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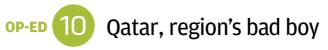
#### CELEBS **American actress** Pompeo robbed in Italy **SUNDAY**

**MAY 2018** 

200 FILS

ISSUE NO. 7759

"Greys Anatomy" star Ellen Pompeo says she had her purse snatched by a thief while she was on a vacation in Italy. She took to Instagram on Friday to share her experience, reports etonline. com. **P17** 





Nicki Minaj not dating Eminem

Ireland aborts 'abortion ban' **WORLD** 

#### Saudi coalition foils attempted attack

Dubai

The Saudi-led coalition said it has foiled an attempted attack by an unmanned drone in Saudi Arabia's southern city of Abha.

Colonel Turki Al Maliki, spokesman for the Arab Coalition fighting in Yemen, said the Saudi Air Defence unit assigned to the airport detected an unknown body at 13:45 pm local time and destroyed it, the Saudi Press Agency reported. Coalition experts who inspected the wreckage said it was of a drone that belonged to the terrorist Houthi militia, identified as an Iranian UAV Ababil.



His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Prime Minister, yesterday received a delegation of US Congressmen, headed by Congressman Darrell Issa, at Riffa Palace. The Crown Prince stressed the importance of further strengthening cooperation and coordination with the United States across various fields, highlighting the longstanding strategic partnership between both countries.

### **Works Ministry renovates 2,690** houses under special scheme

The budget allocated for the project this year is BD2.4 million.

TDT|Manama

nder the Cities and Works, Municipal Affairs and Urban Planning has completed to achieve important milethe renovation of 2,690 houses this year, it emerged.

Fatch said the ministry has tant in a community as closely also signed contracts to com- as the Bahraini community," he plete the renovation and main- explained.

tenance of 135 houses belonging to low-income families.

The number of completed houses is expected to exceed 2,900 by the end of this year.

He explained that the project aimed at the development of cities and villages while improving the lives of low-income families.

"The budget allocated for Villages Development the project is BD2.4 million for Project, the Ministry of the financial year 2018-2019."

"The ministry has been able stones in this project. Restoration of 2,900 houses to raise Ministry Undersecretary the standard of living of some Dr Nabil Mohammed Abu Al families is particularly impor-

#### **Pakistan announces** general elections

Islamabad

Pakistan will hold general elections on July 25, a presidential spokesman said yesterday, offering the prospect of what would be only the second ever democratic transfer of power in the nuclear-armed country.

"The president has approved July 25 as the date for holding general elections in the country," a spokesman from Mamnoon Hussain's office said.



Can a victim marry her rapist?

The Bitcoin **4** bug

A fine **0)5** balance



# Cyclone dies, horror lives on

Mekunu, which has been downgraded to a tropical storm, may affect parts of Saudi Arabia until Tuesday

The storm flooded Socotra's villages and capsized boats, leaving much of the island without access to communications.

Muscat

wo people, including a people were missing. child, were killed and Gulf Arab country, Omani po- animal and plant life. lice and state news media said

nationals, state news agency access to communications.

ONA reported. Mekunu started to weaken to a tropical storm in Oman and authorities began clearing operations yesterday after the heavy rain but warned residents to stay in their homes, with run-off from river valleys flooding most main roads in Dhofar. The cyclone also killed at least seven people in the Yemeni island of Socotra, a Yemeni official said on Saturday. At least 40

Yemen declared a state of three others went miss- emergency on Thursday for Soing in the Omani province of cotra, which lies between south-Dhofar after Cyclone Mekunu ern Yemen and the Horn of Afrihit the southern region of the ca and is renowned for its unique

The storm flooded Socotra's villages and capsized boats, leav- pummel southern Oman dur- Meanwhile, latest satellite im- may affect parts of the Kingdom, The three missing were Asian ing much of the island without ing the day, they extended the ages, analysis of weather maps starting from the dawn on Satur-



An Oman official directs a loader driver Friday to tear away a median to drain a flooded street in Salalah after Cyclone Mekunu causes heavy rains.

As wind and rain began to Saturday.

closure of the city's airport until and the results of numerical day to next Tuesday.

models of Cyclone Mekunu have shown that it has become a second class cyclone and is expected to move north to northwest, with the eye of the storm away from Saudi Arabia.

The center of the storm is likely to be about 350 kilometers away and the wind speed around the center, is expected to be between 157 to 167 km/h, according to the General Authority of Meteorology and Environment Protection (GAMEP).

The commission's predictions indicate that the tropical situation, in Oman and the Republic of Yemen is likely to change. The cyclone, which has been downgraded to a tropical storm,

## Pair of Japanese premium melons sell for record \$29,300

Tokyo

single pair of premium melons yesterday fetched a record 3.2 million yen (\$29,300) at auction in Japan, where the fruit is regarded as a status symbol.

Seasonal fruit offerings in Japan routinely attract massive sums from buyers seeking social prestige, or from shop owners wanting to attract customers to "ooh and aah" over the extravagant edibles.



fruit packing firm for the first Yubari melons to go under the hammer this year at northern Hokkaido, officials said.

The figure — enough to buy a new car and colleagues. in Japan — topped the previous record for the luxury fruit, which fetched 3.0 million ven two years ago.

year as sunshine hours have been long ornate box.

The winning bid was placed by a local since early May," said market official Tatsuro Shibuta.

Yubari melons are considered a status the Sapporo Central Wholesale Market in symbol in Japan — like a fine wine — with many being bought as a gift for friends

The best-quality Yubari melons are perfect spheres with a smooth, evenly patterned rind. A T-shaped stalk is left "Yubari melons are growing well this on the fruit, which is usually sold in an









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