on Monday, showed a butch and fat-lipped Williams throwing a temper tantrum at the US Open.

In the midst of losing Saturday's final, the 23-time Grand Slam champion smashed her racquet and called the umpire a "thief" and a "liar".

She was deducted a point and received a US\$17,000 fine, stirring the tennis world and sparking a broader debate about double standards toward men and women in the sport.

In Knight's cartoon, Williams was seen jumping up and down having spat out a dummy as the umpire asks Haitian-Japanese tournament winner Naomi Osaka "can't you just let her win?".

Knight, who has a reputation for controversial cartoons, was pilloried from far and wide for his portrayal -- including by a member of the US Congress and a large portion of the 22,000 people who commented on his Twitter post showing the draw-



This handout obtained on September 11, 2018 from the Herald Sun shows a cartoon published on September 10 of US tennis player Serena Williams in the controversial final of the US Open women's singles final

ing.

The detractors included author JK Rowling, who said: "Well done on reducing one of the greatest sportswomen alive to racist and sexist tropes and turning a second great sportswoman into a faceless prop."

Knight responded to the criticism by pointing out that he had drawn an unflattering portrayal of Australian male tennis star Nick Kyrgios "behaving badly".

"Don't bring gender into it when it's all about behaviour," he said.

Michael Miller, executive chairman of News Corp Australasia, which publishes the Melbourne's Herald Sun, defended

his cartoonist.

"Criticism of Mark Knight's Serena Williams cartoon shows the world has gone too PC & misunderstands the role of news media cartoons and satire," he said.

"Poor behaviour in any sport needs to be called out."

The Washington Post ran a searing post about Knight's cartoon, calling it "racist" and reminiscent of the era of racial segregation in the United States.

"Knight draws facial features reflecting the dehumanizing Jim Crow caricatures so common in the 19th and 20th centuries," commentator Michael Cavanaugh wrote.