New railway station reflects dignity of Nay Pyi Taw

Byline: Maung Maung Myint Swe, Photos: Tin Soe (Myanma Alin)

Nay Pyi Taw railway station, being active and lively with impressive design, magnificent building, travellers, and incoming and outgoing trains, indicates the all-round development of Nay Pyi Taw. Nay Pyi Taw railway station has been constructed at milepost No. (233/0) between Ywataw station and Kyihtaunggan station on Yangon-Mandalay railroad. We the news crew of Myanma Alin daily interviewed Senior Engineer (Civil) U Soe Min Thant about construction of Nay Pyi Taw station. (See page 7)

Nantpapaung Dam under construction in Yaksawk Township, Shan State (South)

The government is building dams and reservoirs of different sizes with a view to boosting the agricultural production and greening of the regions. Nantpapaung Dam situated near Makmee Village, Yaksawk Township of Shan State (South) is one of those irrigation facilities.

Our news crew of Kyemon Daily taking Tawwin express bus left Nay Pyi Taw for Meiktila where there is Construction Group-7 of Irrigation (See page 7)

Four political objectives
- Stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity, prevalence of law and order
- National reconsoliation
- Emergence of a new enduring State Constitution
- Building of a new modern developed nation in accord with the new State Constitution

Four economic objectives
- Development of agriculture as the base and all-round development of other sectors of the economy as well
- Proper evolution of the market-oriented economic system
- Development of the economy inviting participation in terms of technical know-how and investments from sources inside the country and abroad
- The initiative to shape the national economy must be kept in the hands of the State and the national peoples

Four social objectives
- Uplift of the morale and morality of the entire nation
- Uplift of national prestige and integrity and preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage and national character
- Uplift of dynamism of patriotic spirit
- Uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation

Clearing the site with heavy machinery in Nantpapaung Dam construction project.
**Regional development tasks in Kachin State inspected**

**NAV PYI TAW, 22 Nov—Chairman of Kachin State Peace and Development Council Commander of Northern Command Maj-Gen Soe Win on 15 November arrived at Swamprabum after inspecting roadworks on Myitkyina-Swamprabum-Putoa road.—MNA**

Commander Maj-Gen Soe Win inspects roadworks on Myitkyina-Swamprabum-Putoa road.—MNA

Afterwards, the commander attended those ceremony to honour the over 75 years of War Veteran Organization, Northern Command and State War Veteran Organization, and offspring of war veterans at the hall of the Commander on 17 November. MNA

Deputy Minister looks into site for Ayeyawady Bridge (Pakokku)

**NAV PYI TAW, 22 Nov—Deputy Minister for Construction U Tin Swe, accompanied by officials of Public Works, inspected the site chosen for construction of road— Ayeyawady River (Pakokku) near Letpanchepaw Village on east bank of Ayeyawady River on 18 November. On the bank in Letpanchepaw, the Superintending Engineer of Ayeyawady Bridge (Pakokku) construction project group-1 and the Director of Water Resources and Improvement of River Systems Department reported on the alignment of the bridge, the site to be chosen for the bridge, bank erosion and flooding. The deputy minister and party viewed the alignments of the bridge by boat. At the office of the Superintending Engineer, the deputy minister gave necessary instructions and inspected the bridge alignments. MNA**

**Monywa Open Golf Championship continues for fourth day**

**YANGON, 23 Nov—Monywa Open Golf Championship continued for fourth day at Monywa Golf Club in Monywa, Sagaing Division yesterday morning.**

It was followed by prize presenting ceremony where U Aung San Win of Aung Thamadi Gold Jewellery presented those who won Daily Best award in Men’s amateur level event and Col San Aung from North-West Command to those in Professional Golfers event.

Chairman U Khin Maung Han of Future Engineering Group presented prizes to third prize winner in Men’s amateur level event Naing Ye Lin with 302 strokes, second prize winner Soe Moe Win with 301 strokes and first prize winner Aung Win (Myanmar Selection) with 295 strokes.

Deputy Commander of North-West Command Brig-Gen Tin Maung Ohn awarded prizes to third prize winner Than Naing in Professional Golfers event with 292 strokes, the second prize winner Thein Hla with 290 strokes, and the first prize winner Zaw Myint (KM Golf Centre) with 290 strokes and the first prize winner Zaw Latt (Sirixon) with 288 strokes. The chairman U Khin Maung Han of Future Engineering Group presented cash to the first prize winner Zaw Latt (Sirixon). The championship was mainly sponsored by Future Engineering Group together with co-sponsors Htoo Group of Companies, International Beverages Trading Co Ltd (IBTC), Pacific Asia Hi-Tech, Aung Thamadi Gold Jewellery, Han Golf Masters Pte Ltd and Monywa Golf Club. MNL

**People's Desire**

* Oppose those relying on external elements, acting as stooges, holding negative views
* Oppose those trying to jeopardize stability of the State and progress of the nation
* Oppose foreign nations interfering in internal affairs of the State
* Crush all internal and external destructive elements as the common enemy

**Active Myanmar’s Economy on 28 & 29 Nov**

**YANGON, 23 Nov—A Business Forum titled “Active Myanmar’s Economy” will be held at Chairium Hotel here on 28 and 29 November. The forum will focus on ASEAN economic community and commodity flow in Myanmar, reconsideration of policies of business organizations, creation and retaining of human resources, ways for talented staff to work as team. The business forum will be led by Retired Rectors U Mya Thein, U Maw Than, and Daw Hla Myint of Yangon Institute of Economics, Advisor to AFTA Dr Khin Ohn Thant, Executive Director Mr David Ang of Singapore Human Resources Institute (SHRI). Those wishing to attend the business forum may call 250056, 700273, 507048 and 507151 to book a seat.—MNA**

**Bring honour to the State through sports sector**

The government is making all-out efforts for the emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed nation. In that regard, it is giving priority to development of sports sector like others.

A ceremony to present victory flag to leader of Myanmar athletes who will take part in XXV South East Asian Games was held at the National Indoor Stadium-1, Thuwunna on 21 November.

The XXV South East Asian Games will include 25 sports events. And the Myanmar sports contingent made up of 214 athletes will take part in 18 sports events.

As victory in sports means bringing honour to the nation, all the athletes are duty-bound to try their utmost to win the games.

The handing over of victory flag to the athletes calls on all the athletes to do their best in every event.

All the athletes who are going to take part in XXV South East Asian Games are to show their sportsmanship out of goodwill and to participate in them in the fairest way.

Therefore, all the athletes are to make every effort to become those capable of bringing victory and honour to the State, for the uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation—one of the four social objectives—is directly related to the uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation—one of the four social objectives—is directly related to improvement of the sports standard of the State.

**TUESDAY, 24 NOVEMBER, 2009**

**Bring honour to the State through sports sector**

The government is making all-out efforts for the emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed nation. In that regard, it is giving priority to development of sports sector like others.

A ceremony to present victory flag to leader of Myanmar athletes who will take part in XXV South East Asian Games was held at the National Indoor Stadium-1, Thuwunna on 21 November.

The XXV South East Asian Games will include 25 sports events. And the Myanmar sports contingent made up of 214 athletes will take part in 18 sports events.

As victory in sports means bringing honour to the nation, all the athletes are duty-bound to try their utmost to win the games.

The handing over of victory flag to the athletes calls on all the athletes to do their best in every event.

All the athletes who are going to take part in XXV South East Asian Games are to show their sportsmanship out of goodwill and to participate in them in the fairest way.

Therefore, all the athletes are to make every effort to become those capable of bringing victory and honour to the State, for the uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation—one of the four social objectives—is directly related to improvement of the sports standard of the State.

* Do not be softened whenever appeased
* Do not be bolstered whenever flattered
* Do not be frightened whenever intimidated

**Active Myanmar’s Economy on 28 & 29 Nov**

YANGON, 23 Nov—A Business Forum titled “Active Myanmar’s Economy” will be held at Chairium Hotel here on 28 and 29 November. The forum will focus on ASEAN economic community and commodity flow in Myanmar, reconsideration of policies of business organizations, creation and retaining of human resources, ways for talented staff to work as team. The business forum will be led by Retired Rectors U Mya Thein, U Maw Than, and Daw Hla Myint of Yangon Institute of Economics, Advisor to AFTA Dr Khin Ohn Thant, Executive Director Mr David Ang of Singapore Human Resources Institute (SHRI).

Those wishing to attend the business forum may call 250056, 700273, 507048 and 507151 to book a seat.—MNA
Secret documents show Iraq war failures

LONDON, 23 Nov—The British government misled the public and its forces were unprepared and poorly equipped for the 2003 invasion of Iraq, secret documents indicate. The documents reveal “critical failure,” “significant shortcomings,” “absence of UK political direction” and “lessons learnt,” Britain’s Sunday Telegraph reported. The papers were leaked ahead of Tuesday’s scheduled start of an Iraq inquiry headed by Sir John Chilcot, the newspaper said. The documents indicate former Prime Minister Tony Blair misled the public and Parliament in 2002 when he said Britain’s aim was “disarmament, not regime change,” and there was no planning for military action. There was, in fact, preparation for invasion and overthrow of Saddam Hussein in 2002, The Telegraph said. Commanders at all levels issued “post-operational” reports which said, in part, coalition forces were “ill-prepared and equipped to deal with the problems in the first 100 days” of the occupation and troops did not have enough or the right supplies. Some soldiers went into the field with only five bullets each and others had to travel to the war zone on civilian airlines, taking gear as hand luggage with weapons being misconfigured by airport security.—Internet

10 militants killed in Pakistan’s tribal area

ISLAMABAD, 23 Nov—At least 10 militants were killed and eight others were seriously injured in new clashes between security forces and militants in Pakistan’s northwest on Monday, according to local TV channel reports. Ten militants were killed and several others were injured in fierce clashes between security forces and militants in Orakzai tribal Agency and adjoining areas, the private TV GEO News reported.

“Troops destroyed seven hideouts during fresh assault against militants in Shahu Khel of Orakzai area, and are now targeting militants’ hideouts in other part of Shahu Khel,” the TV said.

British, US military tensions over Iraq

LONDON, 23 Nov—Hostility between US and British military leaders in Iraq ran deep, with one describing his US counterparts as “group of Martians,” the Daily Telegraph reported on Monday, citing leaked government documents.

The top British commander in the country, Major General Andrew Stewart, said “our ability to influence US policy in Iraq seemed to be minimal” in the first year of the conflict, according to documents published by the newspaper, Britain’s chief of staff in Iraq described as difficult attempts to communicate with senior US military commanders, “a group of Martians” for whom “dialogue is alien,” the newspaper said.

“Despite our so-called special relationship, I reckon we were treated no differently to the Portuguese,” the chief of staff, Colonel JK Tanner, said.

Pregnant British soldiers sent home

LONDON, 23 Nov—Ten British soldiers stationed in Afghanistan have been sent back to England during the past six months after becoming pregnant, authorities say. Despite a “no touching” rule, many servicewomen may have had relations with colleagues, The Mail on Sunday reported. Those pregnant may be investigated for breaking sexual conduct rules, the Ministry of Defence said.

Disciplinary procedures can include dismissal from service, the British newspaper said. “It is not an offense for a servicewoman to be pregnant, but there is a code of conduct and it is to do with anything that would damage operational effectiveness,” a Ministry of Defence source said. Some servicewomen may have become pregnant before embarking on their tour of duty, discovering their condition after arriving in the battle zone, a ministry source said.—Internet
California hit by budget deficit, no quick solution in sight

LOS ANGELES, 23 Nov—California’s budget crisis is deteriorating as students in many state universities are protesting a big tuition hike, with no immediate solution in sight.

California’s budget deficit will reach 20.7 billion US dollars over the next 18 months, according to report from the State Legislative Analyst’s Office.

It also predicts that the gap between the state’s projected revenues and spending next year would grow to nearly three times the 7.4 billion estimated just four months ago.

The budget hole is growing after billions in risky budget fixes had failed to materialize and also because revenue projections for next year were too optimistic, the report said.

The state’s lawmakers have no other solutions to the budget crisis but further cuts to state programmes.

The cuts so far have a serious impact on the operation of the state and local governments. The move has led to layoffs and cuts of social services. Courts have been forced to close on some weekdays to save money and prisons have to release prisoners to meet the budget cut.

The budget cuts also have a serious impact on education in the state. University of California’s Board of Regents voted to approve a 32 percent increase in student fees last week.

American soldier killed in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 23 Nov — The US military says an American soldier has been killed in action in Iraq.

A military statement said the soldier from the Multi-National Division — South died on Sunday.

No further details were immediately available.

The soldier’s name is being withheld until family members can be notified. The death raises to at least 4,364 the number of US military personnel who have died in the Iraq war since it began in March 2003, according to an Associated Press count.

Volkswagen aims to triple sales in south China

BEIJING, 23 Nov — German Auto giant Volkswagen Group has unveiled an ambitious strategy called “Strive to Win” to more than triple its sales in south China from 150,000 units to a million annually, China Daily reported on Monday.

Volkswagen Group China, together with its two joint ventures — Shanghai Volkswagen and FAW-Volkswagen will work to increase market share for the Volkswagens, Audi and Skoda brands, which together had 12 percent of the entire south China market last year, said the newspaper.

To even further boost that share, 20 new or upgraded models from the three brands will be launched from 2010 to 2012, according to Volkswagen Group China.

Undersea quake hits New Zealand’s east coast

WELLINGTON, 23 Nov — An undersea earthquake measuring 5.9 on the Richter scale shook the east coast of New Zealand’s North Island shortly before noon on Monday, causing no damages.

The quake, occurred at 11:47 am (22:47 GMT Sunday), was centered 710 km northeast of Auckland and 350 km south-west of Raoul Island, New Zealand’s Institute of Geological and Nuclear Science reported.

It was at a depth of 418 km.

More airlines to fly to Nepal

KATHMANDU, 23 Nov — International air links to Nepal are set to expand tremendously with new airlines getting operating permits and old airlines increasing their frequency.

According to Monday’s The Kathmandu Post, Fly Dubai has received approval from the Ministry of Tourism and Civil Aviation (MoTCA) to fly between Dubai and Kathmandu, using B737-800 aircraft from the third week of December. The carrier will operate seven flights a week.

“We will soon be approaching Kingfisher Airline’s application to operate a weekly flight on the Kathmandu-Mumbai sector,” said MoTCA secretary Nagendra Prasad Ghimire.

Likewise, Jet Airways has applied to operate additional flights on the Mumbai-Kathmandu and Delhi-Kathmandu sectors.

Ghimire said that the Chinese Eastern Airlines had started Kunming-Kathmandu flights. It operates thrice a week.

Dragon Air has doubled its frequency with a wide-body aircraft with a seating capacity of 369.

The increase in international flights is due to the rapid economic development of our neighbouring countries which has increased the number of high-spending tourists,” he said.

According to the Nepalese Tourism Board, the number of tourists visiting Nepal via air in October 2009 increased by 10.8 percent.
Genetic research key to solving rice problems

MANILA, 23 NOV—Unlocking the genetic diversity of rice is one of the key factors that can help increase production and stabilize the supply of one of the world’s most important food crops.

About 700 of the world’s foremost rice scientists gathered here recently to participate in the sixth International Rice Genetics Symposium organized by the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) to share and discuss latest research on sequencing the genomes of various types of rice including wild rice, heirloom and modern varieties. But more than a venue to share new information, participants in the week-long conference also aim to provide solutions to some problems affecting rice cultivation.

“The solution to the future problem of rice agriculture partly involves genetics,” David Makill, IRRI’s programme leader and plant breeder, said in an interview with Xinhua.

Makill said that by having more genetic information, plant breeders can develop more rice varieties that can withstand drought and floods, are more resistant to pests, and have higher yields despite limited water supply and land.

“The research done by scientists can provide the basic information needed to address these problems,” he said.

Robert Zeigler, director general of the IRRI, noted that genetic research led to the development of high-yielding varieties which helped in stabilizing food prices, lowering hunger incidence and kept natural ecosystems from being converted into farmlands.

Xinhua

Israel president confirms progress in talks over kidnapped soldier

JERUSALEM, 23 NOV—Israeli President Shimon Peres said on Sunday negotiations for the release of an abducted Israeli soldier from Hamas have seen “real progress,” local daily Ha’aretz reported.

“There is no doubt that real progress has been made on the issue of Gilad Shalit, but the details must be kept behind the scene,” Peres was quoted as saying upon his return from an official visit to Egypt, where the government has been trying to broker a prisoner swap deal between Israel and Hamas.

Peres’ remarks came on the heels of some reports that an exchange is to be worked out within days that would see Hamas free Shalit and Israel release hundreds of Palestinian prisoners in return. One of the predictions is that Shalit would be transferred to Egypt as early as Friday.

Xinhua

Sail plane crashes in northwestern Turkey

ANKARA, 23 NOV—A sail plane crashed in Sakarya Province near Turkish largest city of Istanbul on Sunday and two people were injured including the pilot, the semi-official Anatolia news agency reported. The Brazilian pilot of the plane made an emergency landing on Sapanca lake in Sapanca town of the northwestern province when the plane had a breakdown, according to the report. The plane sank in the lake, but the pilot survived the crash and swam to the shore, said the report, adding that the pilot was in stable condition.

Xinhua

Turkey encourages use of electric cars

ISTANBUL, 23 NOV—Turkish Trade and Industry Minister Nihat Ergun said here on Sunday that Turkey sought to encourage use of electric cars in the country, and planned first stimulus regulations for 2011.

The semi-official Anatolia news agency quoted the minister as saying that taxes imposed on the electric cars should be at the minimum level so that people would prefer to use such kind of cars instead of others.

Xinhua

Pirates seize Greek-owned bulk carrier off Yemen

NAIROBI, 23 NOV—Pirates have hijacked a Greek-owned bulk carrier in the latest spate of piracy incidents in the Gulf of Aden near Yemen, a regional maritime official said on Sunday.

Andrew Mwangura, East Africa Coordinator of Seafarers Assistance Programme (SAP) said he has not established the composition of the crewmembers onboard the Panama-flagged vessel.

“The Red Sea Spirit was hijacked on Thursday but we received reports late Saturday. I am yet to establish the nationalities and the number of the crew members on board and the destination of the vessel,” Mwangura told Xinhua by telephone from Mombasa.

The Gulf of Aden, off the northern coast of Somalia, has the highest risk of piracy in the world. About 25,000 ships use the channel south of Yemen, between the Red Sea and the Arabian Sea.

Xinhua

Asia’s largest bascule bridge launched in N China port city

TIANJIN, 23 NOV—Asia’s largest bascule bridge was launched on Sunday across Haihe River in Tianjin, a port city in north China.

The bridge, 868.8 meters long and with a span of 76 meters, is the largest of its kind in Asia, said Liu Yuning, chief engineer with the 3rd Engineering Co, Ltd of China Railway Shissju Group that built the bridge.

“A bascule bridge is a moveable bridge with a counterweight that continuously balances the span, or ‘leaf’, throughout the entire upward swing in providing clearance for boat traffic. Bascule is a French term for seesaw and balance, and bascule bridges operate along the same principle. Bascule bridges may be single or double-leaf. The double-leaf bascule bridge in Tianjin can open in 315 seconds and close in 265 seconds.”

Xinhua

All Items from Xinhua News Agency

Little girls perform mulanquan during the 21st Shanghai Mulanquan Competition, in Shanghai, east China, on 22 Nov, 2009. More than 500 players from 40 mulanquan teams take part in the competition.

Xinhua

Miss Earth 2008 Karla Paula Henry helps Miss Brazil Larissa Ramos, 20, a biology student, put on her crown after Ramos won the Miss Earth 2009, at an eco-village in Boracay resort in Aklan Province, central Philippines, on 22 Nov, 2009.

Xinhua


Xinhua

The new light of Myanmar Tuesday, 24 November, 2009
Iran pursues delivery of S-300 missiles from Russia

TEHRAN, 23 Nov—
Iran's Defence Minister Ahmad Vahidi said Sunday that the country is still pursuing Russia's commitment on delivering S-300 anti-aircraft missiles, the semi-official IRNA news agency reported.

Vahidi had said earlier on Tuesday that there was no official news over the cancellation of delivery from Russia of S-300 missiles.

Kids smuggle food for cents along war border

TORKHAM, 23 Nov—
Sabar Mina is cloaked in a light green shawl tinged with dirt. She is holding an empty flour sack that is a hot commodity.

Her eyes are prismed to discover they are learning to play nicely.

Parents who thought their children were spending time in home-based day cares, taking naps, learning to take off clothes, could join their cousins in their plastering work in Desert Hot Springs.

Parents who thought their children were spending time in home-based day cares, taking naps, eating healthy snacks and learning to play nicely with others may be surprised to discover they are sitting as many as two hours a day in front of a TV, according to a study published on Monday.

When added to the two to three hours many parents already admit to allowing at home, preschoolers in child care may be spending more than a third of the about 12 hours they are awake each day in front of the electronic baby sitter, said Dr. Dimitri Christakis, a pediatrician at Children's Hospital and Regional Medical Center in Seattle and a researcher at the University of Washington.

Pakistan military kills 29 militants

ISLAMABAD, 23 Nov—
Pakistan troops killed at least 29 militants in clashes and air strikes in the tribal regions along the border with Afghanistan, military officials told CNN. The strikes all occurred within the last 24 hours, Pakistan military spokesman Maj Gen Athar Abbas told CNN on Sunday.

Other military officials said troops killed 11 militants, including a commander, when they fought an attack on a military base in the Loezam region, which is in the Bajaur agency in northern Pakistan. Two soldiers were killed in the fighting.

In a ground offensive in the southern portion of Orakzai agency, troops killed 13 militants, officials said. One soldier was also killed in that clash.

Air strikes in the northern portion of Orakzai agency destroyed several militant hideouts, officials said. They did not say whether anyone was killed. Orakzai is also in northern Pakistan. The northern districts have been the site of increased militant activity because militants fled to the area to escape the army's offensive against the Taleban in South Waziristan, Abbas said.

Lost wallet found 63 years later

SEATTLE, 23 Nov—
Parents who thought their preschoolers were spending time in home-based day cares, taking naps, eating healthy snacks and learning to play nicely with others may be surprised to discover they are sitting as many as two hours a day in front of a TV, according to a study published on Monday.

When added to the two to three hours many parents already admit to allowing at home, pre-schoolers in child care may be spending more than a third of the about 12 hours they are awake each day in front of the electronic baby sitter, said Dr. Dimitri Christakis, a pediatrician at Children's Hospital and Regional Medical Center in Seattle and a researcher at the University of Washington.

That's double the TV time he found in a previous study based on parental reports of home viewing, according to findings published Monday in the journal Pediatrics.

The study is the first to look at TV watching in child care in more than 20 years. The figures come from a telephone survey of 168 licensed child care programs in Michigan, Washington, Florida and Massachusetts. Christakis said he thought television use was probably underreported.

Macao hotelier wins bid for Michael Jackson’s glove

For a whopping 420,000 US dollars, Michael Jackson’s rhinestone-encrusted glove is coming to a hotel in the glitzy Asian gambling haven of Macao.

Hoffman Ma, deputy chief executive of the Ponte 16 gaming resort, made the winning bid of 350,000 US dollars at an auction in New York on the hotel’s behalf. With commission included, the glove cost 420,000 US dollars in total, hotel spokeswoman Jennie Yeung said.

Jackson wore the sparkling glove when he performed his first “moonwalk” dance in 1983. The auction on Saturday featured more than 70 items from the late pop icon’s career.

Legendary gambling tycoon Stanley Ho’s Societade de Jogos de Macau owns half of the five-star hotel, which will open a gallery early next year to showcase the glove and nine other Jackson items from the auction, Yeung said.

Among the items were a pair of se-quins-encrusted socks, portraits of Charlie Chaplin drawn by Jackson as a child, and a shirt he wore in his iconic Thriller video.

The decision to buy Jackson memorabilia had been discussed by Ponte 16’s senior executives for several months, Yeung said.

Kids watching hours of TV at home daycare

Sitting as many as two hours a day in front of a TV, according to a study published on Monday.

When added to the two to three hours many parents already admit to allowing at home, preschoolers in child care may be spending more than a third of the about 12 hours they are awake each day in front of the electronic baby sitter, said Dr. Dimitri Christakis, a pediatrician at Children’s Hospital and Regional Medical Center in Seattle and a researcher at the University of Washington.

That’s double the TV time he found in a previous study based on parental reports of home viewing, according to findings published Monday in the journal Pediatrics.

The study is the first to look at TV watching in child care in more than 20 years. The figures come from a telephone survey of 168 licensed child care programs in Michigan, Washington, Florida and Massachusetts. Christakis said he thought television use was probably underreported.

Macao hotelier wins bid for Michael Jackson’s glove

For a whopping 420,000 US dollars, Michael Jackson’s rhinestone-encrusted glove is coming to a hotel in the glitzy Asian gambling haven of Macao.

Hoffman Ma, deputy chief executive of the Ponte 16 gaming resort, made the winning bid of 350,000 US dollars at an auction in New York on the hotel’s behalf. With commission included, the glove cost 420,000 US dollars in total, hotel spokeswoman Jennie Yeung said.

Jackson wore the sparkling glove when he performed his first “moonwalk” dance in 1983. The auction on Saturday featured more than 70 items from the late pop icon’s career.

 Legendary gambling tycoon Stanley Ho’s Societade de Jogos de Macau owns half of the five-star hotel, which will open a gallery early next year to showcase the glove and nine other Jackson items from the auction, Yeung said.

Among the items were a pair of sequins-encrusted socks, portraits of Charlie Chaplin drawn by Jackson as a child, and a shirt he wore in his iconic Thriller video.

The decision to buy Jackson memorabilia had been discussed by Ponte 16’s senior executives for several months, Yeung said.

This undated photo released by Julien’s Auctions shows Michael Jackson’s glove from his 1983 performance of Billie Jean at the Motown 25 television special where he performed the Moonwalk for the first time.

This undated file photo released by National Geographic shows Michael Jackson’s glove from his 1983 performance of Billie Jean at the Motown 25 television special where he performed the Moonwalk for the first time.

NEWS ALBUM

A woman takes part in a slitteto race in Paris. Dozens of shoe addicts took part in the National Stiletto Championship on an indoor track in the old stock exchange building in central Paris. The only rule is to be perched on heels at least eight centimetres (three inches) high — the prize is boxes and boxes of shoes.
Industry-2 Minister inspects Pakokku Industrial Region

NAY PYI TAW, 23 Nov—Minister for Industry-2 Vice-Admiral Soe Thein inspected progress in construction of Technical Training School (Pakokku) project in Pakokku Industrial Region on 20 and 21 November. The Minister gave instruction on placing machines systematically and making the arrangements for teaching course. On arrival at Machines and Machine Tools Factory (Myaung), the minister inspected production process and urged the officials to make efforts in order to produce the modern machines that meet the set target of the state.

MNA

New railway station reflects dignity of Nay Pyi Taw

Byline: Maung Maung Myint Swe, Photos: Tin Soe (Myanma Alin)

The challenging tasks in construction of the dam are land preparation, earthwork, drilling the holes, filling of mortar plus construction of embankment, outlet channel, water control tower and spillway. Together with Staff Officer U Khin Zaw our news crew proceeded to Nantpapaung Dam project site from Yaksawk through Kyangkhyan Road three miles away from Kyangkhyan Dam. We saw the staff members clearing the site, constructing roads and filling mortar. The Nantpapaung Dam situated between Kyangkhyan Dam and Zawgyi Dam is to ensure development of agriculture, regional development and supplying power to the environs of Kyangkhyan Village.

Agriculture is the main livelihoods of local people residing in the vicinity of Nantpapaung Dam. When completed, the Nantpapaung Dam will be able to supply irrigation water to about 325 acres of farmlands, thereby contributing to development in social, education, health and transport sectors as well as improvement of the socio-economic status of local people.

Translation: ZZS
(Kyemon: 23-11-2009)
FAR-REACHING THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Tuesday, 24 November, 2009

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION COMMITTEE HOLDS MEETING

YANGON, 23 Nov—The 10th meeting of the Environmental Conservation Committee was held at Kyun Shwe Wah Hall of the Ministry of Forestry here this afternoon, with an address by Chairman of the committee Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung.

Next, Secretary of the committee Acting Director-General of the Forest Department U Aye Myint Maung reported on work progress during the four-week period and future programmes; and leaders of seven special work groups of the committee deputy ministers, and representatives, on work progress for environmental conservation in states and divisions concerned in the four-month period.

Next, they viewed video clips of Meetings on Environmental Conservation, and Clean Green Singapore 2010 concerning meetings on environmental conservation in ASEAN countries held in the Republic of Singapore from 28 to 30 October and the seven special groups discussed completed undertakings and future plans in detail.

The meeting then ended with concluding remarks of Chairman of Environmental Conservation Committee Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung.—MNA

DY CONSTRUCTION MINISTER INSPECTS PATHIN-MONYWA ROAD (KAZUNMA-MONYWA ROAD SECTION)

NAY PYI TAW, 23 Nov—Deputy Minister for Construction U Tint Swe on 19 November inspected the earth work on Kazunma-Monywa road section of Pathin-Monywa road and paving of gravel at mile post No. 45/3 and condition of gravel road at Linkataw detour road.

After that, he inspected the construction site of Ngwetha Chaung Bridge at mile post No. 3/7 on Pathin-Monywa road (Salingyi Township) and extension of Pathin-Monywa road (Myaing-Linkataw-Salingyi-Chindwin Bridge (Monywa) section) at mile post No.11/7.—MNA

SURVEY METHODS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COURSE OPENED

YANGON, 23 Nov—Jointly conducted by Settlement and Land Records Department under the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation and ASEAN Food Security Information System (AFSIS) under the technological cooperation programme, survey methods and information technology course was opened at Settlement and Land Records Department (Branch) here this morning. Director-General U Win Kyi of Settlement and Land Records Department and Statistician Ms Rosalinda Manuel-Garcia of Bureau of Agricultural Statistics from the Philippines made speech on the occasion.

Also present on the occasion were deputy director-general, directors, deputy directors and 30-trainee officials. The course that will last for one-week contributes to human resources development of Settlement and Land Records Department.

MMA’S GOLF TOURNEY ON 29 NOV

YANGON, 23 Nov—The golfers team of Myanmar Medical Association’s monthly golf tournament will be held at Mingaladon golf course here at 6 am on 29 November. The members of golfers team will participate in the tournament.—MNA

The final matches of the 3rd Nay Pyi Taw Inter-Ministry Volleyball tournament (2009) in progress.

MNA

DEVELOPMENT AFFAIRS BEAT MINISTRY OF RAIL TRANSPORTATION 3-0, MINISTRY OF INFORMATION BEAT MINISTRY OF ELECTRIC POWER NO (2) 3-1, MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY-2 BEAT MINISTRY OF COMMERCE 3-0.


MNA

As the semifinal matches, Ministry of Development Affairs beat Ministry of Rail Transportation 3-0, Ministry of Information beat Ministry of Electric Power No (2) 3-1, Ministry of Industry-2 beat Ministry of Commerce 3-0.

The 3rd Nay Pyi Taw Inter-Ministry Volleyball tournament (2009) continued at Nay Pyi Taw Sports Grounds here this morning.

In the events, Ministry of Industry-1 beat Ministry of Sports 3-0, Ministry of Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Ministry of Industry-1 plays against Ministry Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs, and Ministry of Information meets Ministry of Industry-2 at the Nay Pyi Taw Sports Grounds at 3 pm on 25 November.—MNA
Forestry Minister inspects wood factories in Mandalay Division

NAY PYI TAW, 23 Nov—Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung arrived at No. 2-B carving factory of wood base industry under the Myanmar Timber Enterprise in Amarapura on 18 November. The factory manager reported on progress of work to the minister. The Managing Director of Win & Win Co Ltd and the Managing Director of Myanmar Timber Enterprise gave supplementary reports.

Next, the minister inspected operation of wood cutting and production of sawn timber and plywood to be exported. Later, the minister looked into procedure of wood cutting and production of plywood and finished wood to be exported at wood factory of Nature Timber Trading Co Ltd in industrial zone (1) in Pyigyidagun Township, Mandalay. He also looked into procedure of wood cutting and production of furniture pieces at Myanmar Maykaung wood factory. Afterwards, the minister inspected production of formica and plywood at Kankaungchinyadanar wood factory in Belin, Kyaukse Township.

The minister also inspected production of furniture at Kankaungchinyadanar wood factory and plywood to be exported at wood factory of Nature Timber Trading Co Ltd in industrial zone (1) in Pyigyidagun Township, Mandalay. He also looked into procedure of wood cutting and production of furniture pieces at Myanmar Maykaung wood factory. Afterwards, the minister inspected production of formica and plywood at Kankaungchinyadanar wood factory in Belin, Kyaukse Township.

In implementing the Kintha-Koegway section, Public Works of Nay Pyi Taw District is taking responsibility for construction of the road section from mile posts 0/0 to 9/2 and the Road Construction Project Special Group-13, from mile posts 9/2 to 20/4 and Koegway-Yinhmi section from mileposts 24/6 to 70/2.

In doing so, the road section from Kintha to Koegway is being constructed as a new road, while the maintenance works are being carried out along the road section from Koegway to Pinlaung.

In an interview, Project Superintending Engineer U Thein Zaw of Road Construction Project Special Group-13 explained, “We are to carry out the task of earth works, building of 20 feet wide gravel road, construction of a reinforced concrete bridge and tarmacking of 18 feet wide road from mileposts 9/2 to 20/4 along 11.2 miles road.”

He continued to say, “Moreover, it is necessary to undertake the maintenance and extended construction works including the levelling the gradient of the 45/4 miles long road section from mile posts 24/6 to 70/2 on Koegway-Yinhmi and placing tar on it, expanding the earthen embankment and the road area on the hilly region, construction of drains, reinforced concrete box culverts, small bridges and retaining walls, and building of 20 feet wide gravel road and construction of 18 feet wide tarmacked road.” On arrival at Leinli Village at mile post 47/3 on the road section, we saw construction of 170 feet long Bailey type new bridge. The Bridge Construction Project Special Group (9) is taking responsibility for construction of Leinli Bridge.

It is a steel cable suspension bridge including 1000 feet long main suspension bridge and 380 feet long approach bridges on both sides. So, the total length of the bridge is 1760 feet. The bridge will have 28 feet wide motorway and three feet wide pedestrian ways on both sides. It can withstand 75-ton loads. The upper structure of the bridge will be of steel frame reinforced concrete floor.

The implementation of the project commenced in September 2006. We witnessed the workers and officials making energetic efforts in construction of the bridge for its timely completion.

Upon completion, the local people from Kanbawza region and those from Gandayawady region will have the opportunity to visit Nay Pyi Taw by express bus in a short time. In addition, the better transportation will contribute much to speedy flow of commodities.

******

Translation: TTA

Kyemon22-11-2009
11 Iraqis wounded in Baghdad bomb attacks

BAGHDAD, 23 Nov—A total of 11 people were wounded in five roadside bomb explosions across the Iraqi capital on Monday, an Interior Ministry police source said.

Four people were wounded in a roadside bomb explosion near a fuel station in the al-Nidhal Street in Baghdad’s central district of Karrada, the source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

Two more civilians were wounded in Karrada when another roadside bomb detonated near a convoy of an Iraqi politician, the source said.

A third roadside bomb went off near a police patrol at an intersection in the same neighborhood, wounding two civilians, he said.

Two others were also wounded when a bomb explosion struck a US patrol while passing in the al-Husseiniyah neighborhood in the northeastern Baghdad, he added.

The source could not tell whether the US soldiers sustained any casualty as the troops sealed off the area. The US military did not confirm the incident yet.

One more civilian was wounded when a fifth roadside bomb detonated at a commercial area of al-Sinek in central the capital, he added.

The blast also caused damages to several nearby shops and buildings, he said.

Sporadic roadside bombs, car bombings and suicide attacks are still haunting Iraqis, shaping a setback to the efforts of the Iraqi government to restore normalcy in the country after nearly five months of US troops pullout of cities and towns.—Xinhua

Afghan soldiers killed, nine others injured

KABUL, 23 Nov—Militancy and conflicts have claimed the lives of three Afghan soldiers and injured nine others in the country over the past 24 hours, a press release of Defense Ministry said here on Monday.

There soldiers were killed as a mine planted by the Taleban militants struck soldiers’ vehicle in Musha Qala district of the southern Helmand province on Sunday, the press release added.

Two more soldiers sustained injuries in the blast, it added.

Six more Afghan soldiers were wounded when they came under Taleban attack in Mahtankul area of the eastern Kunar province on the same day on Sunday.

One more soldier sustained injuries as a mine went off in Jalalid district of the southern Kandahar province on Monday, the press said.

Taleban militants fighting Afghan and NATO-led troops at part of tactic have resorted to roadside and suicide attacks which has proved deadly for both the security forces and civilians.—Xinhua

Asian games world press briefing slated for December

GUANGZHOU, 23 Nov—The 1st World Press Briefing (WPB) for the 2010 Asian Games will be held on 13-16 December, organizers said on Monday.

“All international media interested in covering the Asian Games in Guangzhou are now cordially invited to attend the WPB,” the organizing committee said in a statement.

“All forms can be downloaded from the official World Press Briefing website at (http:/wpb.gz2010.cn).”

During the World Press Briefing, which serves as an important platform for communication between GAGOC and the media in Asia and around the world, GAGOC will present updates on the latest preparations for the Games and services that will be provided during the Games.—Internet

21 hostages killed in Philippines’ Maguindanao

MANILA, 23 Nov—Twenty-one people who were among a group of local politicians and journalists abducted on Monday in Maguindanao, southern Philippines have been found dead, Philippine military officials said.

The spokesman of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, Lieutenant Colonel Romeo Brawner said they recovered the bodies of eight men and thirteen women who were killed by the still unidentified armed men.

Brawner earlier said that gunmen linked to a powerful politician in Maguindanao snatched 44 people, including his political rivals and 20 local journalists.

Jenayen, wife of Esmail Mangundadatu, mayor of Buluan town in Maguindanao, his aides and supporters were among those abducted.

“It’s barbaric. The perpetrators even raped their women hostages before killing them,” Esmail told reporters.

Esmail claimed that a political rival is behind the kidnapping.—Xinhua

Ten Palestinians wounded in Israeli strikes on Gaza

GAZA, 23 Nov—At least 10 Palestinians were wounded in Israeli air strikes on various targets in the Gaza Strip early Sunday, witnesses and medical sources said.

The first raid took place shortly after midnight, targeting a metal workshop in northeast Gaza city where five people were injured, according to the medical sources. The witnesses said the five were passing by accident near the targeted place.

Minutes later, the Israeli aircraft fired missiles at another workshop near al-Maghazi refugee camp in Central Gaza Strip. There have been no injuries in the second strike. Israel said that attacks had targeted weapon factories and workshops that produced home-made rockets.

The Israeli air force resumed its attacks at dawn on tunnels beneath Gaza’s southern border with Egypt, wounding five more Palestinian smuggling workers, residents in Rafah town said. Officials at Abu Youssef al-Najar hospital in Rafah said the workers have sustained slight to moderate injuries.

The air strikes seemed to be in response to a Palestinian rocket attack on southern Israel late Saturday. No Palestinian group had claimed responsibility for firing the rocket which landed in an open area in Western Negev. Last winter, Israel conducted a fierce offensive in Gaza, killing some 1,387 Palestinians and destroying thousands of houses and public facilities.—Xinhua
Child fitness levels ‘overestimated’ by parents

LONDON, 23 NOV — Parents have big misconceptions about the amount of exercise their children take part in, according to the British Heart Foundation (BHF). It says 71% of parents polled believe their children are “active enough” but only one in 10 of the children say they are doing the recommended daily amount.

The charity says parents need to take the “blinkers off” about how active their children are to prevent obesity. However, one expert said there were many barriers to increased activity. The BHF questioned nearly 1,000 UK parents with children aged eight to 15.

It produced a report called Couch Kids which shows that while the number of obese children has risen since the mid-1990s, there have been no major changes in children’s physical activity levels over the past decade.

The BHF is calling for urgent action to ensure children can get fit and active easily with:

* Guidelines on recommended levels of physical activity for all age groups
* Schools maximising the opportunities for physical activity
* Collection of data about physical activity levels across the UK by local authorities and national governments.

Second conjoined twin out of coma after separation op

MELBOURNE, 23 NOV — The second of two conjoined twins who doctors separated in Australia has woken from an induced coma. The child, Krishna, suffered complications during the operation to separate her from her twin, Trishna, for which both were heavily sedated.

The sisters now face a long recovery, and further tests will be carried out as they grow stronger, doctors said.

They had been brought to Melbourne from Bangladesh in 2007 for the operation. Born joined at the head, they had shared brain tissue and blood vessels. The twins turn three next month, are expected to make a full recovery.

The twin’s emergence from their induced comas has been momentous both for their guardians and the team of specialists at Melbourne’s Royal Children’s Hospital, says the BBC’s Phil Mercer in Australia.

Over 100 icebergs drifting to N Zealand

SYDNEY, 23 NOV — More than 100, and possibly hundreds, of Antarctic icebergs are floating towards New Zealand in a rare event which has prompted a shipping warning, officials said on Monday. An Australian Antarctic Division glaciologist said the ice chunks, spotted by satellite photography, had passed the Auckland Islands and were heading towards the main South Island, about 450 kilometres (280 miles) northeast.

Scientist Neal Young said more than 100 icebergs some measuring more than 200 metres (650 feet) across — were seen in just one cluster, indicating there could be hundreds more. He said they were the remains of a massive ice floe which split from the Antarctic as sea and air temperatures rise due to global warming. “All of these have come from a larger one that was probably 30 square kilometres (11.6 square miles) in size when it left Antarctica,” Young told AFP.

“It’s done a long circuit around Antarctica and now the bigger parts of it are breaking up and producing smaller ones.” He said large numbers of icebergs had not floated this close to New Zealand since 2006, when a number came within 25 kilometres of the coastline — the first such sighting since 1931.

Photo taken on 20 Nov, 2009 shows the production line of whisky in the early years in Qingdao Red Wine Cellar in Qingdao, east China’s Shandong Province. As one of the oldest production place of red wine in China, the Qingdao Red Wine Cellar was established by a German businessman called Klauke in 1912.

Internet

A pair of flamingos stroll leisurely under bright sunshine, inside the zoo of Suzhou City, east China’s Jiangsu Province, on 22 Nov, 2009.

Internet
Turkey to add visual health warnings to cigarette packages

ANKARA, 23 Nov — Turkey will add visual health warning messages to cigarette packets produced as of 1 Jan, 2010, the semi-official Anatolia news agency reported on Sunday. Chairman Mehmet Kucuk of the Turkish Tobacco and Alcohol Market Regulation Board (TAPDK) told the agency that cigarette packets produced before 31 Dec, 2009 which only have written information in nine years and resides in a desert cave in Moab, Utah, said he loves his simple existence.

The Plain Dealer said "You are a special guy. Some think he's crazy," Peters said of Bartek. "But his passion and devotion made him an international cause." During his streak of listening to the Judas Priest work, Bartek earned notoriety by being featured in a variety of publications ranging from newspapers to magazines like Rolling Stone.

The Plain Dealer said the Maple Heights resident was even contacted by Judas Priest singer Rob Halford, who taped a special testimonial for Bartek. "You are a special guy. ... You brought a lot of attention to 'Nostradamus' around the world. We got quite a bump from that. Thank you, Jim. Thank you for being a fan," Halford said.— Internet

Pakistanman listens to album for 524 straight days

MAPLE HEIGHTS, 23 Nov — A 49-year-old man in Maple Heights, Ohio, listened to the Judas Priest double album “Nostradamus” every day for 524 straight days, a disc jockey said.

WFCU FM, University Heights, Ohio, disc jockey Bill Peters said Jim Bartek completed his 524-day streak on Saturday by rocking out to “Nostradamus” with nearly 35 people at a local bar, The (Cleveland) Plain Dealer reported.

“Some think he’s crazy,” Peters said of Bartek. “But his passion and devotion made him an international cause.” During his streak of listening to the Judas Priest work, Bartek earned notoriety by being featured in a variety of publications ranging from newspapers to magazines like Rolling Stone.

The Plain Dealer said the Maple Heights resident was even contacted by Judas Priest singer Rob Halford, who taped a special testimonial for Bartek. “You are a special guy. ... You brought a lot of attention to ‘Nostradamus’ around the world. We got quite a bump from that. Thank you, Jim. Thank you for being a fan,” Halford said.— Internet

A bevy of white cranes prowl for feeds over the water area of Nanbei Harbour, an integral part of the swamp of Poyang Lake, the country’s largest freshwater lake, in Hukou County, east China’s Jiangxi Province, on 22 Nov, 2009.

XINHUA

Man listens to album for 524 straight days

MAPLE HEIGHTS, 23 Nov — A 49-year-old man in Maple Heights, Ohio, listened to the Judas Priest double album “Nostradamus” every day for 524 straight days, a disc jockey said.

WFCU FM, University Heights, Ohio, disc jockey Bill Peters said Jim Bartek completed his 524-day streak on Saturday by rocking out to “Nostradamus” with nearly 35 people at a local bar, The (Cleveland) Plain Dealer reported.

“Some think he’s crazy,” Peters said of Bartek. “But his passion and devotion made him an international cause.” During his streak of listening to the Judas Priest work, Bartek earned notoriety by being featured in a variety of publications ranging from newspapers to magazines like Rolling Stone.

The Plain Dealer said the Maple Heights resident was even contacted by Judas Priest singer Rob Halford, who taped a special testimonial for Bartek. “You are a special guy. ... You brought a lot of attention to ‘Nostradamus’ around the world. We got quite a bump from that. Thank you, Jim. Thank you for being a fan,” Halford said.— Internet

A bevy of white cranes prowl for feeds over the water area of Nanbei Harbour, an integral part of the swamp of Poyang Lake, the country’s largest freshwater lake, in Hukou County, east China’s Jiangxi Province, on 22 Nov, 2009.

XINHUA

Palestinian woman dies of A/H1N1 virus

RAMALLAH, 23 Nov — A Palestinian woman died of A/H1N1 virus in the West Bank, the health ministry Sunday.

The 45-year-old was from southern West Bank town of Hebron, said Asad al-Ramlawi, an official from the ministry. The last death brings the total number of Palestinians who died of the novel flu to seven, according to the official.

The latest death brings the total number of Palestinians who died of the novel flu to seven, according to the official.

The last death brings the total number of Palestinians who died of the novel flu to seven, according to the official.

Al-Ramlawi said 1,170 Palestinians have been infected with the virus.

A Palestinian resident in a village near the West Bank city Ramallah died in a Palestinian hospital on 7 Aug, as the first death case of A/H1N1 flu in the Palestinian territories. —Xinhua
Acid oceans leave fish at more risk from predators

MELBOURNE, 23 Nov — Ocean acidification could cause fish to become “fattily attracted” to their predators, according to scientists.

A team studying the effects of acidification—caused by dissolved CO₂ in ocean reefs found that it leaves fish unable to “smell danger”.

Young clownfish that were reared in the acidified water became attracted to rather than repelled by the chemical signals released by predatory fish.

The findings were published in the journal Ecology Letters. Danielle Dixson from James Cook University in Queensland, Australia, led the study.

She and her colleagues tested orange clown fish larvae that were raised in water with the same slightly alkaline pH as their ocean reef habitat, and those raised in more acidic water.

The team released the fish into a “flow chamber” with two water sources flowing in parallel. One source was taken from tanks containing the clown fishes’ natural predators and one was drawn from tanks in which non-predatory fish were swimming.

“The flow rates are identical, so the water won’t mix,” Ms Dixson explained. “This allows the fish in the chamber to choose which water cue they prefer or dislike.”

In the test, the fish reared in normal water avoided the stream of water that their predators had been swimming in. They detected the odour of a predator and swam away from it.

Normal bacteria on skin surface healthy

LOS ANGELES, 23 Nov — Normal bacteria living on the skin are good for our health, a new study has found.

According to a study by the University of California, San Diego (UCSD) School of Medicine, bacteria are abundant, diverse and constant on the skin’s surface and they help maintain balance in the skin.

The researchers say the bacteria trigger a pathway that prevents excessive inflammation after injury.

“These germs are actually good for us,” said Richard L. Gallo, professor of medicine and pediatrics, chief of UCSD’s Division of Dermatology and the Dermatology section of UCSD’s School of Medicine.

He said this might help scientists devise new therapeutic approaches for inflammatory skin diseases.

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Tuesday, 24 November, 2009

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Tuesday, 24 November, 2009

The study was primarily conducted by post-doctoral fellow Yu Ping Lai in mice and in human cell cultures.

Gallo said the exciting implications of Dr Lai’s work was that it provided a molecular basis to understand the “hygiene hypothesis” and had uncovered elements of the wound repair response that were previously unknown.

He said this might help scientists devise new therapeutic approaches for inflammatory skin diseases.

A Sri Lankan model displays a creation by local Sri Lankan designers during a fashion event in Colombo. Internet

Internet
**SPORTS**

**McPherson takes lead in LPGA Championship**

**HOUSTON, 23 Nov—**Kristy McPherson fired a 5-under-par 67 and took the lead Sunday in the suspended second round of the rain-plagued LPGA Tour Championship in Houston. McPherson was at 8-under 136, a shot ahead of Ji-Yai Shin and two in front of Lorena Ochoa, Heather Bowie Young and Anna Nordqvist.

Many players, including Bowie Young and Ochoa, who were on the closing holes, were unable to complete the second round before play was suspended for the day. Rains caused lengthy delays in the tournament at the Houston Golf & Country Club on Saturday and forced the cancellation of play on Saturday. Tournament officials then decided to cut the event to 54 holes.

Once all scores are in for the second round Monday, players are to go straight to the third and final round.—**Internet**

**Milan and Juve win to keep hold of Inter’s coat-tails**

**ROME, 23 Nov—**AC Milan edged Cagliari in a 4-3 thriller and Juventus laboured to a 1-0 home win over Udinese on Sunday as both Italian giants kept leaders Inter Milan within their sights.

The champions, who won 3-1 at Bologna on Saturday, lead Juve by five points with Milan a further two behind.

The main excitement of the day came at the San Siro as Milan coach Leonardo’s continued gamble in playing an attacking 4-3-3 formation paid off as his increasingly exciting team edged a wonderful game full of free-flowing action. One of the main protagonists, Ronaldinho, who looked close to the form he showed during his halcyon Barcelona days, said Inter were not on their city rivals’ minds.—**Internet**

**Top seed Federer wins tough match against Verdasco**

**LONDON, 23 Nov—**World No. 1 Roger Federer came from behind to defeat seventh seeded Spaniard Fernando Verdasco 4-6, 7-5 and 6-1 at the ATP World Tour Finals here on Sunday.

“I was down a set, and only the second set was I able to sort of get the ball into play, find my range, find my rhythm. I think this is also when I started to feel like I had chances,” said Federer.

The 28-year-old Swiss open his first battle at London’s O2 stadium with double faults then lost the first game at love. The Spaniard never gave Federer a chance to break before finishing the first set in 6-4.

Verdasco, 26, making his debut at the season ending finale, continued to play strongly in the second set but failed to hold onto his sixth serve before faded quickly at 6-1 in the third set. —**Xinhua**

**Gunsers seek Euro tonic ahead of Chelsea showdown**

**LONDON, 23 Nov—**Arsene Wenger has told his Arsenal stars to forget about a looming showdown with Chelsea and the absence of injured striker Robin van Persie as they look to book their place in the knockout stage of the Champions League.

A point at home to Standard Liege on Tuesday will ensure the Gunners of progression to the last 16 while victory over the Belgian champions would guarantee them spot top in group H.

That outcome would provide a welcome tonic five days ahead of Chelsea’s visit to the Emirates for an encounter that looks like being pivotal to Arsenal’s prospects of sustaining their Premier League challenge. —**Internet**

**Leverkusen back to Bundesliga top after 1-1 draw with Bayern Munich**

**BERLIN, 23 Nov—**Bayer Leverkusen on Sunday moved back to the top of the German Bundesliga standings after fighting to a 1-1 draw at Bayern Munich.

The win takes Leverkusen to 27 points, one more than Werder Bremen and two more than Schalke 04. Bayern are seventh on 21.

German striker Mario Gomez had given the home side an early lead in the 8th minute when he ran on to a Miroslav Klose through ball and sliced the ball past Germany goalkeeper Rene Adler.

It took the visitors just six minutes to level when Stefan Kießling scored after a quick breakaway, which Arturo Vidal set up with a pass through the middle from inside his own half.

Elsewhere, Hamburg lost to Bochum 1-0.—**Xinhua**

**Five-star Defoe as Spurs put nine past Wigan**

**LONDON, 23 Nov—**Jermain Defoe scored five goals as Tottenham Hotspur thrashed Wigan Athletic 9-1 at White Hart Lane here on Sunday, a record victory for the hosts in the top-flight.

Spurs were only 1-0 up at the break, thanks to a goal by Peter Crouch before fellow England striker Defoe ran riot after half-time with Aaron Lennon, an own-goal by Chris Kirkland and Niko Kranjcar’s 90th minute effort adding to the North London club’s tally.

Although Defoe seemed certain to grab the headlines for his five goal return, Tottenham manager Harry Redknapp said Lennon had made a key contribution to this thumping win. “I thought we started really bright, we had 25 minutes where we really got off after they hit us the first time in the first half before they came back into it,” Redknapp told Sky Sports. —**Internet**

**Sevilla’s Kone to miss Champions League game for family reason**

**MADRID, 23 Nov—**Sevilla announced on its website on Sunday that striker Arouna Koné will miss Tuesday’s Champions League match away to Romania’s Unirea Urziceni after his daughter injured in an accident.

The Cote d’Ivoire international has flown to Brussels to be with his six-year-old daughter who fell down the stairs at home and suffered a serious blow to the head. Sevilla have already qualified from Group G. —**Xinhua**

**Barcelona coach Guardiola admits Messi fitness worry**

**MADRID, 23 Nov—**FC Barcelona coach Pep Guardiola admitted he was worried about the possible extent of the groin injury striker Leo Messi suffered in Bilbao on Saturday night.

Messi was substituted after 75 minutes of his side’s 1-1 draw against Athletic Club and sat in the dugout with an icepack on the left side of his groin.

“It’s not yet certain whether or not the Argentinean has merely a strain or whether he has torn a muscle, but he will certainly miss Tuesday’s vital Champions League match against Inter Milan and is a doubt for next Sunday’s “Clasico” against Real Madrid.”

“The first feelings we have about the injury are not that good,” he admitted in declarations published on the Barcelona website on Sunday. “I am certain he feels sad about it, because nobody likes to be injured,” said the Barca coach, who is also without a Rafael Marquez, Toure Yaya and Eric Abidal, who all have cases of the A/H1N1 Swine Flu virus.—**Xinhua**

**Kazak Chinshanlo wins women’s 53kg weightlifting gold**

**GOYANG, 23 Nov—**Zulfia Chinshanlo of Kazakhstan won the women’s 53kg category gold medal at the world weightlifting championships here on Sunday.

Chinshanlo tied the world record of 129kgs in the clean and jerk to win the gold with a combined total of 221kgs, while Chinese Chen Xiaoting finished second.—**Xinhua**
27 died, 12 missing in Indonesian capsized boat

JAKARTA, 23 Nov— Indonesian official authorized to oversee the victim handling of the capsized Dumai Express 10 boat said on Monday that 12 people were still missing and the rescue team only found a total of 27 dead bodies with no single foreigner onboard the ill-fated boat.

“All together 27 dead bodies founded from the capsized boat. 254 were safe and 12 were still missing,” Rustam Pakaya, Head of the Health Ministry’s Crisis Center told Xinhua. However, different figures showed on TV that 29 died, 243 saved and 13 are missing.

The rescuing efforts are still underway at the moment amid the high tide in the Karimun waters, Riau province. Overload and bad weather were the factors blamed for the sinking of the boat served Batam to Dumai in Sumatra island.

The Dumai Express 10 boat capsized on Sunday during its regular service. Aarding to the manifest, 213 passengers onboard.

Earlier reports said that the boat was actually carrying more than 270 people. —Xinhua
Only with stability and peace will the nation develop

Only with stability and peace will democratization process be successful

Anarchy begets anarchy, not democracy
Riots beget riots, not democracy
Democracy can be introduced only through constitution

People’s Desire

■ We favour peace and stability
■ We favour development
■ We oppose unrest and violence
■ Wipe out those inciting unrest and violence

VOA, BBC-sowing hatred among the people
RFA, DVB-generating public outrage
Do not allow ourselves to be swayed
By broadcasts designed to cause troubles

Nay Pyi Taw-Pinlaung Highway being upgraded to model hilly one

Recently, I made a trip to Ngwetaung of Gandayawady which is home to Kayah national brethren of the Union.

In the morning, we, the news team, left Nay Pyi Taw along Nay Pyi Taw-Pinlaung Road.

We witnessed the gloomy mountain ranges amidst white clouds. The car carrying the passengers including us speedily drove along the uphill and downhill roads.

On arrival at the briefing hall of Koegway waterfall camp, we heard the instructions of the Minister for Construction for durability of motor roads and for minimizing damages on the roads. These instructions highlighted the motto—“Uplift the prestige of Construction Ministry and prove excellent skills of Construction Ministry by systematically and carefully constructing roads, bridges, buildings and airports”, “Water as well as overloaded trucks damage roads,” “Stones and drains contribute to strengthening roads”, “Road shoulders and tar ensure better roads”, “There should not be puddles on roads, and drains must be dredged on both sides of road”, “If it rains, you must look for damages on roads and repair them as soon as possible.”

(See page 9)