Deputy Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw and wife pay homage to sacred Buddha tooth relic kept at Uppatasanti Pagoda

NAU PYI TAW, 17 Nov—Sacred Buddha tooth relic conveyed from the People’s Republic of China to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar for the fourth time being kept in front of Maha Manimaya Gotama Buddha Patima Yadana jade Buddha image in the eastward of the cave of Nay Pyi Taw Uppatasanti Pagoda was thronged for the 12th day with pilgrim people and members of the Sangha from the morning to the evening.

Deputy Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw U Mya Nyein, wife Daw Myint Myint Thein and family paid homage to the sacred Buddha tooth relic at 6 pm today.

They donated K 100,000 to the funds of the sacred Buddha tooth relic to members of the financial subcommittee who gave back certificate of honour to them. They left the pagoda at 6.30 pm.

Pilgrims and members of the Sangha from various regions of the nation paid homage to the sacred tooth relic and made donations.

A pilgrim team led by members of the Sangha of Hsenwi of Shan State (North) and Vietnamese pilgrim team led by Sangha Le Thanh Nhan and Nun Le Thi Ngoc Hiep paid obeisance to the sacred tooth relic and made donations.

The chairman of the financial subcommittee and members accepted K 460,000 by families of Magway Region government, K 400,000 by U Thein Swe-Daw Khin Mar Oo family under the patronage of mother Daw Hla, K 285,000 by pilgrim team of Hsenwi of Shan State (North), US$ 250 by Vietnamese pilgrim team, K 230,500 by alms offering group of Myanmar Hotels and Tourism Services, K 200,000 by Chairman of Union Civil Services Board U Kyaw Thu-Daw Le Le Kyi and family, K 100,000 each by U Kyaw Myint-Daw Khin Nwe-Nwe family, Col Aung Nyein (Retd)-Daw San San Lwin family in memory of late parents of both sides, Maung Myat Min-Ma Phu Pwint Thwe.

In men’s rowing M2 event, Saw William and Myint San scored for the second place as the gold went to Vietnam and bronze to Malaysia. Archers Thin Thin Khaing, San Yu Htwe and Thazin Aung secured third place in team recurve event and Indonesia first and Vietnam second.

(See page 8)

Our Three Main National Causes

* Non-disintegration of the Union
* Non-disintegration of National Solidarity
* Perpetuation of Sovereignty

Our Three Main National Causes
Exercise constant vigilance against fire

The winter approaches as the monsoon has waved goodbye. People are to step up fire preventive measures in such cold and dry season more than ever. Alongside kitchen fire and forest fire, electric short circuit becomes an issue with developing urbanization.

The motto alerting the public the danger of fire says, “Conquer the fire by prevention.” Negligent manners in using fire will not be forgiven.

Negligence is a major cause in the most of fire outbreaks. The unattended behaviours in dealing with electric devices and kitchen are the bottomline of the outbreak of fire.

All the family members are to share responsibility to ensure their home safe from negligence fire. Switching off the electricity supply to your house when going outside will also rule out the possibility of fire.

All the people are struggling everyday for a comfortable living, with the attitude of building wealth of the family. It is incumbent upon all individuals to protect property and assets accumulated over the whole life, State-owned industries and buildings and cultural heritages against fire.

Sticking to the continuous fire alerts of the media, each and every citizen is to speed up fire preventive activities.

PERSPECTIVES

Friday, 18 November, 2011

Union A&I Minister receives foreign guests

Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing received Ambassador of the Republic of Korea Mr Kim Hae-yong at his office, here, yesterday afternoon.

They discussed cooperation in development of agriculture sector, mutual cooperation in cultivation sector and exchange of technologies.

Likewise, the Union Minister received Vice-President Mr Wang Bo and party of CAMC Engineering Co at his office this morning.

They focused on implementation of irrigation system in Yenwe irrigated area, reclamation of modern farmlands, profit sharing in implementing the investment projects and raising double of income and higher lifestyle of rural people.

This noon, the Union Minister received Minister and Coordinator of SIDA’s Myanmar Assistance Mr Bengt Ekmam of Bangkok-based Swedish Embassy, Counsellor Mr Jorgen Schonning and Stockholm School of Economic Dr Anders Engvall. They discussed cooperation in rural life standard development and earning more income with SIDA.—MNA

Shan State Chief Minister’s trophy inter-district men’s football tournament (open) 2011 held

Shan State Chief Minister’s trophy inter-district men’s football tournament (open) State kicked off on 15 November at Kanbawza sports ground in Taunggyi, with an address by Shan State Chief Minister U Sao Aung Myat.

The State chief minister and personnel viewed the first match of the tournament between Danu team and Monghsat team.

The final will be held on 30 November and 13 teams are participating in the tournament.—MNA

Work coord meeting on holding inter-school sports competition held

YANGON, 17 Nov—Work coordination meeting on holding inter-school sports competition for 2011-2012 academic year took place at No. 1 Basic Education Department (Head Office) on Natmauk Street, here, on 12 November.

Deputy Minister for Education U Aye Kyu made a speech on the occasion. Officially reported on sports events and condition of playgrounds and stadiums.—MNA

Union F&R Minister receives Chinese guests

NAY PYI TAW, 17 Nov—Union Minister for Finance and Revenue U Hla Tun held a discussion on tax administration and economic matter, and investment matters with Chief Supervisor Mr Feng Huimin and party of State Administration of Taxation of the People’s Republic of China at his office, here, this morning.

Also present at the discussion was Deputy Minister U Win Than and officials.—MNA

Dy Construction Minister visits Ayeyawady Bridge (Nyaungdon) Project

NAY PYI TAW, 17 Nov—Deputy Minister for Construction U Soe Tint inspected construction site of Ayeyawady Bridge (Nyaungdon) on 15 November.

The deputy minister inspected completed approach road on Yangon side, arrangements for opening ceremony of the bridge, finishing touches of main bridge, and earthworks of the approach road on Pathein side.

At the briefing hall of the construction site, the deputy minister met engineers-in-charge, the deputy superintending engineer (road survey) and the chief engineer.—MNA

RUMFCCI President leaves for Indonesia

NAY PYI TAW, 17 Nov—President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry U Win Aung and CEC member Daw Wah Wah Tun left here on 15 November for Indonesia to attend ASEAN Summit and 2011 ASEAN Business and Investment Summit to be held in Bali from 16 to 18 November.

RUMFCCI Vice-Presidents U Aung Lwin, U Thaung Tin and U Tun Aung, General Secretary Dr Myo Thet and personnel saw them off at Yangon International Airport.—MNA

Firefighters putting out fire blazing at apartment No. 42 on 122nd Street, Yedwingon Ward, Mingala Taungnyunt Township of Yangon Region at 3.50 pm on 16 November.—MNA
Four arrested in police operation targeting “mafia-style” organized crime in Australia

SYDNEY, 17 Nov—Four people have been arrested after police seized firearms and dismantled a large clandestine drug laboratory in southwest Sydney, Australia during an operation targeting “mafia-style” organized-crime groups, the New South Wales (NSW) Police Force said on Thursday.

Detectives attached to Strike Force Wonoona located the drugs factory and drums of chemicals believed to be used in the manufacture of methyl amphetamine after raiding a property in Cobbity in southwest Sydney on Wednesday morning, police said.

Police also seized quantities of methyl amphetamine and cannabis, as well as more than 20,000 AU dollars (20,100 US dollars) in cash and a replica firearm.

Two men, aged 41 and 51, and a 42-year-old woman were arrested at home in Cobbity on Wednesday, and a 62-year-old man was arrested in the Sydney suburb of Cecil Hills on the same day.

They have been charged with participating in a criminal group and firearms offenses.

Police also raided properties in the Sydney suburbs of Cecil Hills and Leichhardt and in the Southern Tablelands town of Parkesbourne.

Police alleged all four of those arrested are part of a Mafia-style crime group. They are due to appear in court on Thursday.—Xinhua

Five killed in Pakistan suicide blast

ISLAMABAD, 17 Nov—At least three suicide bombers and two policemen were killed in a suicide blast that took place Wednesday night here, reported local Urdu TV channel Express.—Xinhua

An Afghan policeman keeps watch at the site of a car bomb explosion in Qurubah District, north of Kabul on 15 Nov, 2011. Five members of a family were wounded in the attack, according to a Ministry of Interior Affairs Press statement. REUTERS

Rockets explode near Afghan Loya Jirga venue, one injured

KABUL, 17 Nov—At least three rockets were heard whistling to the venue of Afghanistan’s ongoing Loya Jirga and explosions followed at around 8 am (0330 GMT) on Thursday morning, injuring at least one person, witnesses near the site told Xinhua.

The four-day Loya Jirga or traditional grand assembly of tribal elders, lawmakers and government functionaries opened Wednesday to discuss the proposed strategic partnership with the US and Afghan government-initiated peace talks with Taleban militants.

One civilian sustained injuries in one of the blast, a police official said, adding investigation is underway.—Xinhua

British soldier killed in Afghanistan blast

LONDON, 17 Nov—A British soldier died from an explosion in southern Afghanistan, the British Ministry of Defence has said.

The soldier was serving with the 1st Battalion The Yorkshire Regiment as a part of Combined Force Nahr-e Saraj North when he was killed by an improvised explosive device (IED), Xinhua reported Thursday.

The British government has plans to withdraw its combat troops from Afghanistan by 2015.

Two newspaper employees reported missing in Mexico

MEXICO CITY, 17 Nov—Authorities in northern Mexico are looking for two distribution employees of a national newspaper who were reported missing earlier this week. The daily newspaper El Financiero says the two men were traveling in the northern state of Zacatecas, and last reported they were being followed by “two patrol cars.”

A statement from the Zacatecas state government Wednesday says federal and local police are searching for the two men. It notes that criminals in Mexico sometimes use fake patrol cars for highway robberies and other crimes. Mexican media organizations and journalists have come under a rising number of attacks in recent years as drug cartels have confronted government forces.—Internet

Internet

Xinhua

Internet

Xinhua
Doctors urge UK government to ban smoking in cars

LONDON, 17 Nov—Britain should introduce a ban on all smoking in cars to protect people from second-hand smoke, a leading doctors’ union said Wednesday.

The British Medical Association (BMA) urged the government to take a “bold and courageous step” and extend current laws to include a ban on smoking in private vehicles.

Britain banned smoking in public places such as pubs and restaurants in 2007 but has avoided legislating for private areas.

“The UK made a huge step forward in the fight against tobacco by banning smoking in all enclosed public places, but more can still be done,” said Vivienne Nathanson, the BMA’s director of professional activities.

“We are calling on UK governments to take the bold and courageous step of banning smoking in private vehicles. The evidence for extending the smoke-free legislation is compelling.”

Children and elderly people are the worst affected, especially because they are often unable to refuse to take a journey in a smoky car, the BMA said.

It cited research as showing that levels of dangerous toxins in cars can be 23 times higher than in a typical smoking area.

Around 4,000 adults and 23 children die each year as a result of second-hand smoke in Britain, the BMA said.

The British parliament is due on 25 November to debate a bill calling for a smoking ban in private vehicles when children are present.

Prime Minister David Cameron, a former smoker, has said he supports the smoking ban in public places but is “nervous about going into what people do inside a vehicle.”

British smokers’ lobby group Forest said the evidence that smoking in cars is harmful to other passengers is “weak.”

US study shows exercise better than stents for PAD patients

WASHINGTON, 17 Nov—Supervised exercise was shown to be more effective than stenting or medication for improved walking ability in patients with peripheral artery disease (PAD), according to a US study reported Wednesday at the 2011 American Heart Association Scientific Sessions meeting.

The research group reported that of 111 patients studied in the randomized trial, the most effective treatment proved to be supervised exercise based on the results of a treadmill test taken at baseline and again at six months.

Patients who were in the supervised exercise group improved by a mean of 4.6 minutes in the treadmill test, while the group who received stents improved by a mean of 2.5 minutes. However, researchers found that self-reported quality of life measurements proved to be higher in the group that received stents, even though their ability to walk did not improve as greatly as the group that received supervised exercise rehabilitation.

PAD is a condition in which plaque builds up in the arteries and affects blood flow, especially to the legs. It is estimated that between 10 and 12 million people suffer from PAD in the United States. One symptom of PAD is known as claudication, a painful cramping of the leg muscles that limits the patient’s ability to walk. It affects nearly 2 million people who suffer from PAD, and results in a sedentary lifestyle and poor quality of life.

Four patients test positive for hepatitis C

OTTAWA, 17 Nov—At least four ex-patients of a Canadian doctor accused of failing to follow infection prevention protocol have tested positive for hepatitis C, a law firm says. The Merchant Law Group has filed a class-action suit against Dr Christiane Farazli on behalf of two former patients, the Canadian Broadcasting Corp reported Wednesday. Nicholas Robinson, a lawyer with the firm, said all four are current or former residents of Ottawa who were treated at Farazli’s clinic in the City.

Ottawa Public Health sent letters to patients treated at Farazli’s clinic between 2002 and June 2011 after starting an investigation into her procedures. In a memo to the city council and the Ottawa board of health, Dr Isra Levy said at least 3,400 former patients, about half of those who received letters, have already been tested.

China stock index futures open mixed Thursday

BEIJING, 17 Nov—China’s stock index futures opened mixed on Thursday with the contract for settlement in November, the most actively traded, down 7 points to 2,670 points. The contract for settlement in December opened 0.8 points lower at 2,682 points while the contract for settlement in March 2012 opened at 2,699.6 points, down 5.4 points. The contract for settlement in June 2012 opened 3.8 points higher at 2,732.4 points.

The stock-index contracts, agreements to buy or sell the Hushen 300 Index at a present value on an agreed date, are designed to allow investors to bet on and profit from both gains and declines in the market. The index futures were launched at the Cina Financial Futures Exchange (CFFEX) and started trading from 16 April, 2010. The CFFEX has set the base value for all the four contracts at 3,399 points.
Florida to protect four shark species

Fort Lauderdale, 17 Nov—Florida wildlife officials say they’re about to outlaw the killing of tiger sharks and three kinds of hammerheads that prowl the state’s waters.

The new rule, to be voted on by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, would add four new species—tiger sharks as well as scalloped, smooth and great hammerheads—to 23 sharks already protected from harvest in Florida waters, which extend three miles off the Atlantic coast and nine miles off the Gulf coast.

The South Florida Sun Sentinel reported Tuesday: “Catch-and-release fishing would still be allowed.”

Shark experts and environmentalists have lauded the Florida proposal, noting populations of all four species have declined by more than half in recent decades.

The hope, they say, is Florida’s action, the first in the nation, will clear the way for extending protections in both federal and international waters. “It’s a big step but we’re going to need the federal government to step up and do their part as well,” said Neil Hammerschlag, a professor and shark expert at the University of Miami.

Water lake found in Jupiter moon

Austin, 17 Nov—US researchers say a body of liquid water the volume of the North American Great Lakes is locked inside the icy shell of Jupiter’s moon Europa.

Scientists at the University of Texas at Austin say that could be a significant finding in the search for life beyond Earth, as the water could represent a potential habitat for life and many more such lakes might exist throughout the shallow regions of Europa’s shell.

The newly discovered lake is covered by floating ice shelves that seem to be collapsing, providing a mechanism for transferring nutrients and energy between the surface and a vast ocean already inferred to exist below the thick ice shell, increasing the potential for life, they said.

“No we see evidence that even though the ice shell is thick, it can mix vigorously,” she said. “That could make Europa and its ocean more habitable.”

Google sells digital music in iTunes challenge

Los Angeles, 17 Nov—Google has opened a digital music store in a direct challenge to Apple’s iTunes and Amazon’s online shop.

“We are happy to announce you can buy millions of songs right from Android Market,” said the service, which came out of test mode on Wednesday to become available free of charge to US residents.

Digital songs can be purchased online at the Android Market using computer Web browsers, and Google said the service will be rolled out to Android-powered smartphones and tablet computers in coming days.

Google signed three of the four major record labels—Universal, EMI, and Sony Music—with the holdout being Warner Music, home to Madonna and other artists.

Secret of frogs’ jumping prowess revealed

Providence, 17 Nov—The ability of frogs to leap several times farther than their physiology would seem to allow lies in their tendons, not in their muscles, US researchers say.

Using high-speed X-ray photography, animal scientists at Brown University discovered frogs’ tendons stretch as they ready their leaps and then recoil much like a spring.

“Muscles alone couldn’t produce jumps that good,” Henry Astley, who studies the biomechanics of frog jumping, said in a Brown release Wednesday.

Even though as much as a quarter of a frog’s mass is in its legs, it would be physically incapable of jumping as far without the tendons’ services, he said. “In order to get truly exceptional jumping performance, you need some sort of elastic structure,” Astley said.
Ban Ki-moon urges world to learn lessons from Thai mega flooding

BANGKOK, 17 Nov— UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon said on Wednesday that lessons should be learned from the flood in Thailand and urged world leaders to address climate change without delay.

“I have emphasized the importance of learning lessons from this mega flooding,” Ban said at a joint Press conference with Thailand’s Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra. With preparedness and disaster risk reduction, the government can save a lot of lives and properties.

The worst flood in decades has been plaguing Thailand since July, killing at least 564 people.

Ban asked international community to address the climate change “with the strongest possible political leadership and organizing necessary fund.” Ban asked member states to deliver 30 billion US dollars by the end of 2012 to help the developing countries adapt and mitigate the impact of climate change, which was pledged by world leaders in Copenhagen in 2009. He also urged for clear guidelines and framework to deliver a hundred billion dollars of fund by 2020.

“A hundred billion dollars may be a big challenge. But even under economic crisis, I believe we can do it. I am urging world leaders to address the problem with a sense of urgency, we don’t any time to waste,” Ban said.—Xinhua

Small training plane loses contact in Indonesia

JAKARTA, 17 Nov— A small training plane with three people on board is missing in Java island of Indonesia on Wednesday, a rescuer said here.

The Cessna 172 plane operated by Nusa Flying International School departing from Halim Perdanakusuma airforce base in Jakarta should arrive in Cirebon Perdanakusuma airforce base in West Java at 08:35 am Jakarta time. However, the plane has not reached the destination yet, rescuer at Jakarta Search and Rescue Office named only Purnono told Xinhua over phone.

Searching for the plane suspected to fall in West Java territory is underway, he said, adding a helicopter is prepared to help the searching.

The people on board comprised the pilot and two students of the school, he said.

Small plane accident has been rampant recently in Indonesia, including an accident in Papua which killed several people. —Xinhua

Chinese women rescued from den of vice in Angola

BEIJING, 17 Nov— Police from China and Angola have jointly busted a criminal gang that abducted Chinese women and forced them into prostitution in Angola, China’s Ministry of Public Security said on Wednesday.

Police rescued 19 Chinese women during a crackdown on 25 Oct, in which 11 suspects were arrested in Angola and five were caught in China, according to a statement on the ministry’s website. All suspects are Chinese citizens. The female victims were sent back to China on 4 Nov and the 11 suspects on 13 Nov, said the statement.

The case came into focus last April, when a woman named Zhang informed Tonghua police authority in Northeast China’s Jilin Province that her sister and some other Chinese young women had been abducted to Angola and forced to provide sexual service. Zhang told the police that on 16 April her sister was hired to work as an attendant in a hotel in Angola on a salary of 6,000 yuan ($945) per month.

Xu Juan, who recruited her, offered to pay for tickets and visa worth $5,000 in advance. The candidates were supposed to pay it back after they earned the money, according to a news release by the ministry.—Xinhua

Hunter mistakes woman for moose

ST JOHN’S, 17 Nov— A man hunting moose in Newfoundland is facing numerous charges after mistakenly shooting a woman sitting by a campfire, police said.

The Royal Canadian Mounted Police didn’t identify the hunter or the victim, but said criminal and misdemeanour weapons charges had been filed against the shooter.

The bullet hit the 68-year-old woman’s right shoulder and exited through her back, the Canadian Broadcasting Corp reported Tuesday. She has had two surgeries and may lose the use of her right arm, doctors said.

The woman was with her husband and two other family members preparing a campfire on an outing in central Newfoundland near Lewisporte when she was shot, police said.—Internet

Singapore to take tougher measures to deal with youth gangs

SINGAPORE, 17 Nov— Singapore is expected to introduce tougher measures to tackle youth gangs, local media reported on Thursday.

Gangs that try to recruit impressionable youngsters could face tougher penalties, Owners of popular youth hangouts such as computer gaming centres may have to take action to avoid the problem occurring on their doorstep, said the recommendations made by a work group reviewed the legislation.

Youth attracted to gangs may require a different approach as they join largely for the company and to feel a sense of belonging, said Minister of State for Home Affairs Masagos Zulkifli, who is the head of the working group set up to look into ways of dealing with the problem following two high-profile attacks last year.

Nineteen-year-old student Darren Ng Wei Jie was hacked to death with a chopper after members of a gang accused him of staring. Barely two weeks later, seven people were injured when a group of teenagers attacked them with knives and parangs.

Local media said that the situation in Singapore is well under control and the two incidents were isolated.—Xinhua

File photo of a female moose. —INTERNET
Australian economy grows in line with trend

SYDNEY, 17 Nov—The Australian economy is growing at an annual pace close to the projected long-term trend, according to a survey released on Wednesday by Westpac Banking Corporation and the Melbourne Institute.

The annualized growth rate of the Westpac Melbourne Institute Leading Index, which indicates the likely pace of economic activity three to nine months into the future, was 3.3 percent in September, basically in line with its long term trend of 3.2 percent, Westpac said.

Westpac chief economist Bill Evans said the growth rate in the Index slowed from the 4.5 percent in August and was close to its long term trend.

“It appears that the boost to above trend growth we saw in July and August has now faded and the “around trend” story which has been generally the case since the beginning of 2011 is now appropriate,” he said in a statement on Wednesday.

Evans said recent official national accounts data had imposed a degree of volatility on the index.

Indonesia prepares to anticipate flood, landslide

JAKARTA, 17 Nov—Indonesia is making preparations to anticipate natural disasters of flood and landslide due to ongoing rainy season, an official said here on Wednesday.

Head of Data, Information and Public Relation Centre at the National Agency for Disaster Management (BNPB) Sutopo Purwo Nugroho told reporters that his office coordinates with related ministries and institutions on preparedness of the natural disasters.

“We have composed contingency plans and coordinated action plans to anticipate the threats,” said Nugroho.

He added that BNPB has sent equipments and logistics to 33 provinces and 265 regencies/cities, preparing quick response units that could be mobilized at anytime as well as preparing 116 billion rupiah (about 12.8 US million dollars).

Nugroho said that Indonesia has 172 regencies and cities with high risk of flood and 118 with middle risk of the disaster. “Meanwhile, 154 regencies and cities in the country hold high risk of landslide and 149 others of middle risk,” said Nugroho.

Vietnam to build space centre by 2018

HANOI, 17 Nov—Vietnam will build a space centre by 2018 for which it will spend over $600 million. Under the plan, the Vietnam Space Centre, covering an area of nine hectares at Hoa Lac High-tech Park in Hanoi, will specialise in researching and producing small satellites to be used in domestic weather forecast, geodesy, exploration, radio- television broadcast and rescue, Xinhua reported. The project will be implemented by the Vietnam Academy of Science and Technology (VAST) with design and construction support from Japan, said Doan Minh Chung, director of the Space Technology Institute (STI). Once the project is over, Vietnam will own the most advanced space science and technology research and training centre in Southeast Asia. The country is expected to reduce 10 percent of damages caused by natural disasters and is able to design and produce small satellites for the earth observance. Vietnam and Japan have potential for long-term cooperation in remote sensing and application and development of small satellites, said Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) Director Tetsuo Tanaka during STI’s 5th anniversary celebrations.—Internet

Oil spill exercise held in Hong Kong

HONG KONG, 17 Nov—Hong Kong emergency response groups took to the land, sea and sky on Tuesday, to test the city’s response to combat a possible large-scale oil spill.

Although Hong Kong rarely encounters such disasters, authorities said they must always be prepared.

There was plenty of action on a beach on Hong Kong’s outlying Lamma Island, as an anti-oil pollution exercise, code-named Oilex 2011, went into full damage-control mode.

Headed by Hong Kong’s Marine Department, the exercise simulated the response to a mock oil spill from a beached product tanker.

The scenario was that 5,200 tonnes of leaking fuel oil posed a threat to the cooling water system of the main power station on Lamma Island, which supplies energy to Hong Kong.

Oil combat teams practised setting up a ring of floating barrier booms around the tanker to prevent the mock oil spill from spreading to the beach, a popular leisure spot.

Tuesday’s drill simulates a second-tier oil spill, but also animals, as we are near the nesting grounds of Hong Kong’s endangered Green Turtles.

The exercise is part of the government’s annual Maritime Oil Spill Response Plan. Five government departments and four local oil companies took part.—Internet

US Postal Service reports big loss on shrinking mail volumes

WASHINGTON, 17 Nov—The US Postal Service (USPS) on Tuesday posted a net loss of 5.1 billion US dollars for the 2011 fiscal year that ended on Sept. 30 as mail volumes continued to drop.

The year-end loss would have been about 10.6 billion dollars had it not been approved by Congress to postpone a 5.5-billion-dollar payment for future retirees’ health benefits into fiscal 2012, said chief financial officer Joe Corbett.

The total mail volume declined by 3 billion pieces, or 1.7 percent, from 2010, mainly because of the recession and the increasing use of electronic communications, the USPS said.

It added that mail volumes have dropped more than 20 percent in the last five years, and the USPS has been in challenging fiscal situation for several years. The USPS may run out of cash to operate by next September and will default on the benefits payment later this month, said Corbett, noting that the loss last year was 8.5 billion dollars, including a benefits payment.

"To return to profitability we must reduce our annual costs by 20 billion dollars by the end of 2015," said Patrick Donahoe, Postmaster General and CEO, adding that aggressive cost-cutting actions would be probable. The USPS, a self-supporting government enterprise, is the only delivery service that reaches every address in the nation, including 150 million residences, businesses and post office boxes.—Xinhua
Deputy Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw...

family under the patronage of both side parents and General Manager U Kyaw Kyaw-Daw Khin Khin Huay and family of Myanmar Economic Bank, K 300,000 by Managing Director U San Thaung of Myanmar Economic Bank-Daw Thida Lwin and family, K 230,000 by Lt-Col Zaw Min Tun-Daw Thin Thin Aung of No. 122 Infantry Regiment and families of Hlwegyi Village, one gold bracelet and two pairs of gold earplugs worth about K 722,000 by U Kyaw Myint-Daw Nu Nu family of Nay Pyi Taw Shwelawang Co, two gold rings, two pieces of pearl and 11 pieces of precious stones worth about K 233,500 by Daw Myint San and family of Pyin U Lwin, K 200,000 by U Tin Maung (Rtd)-Daw Myint Myint San and family one gold chain and one gold ring decorated with 18 pieces of diamond worth about K 2.4 million in memory of U Than Pe-Daw Mya and family of Taunggyi K 200,000, pilgrims of Thuri Zeya Nunnery of Kangyi Pariyatti Monastery of Nyaungshwe K 105,500 and Maj-Gen Saw Hla (Rtd)-Daw Cho Cho Maw and family K 108,000, Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue U Win Than-Daw Yi Yi Win and family one gold chain and one gold ring decorated with 18 pieces of diamond worth about K 2.4 million in memory of U Than Pe-Daw Mya Yi and U Min Kyi-Daw Yin Kyi, Daw Win Kyi Myint and family five gold buttons decorated six pieces of ruby worth about K 500,000 in memory of two parents, Captain Tin Maung (Rtd)-Daw Myint Myint San and family one pair of gold earplug worth about K 300,000 in memory of son Maung Aung Kaung Khant.

Donations from evening of 16th November to 6 pm today amounted to K 29,453,531, US$ 365, Thai baht 62, Philippines peso 20, Indian rupee 2100, S$ 20, 112 items of gold, silver and jewellery worth about K 10,219,500.

Chief Minister of Yangon Region U Myint Swe and party open Vietnam Trade Fair in Myanmar 2011.—MNA

YANGON, 17 Nov—The Vietnam Trade Fair in Myanmar 2011 was opened at Myanmar Convention Centre (MCC) on Mindhamma Road in Mayangon Township this morning.

Chief Minister of Yangon Region U Myint Swe, Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Ohn Than, Yangon Mayor Yangon Region and Thailand silver. On 17 November, Myanmar sports contingent won two gold, one silver and three bronze medals. From 11 to date, Myanmar has won three gold, 13 silver and 19 bronze, totaling 35 medals.

YANGON Region Chief Minister attends opening of Vietnam Trade Fair in Myanmar

Myanmar wins two more gold and other medals...

(from page 1) In men’s team recurve, archers Nay Myo Aung, Zaw Win Haik and Aung Myo Thu won the bronze after Malaysia and Thailand. Ye Min Swe, Aung Cheint Baw and Myat Zaw Tun stood at the third place in men’s archery compound event.

In men’s (-55 Kilo) Judo event, Kub Jin Bao of Myanmar won the bronze and the same was scored by Segull in women’s (-45 Kilo) Judo event.

Than Hlaing, Aung Thu Tun and Ei Thet Mon secured third place in dressage event in which Indonesia won gold and Thailand silver. On 17 November, Myanmar sports contingent won two gold, one silver and three bronze medals. From 11 to date, Myanmar has won three gold, 13 silver and 19 bronze, totaling 35 medals.

MNA

Bronze medalists Nay Myo Aung, Zaw Win Haik and Aung Myo Thu in men’s team recurve event.—MNA

Silver medalists Saw William and Myint San in men’s double rowing M2 event.

Gold medalists Than Than Nwe, Shwe Zin Lat in women’s double rowing LW 2X event.—MNA

Bronze medalists Ye Min Swe, Aung Cheint Baw and Myat Zaw Tun in men’s compound event.—MNA

Members of the Sangha and people paying obeisance to sacred Buddha tooth relic.—MNA
Evidences on both Bronze Age, Iron Age discovered

**NAY PYI TAW, 17 Nov** — Archaeologists discovered evidences on the Bronze Age and the Iron Age in Pyawbwe Township, Mandalay Division, recently.

The team comprising archaeologists of the Ministry of Culture and archaeologists led by Dr. Jean Pierre Pautreau of National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS) of France found human skeletons, 20 colourful beads, one iron weapon, four bronze packs, earthen objects and three human remains believed to be covered with lime and buried when they had unearthed the field No. 92 about one miles south of Kyagon Village as from 2 November.

The research on the Bronze Age and the Iron Age in Myanmar have been launched on 1998 in Nyaungkan in Budalim Township, Sagaing Region, and the excavation have been carried out in Monhtoo in Budalim Township, Hanlin in Wetlet Township, Innde in Taungtha Township, Myaukkye, MyinOoHle and Hnawkwan in Mahlaing Township, Kokokhla and Bulugon in Wundwin Township, Wyahtingon, U-min in Payagyi Village-tract, Htantabin in Huyangart Village-tract and Honbon in Dahatgon Village-tract in Pyawbwe Township, Nyaunggon in Kanni Village-tract and Hmyar-Yaywai in Thaegyigon Village-tract in Meiktila Township, Pyaingon in Nyaungbin Village-tract in Kume Township, Myohla in Yamethin Township and Kanhtigon and Wyangongyi in Bawegya Village-tract in Thazi Township.

During the excavation in 19 areas within 10 years, evidences for the Bronze Age and the Iron Age were found and the findings are valuable for Myanmar culture and history. — MNA

28th GMS Meeting of Tourism Working Group 27-29 Nov

**NAY PYI TAW, 17 Nov** — Under the leadership of the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism, the 28th Greater Mekong Sub-region Meeting of Tourism Working Group and related meetings will be held at Bagan Nannmyint Building in Bagan from 27 to 29 November.

The meetings are held twice a year in GMS member countries alphabetically, and this year is Myanmar’s turn to host the 28th working group meeting. The 28th GMS Meeting of Tourism Working Group will be organized in conjunction with the joint work committee meeting for long-term development projects of tourism industry, the tourism industry long-term development meeting, the GMS Tourism Show, the Bagan Night Market and the entertainments of cultural exchange among GMS member countries. Moreover, the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism will stage the photo show that won prizes in the photo contest of the GMS member countries ambassadors residing in Bangkok of Thailand, at the GMS Tourism Show, representatives of GMS tourism coordination office, ADB and Pacific-Asia Tourism Board, tourist columnists, resource persons and guests, totalling over 70 and officials of local tourism agencies.

International Space Station gets 3 new tenants

Moscow, 17 Nov — The International Space Station got three new crewmembers Wednesday, temporarily doubling in crew size with the arrival of a Russian Soyuz capsule. The Soyuz TMA-22 delivered NASA astronaut Dan Burbank and Russians Anton Shkaplerov and Anatoly Ivanishin, who blasted off from Kazakhstan on Monday. They moved onto the station about two hours after their capsule successfully docked. The three newcomers were greeted with hugs and handshakes from American Michael Fossum, Russian Sergey Volkov and Japanese Satoshi Furukawa who have been at the station since June and are due to return to Earth next week.

The 39-year-old Shkaplerov and 42-year-old Ivanishin are making their first flights into space. Burbank, 50, who will take over command of the space station, is a veteran of 12-day shuttle missions in 2000 and 2006. The three men are to remain aboard the space station until March. At that time, they will return to Earth.

Progress cargo ship in August. That failed launch raised doubts about future missions to the station, because the rocket that carried it suffered a faultless launch.

Internet
Bhutan donates butterflies to Japan

TOYKO, 17 NOV—Bhutan has donated to Japan 2 rare swallowtail butterflies native to the Himalayan country. The male and female Ludlow’s Bhutan Swallowtails were given by a delegation accompanying Bhutan’s king, who is visiting Japan. The delegation gave the specimens to the Butterfly Society of Japan at the state guesthouse in Tokyo on Tuesday.

One such butterfly was spotted in August for the first time in nearly 80 years in a valley in Bhutan’s eastern mountainous region by a joint research team of the society and the country’s government. The swallowtail is the size of an adult’s palm, and has wings with dark red markings and three tails. Imports and exports of the butterfly without permission is banned by the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species.

Tuesday’s donation was realized after Bhutan conducted export and other procedures. The University of Tokyo Museum’s Assistant Professor Masaya Yago, who received the specimens, said they will enable researchers to further study the evolution of animals in the Himalaya Mountains.

A 21-year-old man from Idaho, Ortega-Hernandez, who was detained by Pennsylvania State Police Wednesday, was allegedly involved in a shooting Friday night that may be responsible for two bullets found at the White House Tuesday, the Secret Service said.

One bullet hit a window and was stopped by bulletproof glass, and another was found on the White House exterior, the Secret Service charged with protecting the first family said.

Ortega-Hernandez is to appear in federal court in Pittsburgh at 2 pm Thursday, according to the Justice Department.

WASHINGTON, 17 Nov—An earthquake measuring 5.7 on the Richter scale jolted off the coast of Ecuador on Wednesday, the US Geological Survey said. The epicentre, with a depth of 29.80 km, was initially determined to be at 1.7778 degrees south latitude and 81.5507 degrees west longitude.

Crew members found alive aboard missing Russian ship

MOSCOW, 17 Nov—All 11 crew members aboard a Russian ship that went missing in the White Sea were found alive and rescued, Xinhua reported. On Tuesday, the Emergency Situations Ministry confirmed that the Captain Kuznetsov, en route from St Petersburg to the Arctic Sea port city of Arkhangelsk, went missing in the White Sea without sending any SOS signals.

The Transport Ministry Wednesday in a statement said that the crew members aboard the Russian ship — Captain Kuznetsov — have been safely rescued. Rescuers landed on the deck of the “Captain Kuznetsov” from a helicopter and evacuated the crew members after the vessel ran aground in the White Sea, the ministry’s press service stated.

In a statement, the ship’s owner company said the ship had been stranded by a storm in the White Sea and forced to stop all its engines.

US Congress approves bill to help veterans seek jobs

WASHINGTON, 17 Nov—US House of Representatives passed a legislation on Wednesday that would help veterans get jobs. The measure cleared the lower chamber by a unanimous vote of 422 to 0. Since it had been approved by the Senate last week, it now only awaits President Barack Obama’s signature to become law.

It is so far the only piece of Obama’s American Jobs Act to clear Congress. The bill would offer tax credits of up to 5,600 US dollars to companies that hire veterans who have been unemployed for more than six months.

The maximum amount of tax credits would be elevated to 9,600 dollars if companies hire long-unemployed disabled veterans. It would also expand education and job training benefits for veterans.

The White House hailed the legislation’s passage.

The University of the State

* To build a modern and developed nation
* To uplift national prestige and integrity and to strengthen Union Spirit
* To promote national education
* To ensure perpetuity of independence and sovereignty of the State
* To build a modern and developed new nation

10-day trip is the latest by a number of musical acts sponsored by the State Department as part of its American Festival of the Arts, a cultural programme designed to promote exchanges between the people of the two countries.

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**Magnets can help stroke patients speak**

**SYDNEY, 17 Nov—**
Stimulating the brain with magnets is likely to improve the language skills of stroke survivors.

Researchers led by Caroline Barwood from the University of Queensland’s School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences found marked improvement in the language skills of stroke patients after they underwent Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (TMS).

TMS is a non-invasive method that seeks to target brain activity to facilitate the reorganisation of brain regions with the purpose to alter language behaviours, reports The European Journal of Neurology.

The treatment involves placing a coil on the participant’s head which uses electromagnetic induction to induce weak electric currents through a changing magnetic field, according to a university statement.

A group of patients that experienced strokes between one and six years prior to the study were recruited for participation and treated at the university’s Centre for Neurogenic Communication Disorders Research.

“Eighty percent of patients treated with TMS showed improvements in language skills, most notably in expressive language, which includes naming, repetition and discourse. No language improvements were seen for those treated with placebo TMS,” Barwood said.

The researcher said changes in patients’ language scores were confirmed on standardised speech pathology tests. “The research strongly demonstrates that TMS may be a very useful and safe treatment method,” she added.

**China to build first Tai Chi theme park**

**BEIJING, 17 Nov—**
China will build a theme park showcasing the traditional martial art form of Tai Chi in Wudang Mountains area, legendary home of the martial art and a Unesco World Heritage Site renowned as a centre of Taoism.

Tai Chi is a type of Chinese martial art closely connected with Taoism, a religion developed originally in ancient China which emphasises a simple and natural life. It is usually practiced for self-defence and health benefits.

According to an administrative official, the office of Wudang Mountains and US company Landmark Entertainment will cooperate to set up the Tai Chi theme park in the central Hubei Province, Xinhua reported.

The administrative office of Wudang Mountains and Landmark Entertainment Group plan to ink investment agreements in early December in Beijing.

Tony Christopher, CEO of Landmark Entertainment Group, said revenue will be invested on the theme park.

Open-air performances will also be staged on waters beside the theme park.

Christopher said, adding that the performances are planned to be guided by Hollywood directors.

The first theme park will be established on the theme park in the central Hubei Province.

**Newly discovered tape after John F Kennedy assassination on sale for 500k dollars**

**WASHINGTON, 17 Nov—**
A new tape which captures the moments on Air Force One just after President John F Kennedy’s assassination has been discovered and is on sale for half a million dollars.

According to reports, the two-hour tape includes more than 30 minutes of additional material beyond what the official version in the government archives records.

The new tape, housed in its original packaging, is one of many items on sale from the office of President Kennedy.

The in-flight recordings also detailed the arrangements for ambulances and limousines before the plane was scheduled to land.

While a private collector can purchase the Clifton tape for its $500,000 dollars asking price, the recording will also be digitized and given to the National Archives and John F Kennedy Library.

**Bees at Ngee Ann Poly injure 38 people**

**SINGAPORE, 17 Nov—**
A group of Ngee Ann Polytechnic staff and student were stung by bees at the school’s sports complex.

All of the injured, who have been since dismissed from hospital, The Singapore Civil Defence Force (SCDF) said it received a call about the incident around 8.30am, while students were playing soccer, netball and volleyball.

Ambulances and two specially designed Personal Decontamination Vehicles (PDVs) were used to send the injured, 12 at a time, to hospital.

The PDV can be used as a mass-casualty decontamination facility, ambulance and as a transport vehicle.

Sixteen of the casualties were taken to Alexandra Hospital and another 21 to National University Hospital.

The school said the field was cordoned off, and sports activities were cancelled or moved.

The best control company later got rid of the bee hive.

**Visitors and exhibitors talk in front of a water show during Watec Israel 2011, in Tel Aviv, on 15 Nov, 2011.—XINHUA**

**British taxis to have spy cameras**

**LONDON, 17 Nov—**
Taxis in the famous British university town of Oxford will now be fitted with spy cameras to record images of passengers. A total of 652 taxis licensed in the city are to be fitted with CCTV cameras, the Daily Express said.

The city council said the move was in response to an increase in complaints against both cab drivers and passengers.

The complaints include over-charging, sexual assaults and attacks on drivers.

“This is an incredible invasion of privacy. Oxford city council has thrown civil liberties out of the window,” said Nick Pickles, director of civil liberties group Big Brother Watch.

A council spokeswoman said: “Oxford city council considers the risk of intrusion is acceptable compared to the public safety benefits. In any event, the level of privacy in a licensed vehicle is far lower than that in one’s own car.”

All taxis must have the equipment installed from April next year.

Oxford, which lies about 80 km north-west of London, has a population of around 165,000.
**Claims Day Notice**

**MV Hoang Anh 09 Voy No (13)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV HOANG ANH 09 VOY NO (13) are hereby notified that the vessel has arrived on 17.11.2011 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of B.S.W-1 where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

**Shipping Agency Department**

**Myanmar Port Authority**

**Agent For: G Link Express Logistics S’Pore Pte Ltd**

Phone No: 256924/256914

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**Invitation to Open Tender**

Local Sale of (340.15) Metric Tons of Cathode Copper in United States Dollar.

**Reserve Price**: One Metric Ton Cathode Copper Price not less than London Metal Exchange Seller price on the date of Tender Opening.

**Closing Date & Time**: 20th November, 2011 at 18:00 hrs

**Tender Documents**: Available at the following address:

Any queries can be done between (9:30) AM and (4:30) PM before tender closing date.

**No.1** Mining Enterprise

Ministry of Mines, Building No. (19), Nay Pyi Taw.
Ph: 067-409380, 409383 Fax: 067-409379

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**Shrimp has ‘silk-spinning skills’**

**London, 17 Nov** — A tiny underwater creature spins silk in order to bind together its sand grain house, researchers have discovered. The shrimp, Crassocoropis bonellii, produces fibres that combine barnacle cement biology with spider silk production techniques.

The shrimp builds a shelter from sand grains and other material.

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**Is oral contraceptive pill fuelling prostate cancer?**

**Toronto, 17 Nov** — Scientists say research is needed to ascertain if oral contraceptive pill use could be fuelling rising prostate cancer rates.

But experts stress this is not proof that one causes the other and it might be a fluke finding.

The researchers believe oestrogen by-products excreted in the urine of pill-users may have contaminated the food chain and drinking water.

The hormone is known to feed the growth of certain cancers. The latest investigation looked at data from 2007 for individual nations and continents worldwide to see if there was any link.

The researchers found a significant association between contraceptive pill use in the population as a whole with both the number of new cases of, and deaths from, prostate cancer.

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**The Pill became publicly available in the 1960s and remains a popular choice of contraceptive.**

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**Man buys a mini-van... and finds $500,000 of cocaine in the door panels**

**San Jose, 17 Nov** — A California man was stunned to see what a previous owner of his minivan apparently left behind: $500,000 worth of cocaine jammed in the door panels. San Jose psychologist Charles Preston bought the 2008 Town and Country in May 2010 for a mere $14,000 from Thrifty Car Sales in Santa Clara.

Mr Preston said he noticed the driver’s side window wouldn’t go down all the way, but he figured he would live with it because the minivan had a good air conditioning system. He discovered the giant stash of cocaine 15 months later when he brought the car to a mechanic to get the brakes checked. Police arrived at the shop immediately and found 14 packages of cocaine hidden in the doors.

After impounding the car, they found five more packages behind the wheels. Mr Preston said he initially had no idea what the white ‘snow’ hidden in the frame was, though those who heard the news were quick to dole out advice.

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**Internet**

**The shrimp builds a shelter from sand grains and other material.**

**Internet**

**Ph: 067-409380, 409383 Fax 067-409379**

**Ministry of Mines, Building No. (19), Nay Pyi Taw.**

**The exact cause for why the fruity season has advanced so much remains unknown.**

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**The animal’s ‘specialist secretory legs’ produce the sticky, fibrous material.**

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**UK trees’ fruit ripening ‘18 days earlier’**

**London, 17 Nov** — Britain’s native trees are producing ripe fruit, on average, 18 days earlier than a decade ago, probably as a result of climatic shifts, a study reveals. It shows that acorns are ripening 13 days earlier, while rowan berries are ready to eat nearly a month earlier. Experts warn that one consequence could be that animals’ food reserves would become depleted earlier in the winter. The findings were published by Nature’s Calendar, a data collection network coordinated by the Woodland Trust.

“Some of the changes are really quite big and quite surprising,” explained Prof Tim Sparks, the trust’s nature adviser. “This caused me to go back and look at the data again to make sure it was valid because even I did not believe it initially.” Prof Sparks said Nature’s Calendar, formerly known as the UK Phenology Network, was established in 1998 to collect spring-time information. “But the gap in data was in the autumn. So, since about 2000, the scheme has also been collecting data on things such as fruit ripening dates, leaf colour change and fall dates, and the last birds seen,” he told BBC News.

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**Internet**

**Tourists visit a cave at Baligou Scenic Area of Taihang Mountain, central China’s Henan Province. Waterfalls, brooks and ponds constitute picturesque sceneries in this region, attracting a lot of visitors.—Xinhua**

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**Smart Glass**

**Tallinn, 17 Nov** — Scientists from Estonia’s University of Tartu have created a glass surface that can be rendered opaque in an electric field, allowing it to be used as window shades, local media reported on Monday. The secret of the creation lies in a special spray-on gel, which after encountering the glass surface forms a 5 to 10 micrometer coat, the country’s ETV reported.

Upon encountering an electric field, the gel changes its optical properties at a flick of switch. So far, the gel has been applied to small square pieces of glass, which have passed all laboratory tests. Estonian scientists are now, however, trying to figure out how to apply the same technology on larger surface. According to Ilmar Kink, head of the Nanotechnology Development Center at the university, one option is to develop a special spray booth, which would apply the gel in a one go.

The glass can be used in office buildings and shopping malls.

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**Internet**

**San Jose psychologist Charles Preston purchased a used Town and Country that came with $500,000 worth of cocaine stuffed in the window panels and behind the wheels.**

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**Internet**

**The shrimp builds a shelter from sand grains and other material.**

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**Internet**

**Ph: 067-409380, 409383 Fax 067-409379**

**Ministry of Mines, Building No. (19), Nay Pyi Taw.**

**The exact cause for why the fruity season has advanced so much remains unknown.**

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**Internet**
**Woman, 106, ‘loves her pizza’**

A Newfoundland, Canada, great-great-grandmother who just turned 106 said she has subsisted on unhealthy foods and “good times.”

Margaret Ellen Moores of Rushoon, who celebrated her birthday during the weekend, said God must want her to remain on Earth for a while longer, the Canadian Broadcasting Corp reported Monday.

“She put me here, I suppose, and that was it. I had to stay till I went,” Moores, whose only daily medication is Tylenol, told revelers at her party.

Moores, who has 14 grandchildren, 13 great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren, said having lots of fan after her retirement has kept her going.

“Good times I guess, when I got old. I didn’t have them when I was young,” she said. “(I) got so fond of them, I couldn’t let them go.”

Mary Cheeseman, Moores’ daughter, said her mother refuses to stick to a healthy diet.

“She loves her sweets. She never drank water in her life,” Cheeseman said. “(She) loves her salt beef, the same old-time meals as ever she had … She loves her pizza and French fries now. So it’s not her diet is it?”

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**Florida police seek cattle rustlers**

Authorities in Florida said they are seeking the cattle rustlers responsible for heisting 10 head of cattle from Wellington and Loxahatchee.

The Palm Beach County Sheriff’s Office said six of the cattle were rustled from the corner of 50th Street South and 120th Avenue South in Wellington between 30 Sept and 4 Oct, and the other four vanished from Loxahatchee between 10 and 24 Oct.

Investigators said they are seeking two men seen driving in a black Ford F-150 with an enclosed aluminum trailer bearing a Navy Seals license plate.

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**Kim Kardashian hires Nicole Kidman’s acting coach**

Jennifer Connelly as well as Tom Cruise and Jennifer Lopez.

The reality TV star decided to hire Batson to help her play her part in her new movie, as she struggles with her emotions in the wake of filing for divorce from ex-hubby Kris Humphries.

“Kim had been confident about the movie, but with recent events she has been worried that the stress of her real life would show through,” the New York Post quoted a source as telling Life and Style magazine.—Internet

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**Russell Brand to produce ‘The President Stole...’**

Comedian Russell Brand is all set to star and produce the forthcoming comedy film “The President Stole My Girlfriend”. The 36-year-old who will play a “sexy hippie” in the movie that has been written by Matt Portenoy and produced by Warner Bros. “In this movie, the president steals the girlfriend of a sexy hippie - me, obviously. It was inspired by the night I naively invited Warners president Jeff Robinov for dinner,” hollywood-reporter.com quoted Brand as saying.

The actor will next be seen in musical “Rock of Ages” alongwith Tom Cruise and Mary J. Blige.

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**‘Harry Potter’ director David Yates working on ‘Dr Who’ movie**

The 47-year-old filmmaker has collaborated with the BBC to develop a feature film version of its cult sci-fi television series in the hopes of turning it into a big-screen franchise.

“We’re looking at writers now. We’re going to spend two to three years to get it right,” the New York Post quoted Yates as telling Variety magazine.

“It needs quite a radical transformation to take it into the bigger arena.”

The director also said that his ‘Dr Who’ would not stick to the continuity of the TV version. “The notion of the time-travelling Time Lord is such a strong one, because you can express story and drama in any dimension or time.”

“Television writers Russell T Davies and then Steven Moffat have done their own transformations, which were fantastic, but we have to put that aside and start from scratch,” he added.—Internet

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**Friday’s 11/11/11 date causes lottery sales spike**

New York Lottery officials said Friday’s lucky date — 11/11/11 — produced a spike in lottery ticket sales.

Officials said ticket sales have sharply increased. Carolyn Hapeman, spokeswoman for the New York Lottery, said the Win4 drawing caps sales on number combinations at $5 million and the 1-1-1-1-1 combination sold out a week prior to Friday’s drawing, CWNMoney reported Friday.

David Just, associate professor of economics at Cornell University, said it is not unusual to see lottery sales increase for dates seen to have a special meaning.

“There are a large number of people who sit on the sidelines and wait to jump in when they see a big jackpot or for dates like this,” Just said. “You might see a 5 percent to 10 percent bump (in sales).”

Just said a similar spike was seen 7 July, 2007—7/7/07.

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**Colin Firth in ‘Oldboy’ remake?**

LOS ANGELES, 17 Nov.—Actor Colin Firth has been approached to play the role of a villain in the remake of Park Chan-wook’s South Korean revenge classic, “Oldboy”.

After playing a British king in “The King’s Speech”, Firth has been offered to play Adrian, who is the nemesis of Josh Brolin’s lead character.

According to Twitchfilm.com, the role was previously offered to Christian Bale. “Oldboy” tells the story of a recently paroled middle-aged man, who spent 15 years in prison without any fault. He then seeks revenge on those who conspired against him.

The original version of the movie was released in 2003 and won the Grand Prize Jury Award at the 2004 Cannes Film Festival, reports aceshowbiz.com. The remake is being directed by Spike Lee.

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**Cameron Diaz, Sean Combs working on movie project**

New York, 17 Nov.—Actress Cameron Diaz and singer Sean Combs have been dating rather they are working together on a film project, says her representative.

Rumours of their budding romance started after they were spotted dining together a number of times in recent weeks. However, Diaz’s spokesperson has set the record straight.

“(They) are longtime friends and have been seen together recently because they are developing a film project. They had lunch... with a producer who is also involved in the project. (They) are not romantically involved,” nypost.com quoted Diaz’s representative as saying.—Internet

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**News Album**

Kim Kardashian

NEW YORK, 17 Nov—Kim Kardashian has hired the acting coach Nicole Kidman thanked when accepting her Best Actress Oscar, to help nail her role in the upcoming Tyler Perry film ‘The Marriage Counselor.’

Kardashian, 31, has turned to Susan Batson, who has worked with Oscar winners Juliette Binoche, Jamie Foxx and Angelina Jolie.

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Russell Brand

LONDON, 17 Nov—Comedian Russell Brand is all set to star and produce the forthcoming comedy film “The President Stole My Girlfriend”. The 36-year-old who will play a “sexy hippie” in the movie that has been written by Matt Portenoy and produced by Warner Bros. “In this movie, the president steals the girlfriend of a sexy hippie - me, obviously. It was inspired by the night I naively invited Warners president Jeff Robinov for dinner,” hollywood-reporter.com quoted Brand as saying.

The actor will next be seen in musical “Rock of Ages” alongwith Tom Cruise and Mary J. Blige.

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Jenkinson still stung by Gunners move

LONDON, 17 Nov—Carl Jenkinson has revealed he is still pinching himself that he is an Arsenal player. Lifelong Gunners fan Jenkinson could hardly have enjoyed a more meteoric rise in the past 12 months, having gone from making his senior debut in non-league football to playing at the Emirates Stadium, Old Trafford, Stamford Bridge, and in the Champions League.

The 19-year-old, who was starting on loan for Blue Square Bet Premier side Eastbourne this time last year, joined Arsenal from League One side Charlton Athletic during the summer.

Sometimes, I just have to take a step back and really appreciate where I am,” Jenkinson said. “From me to come to where I was to playing in the Premier League is obviously a big achievement for me.”

Bruce reveals Wickham relief

LONDON, 17 Nov—Steve Bruce has confirmed Sunderland’s Connor Wickham should be back in action before the end of the year.

The Black Cats initially suspected Wickham had ruptured his cruciate knee ligament when he was stretchered off within the first five minutes in the 1-0 defeat at Manchester United 10 days ago.

Bruce says subsequent scans showed the £8m striker had only suffered damage to the ligament at the back of his knee and faces four to six weeks out.

The Sunderland manager has revealed it may take Wickham a couple of weeks more to regain match fitness but he is grateful the injury is far less severe than a season-ending cruciate blow.

“Thankfully, it won’t rule him out for the season which was our initial fear and that is a big relief,” Bruce told the club’s official website. “If you tear your cruciate or medial ligament, you are generally out for at least six months. ‘We believe there is damage to a ligament at the back of the knee and we hope that it will repair within four to six weeks.’

Neymar: Barcelona players are like aliens & their football is from another planet

BARCELONA, 17 Nov—Santos striker Neymar has described Barcelona players as “aliens” because their football is from “another planet,” as he looks forward to playing against them in the Club World Cup next month.

The 19-year-old Brazilian forward was highly complimentary of the Spanish champions, with whom he has been linked with.

Neymar recently penned a new deal at Santos to stop him from moving to Spain until at least 2014, but he will rekindle associations with them in December for the Club World Cup.

“Barca are from another world,” Neymar is quoted as saying on Record. “They are aliens. Without doubt they are the best team on the planet.”

Italy is on the path to greatness for Euro 2012, says Cesare Prandelli

ROME, 17 Nov—Italy coach Cesare Prandelli believes his players have the potential to establish themselves as a legendary side at Euro 2012.

Despite a 1-0 international friendly loss to Uruguay on Tuesday night in Rome, the coach has confidence his team are moving swiftly in the right direction.

“We are just a step away from becoming a real team. A great team,” the coach told ANSA. “I liked our reaction [against Uruguay], both on the field and in the locker room. Instead of running off home after the match, the players stayed behind and discussed why we had lost.”

After a poor World Cup 2010 under Marcello Lippi, Prandelli is expecting his mix of youth and experience to flourish. “Italy is like a club and can still improve,” Prandelli said. “Perhaps we’ve forgotten where we started from in the summer of 2010, but at Euro 2012 we want to fight it out with everyone.”

Heskey enjoying utility role

LONDON, 17 Nov—Emile Heskey is intent on enjoying every moment of being Aston Villa’s Mr Versatility as he approaches the end of his career. Heskey made his reputation as a striker, but has also operated in wide left and central midfield roles for Villa this season.

The former England player, who retired from international football after the 2010 World Cup, admits it does not come easy playing out of position.

Heskey said: “It’s going well. I am playing in a few different positions. I am really enjoying it. I am enjoying football - that’s the key.” That’s the big thing when you get to my age where you’re coming towards the tail-end of your career. I intend on enjoying every moment out there because, when it’s gone, it’s gone.”
Mortgage applications fall in latest week

New York, 17 Nov—Applications for US home mortgages dropped last week, erasing the gains of the week before as demand for refinancing evaporated, an industry group said on Wednesday. The Mortgage Bankers Association said its seasonally adjusted index of mortgage application activity, which includes both refinancing and home purchase demand, dropped 10.0 percent in the week ended 11 Nov. The decline wiped out a gain of 10.3 percent the previous week.

The MBA’s seasonally adjusted index of refinancing applications, which includes both refinancing and home purchase demand, dropped 2.3 percent, from 4.22 percent the prior week. The survey covers over 75 percent of US retail residential mortgage applications, according to MBA.---Internet

A view of a home for sale in Los Angeles on 24 Feb, 2010. US Rep Barney Frank said on Thursday he would postpone a hearing on the future structure of US housing finance and mortgage funding giants Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac until 23 March.---INTERNET

Weather forecast for 18th November, 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
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<th>Forecast</th>
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<td>15/24</td>
<td>Partly cloudy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rakhine</td>
<td>15/24</td>
<td>Partly cloudy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taninthayi</td>
<td>20/68</td>
<td>Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers 60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neighbouring Mandalay</td>
<td>31/88</td>
<td>Generally fair weather</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neighbouring Yangon</td>
<td>32/90</td>
<td>Generally fair weather</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ayeyawady</td>
<td>32/90</td>
<td>Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers 60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern Shan</td>
<td>25/77</td>
<td>Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers 60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rakhine</td>
<td>30/86</td>
<td>Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers 60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yangon</td>
<td>32/90</td>
<td>Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers 60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>35/95</td>
<td>Partly cloudy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mandalay</td>
<td>31/88</td>
<td>Likelihood isolated rain or thundershowers 60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bago</td>
<td>31/88</td>
<td>Likelihood isolated rain or thundershowers 60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower Sagaing</td>
<td>30/86</td>
<td>Partly cloudy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper Sagaing</td>
<td>27/81</td>
<td>Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers 60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chin</td>
<td>19/66</td>
<td>Partly cloudy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kayah</td>
<td>28/82</td>
<td>Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers 60%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Summary of observations across 17-18 Nov

The weather for the coming days in the remaining Regions and States was partly cloudy in the remaining Regions and States. The temperature in the remaining Regions and States was generally fair weather in the remaining Regions and States. The significant forecast includes isolated rain or thundershowers in the remaining Regions and States.

R/489 Printed and published by the New Light of Myanmar press in Nay Pyi Taw, the News and Periodicals Enterprise, Ministry of Information.
NAY PYI TAW, 17 Nov—Union Minister for Electric Power No.1 U Zaw Min yesterday afternoon addressed the ceremony to donate solar lamps and stationery to flood victims in Seikpyu Township at Domestic Industrial Training School in the township, Magway Region.

At the ceremony, the Union minister presented 1000 solar lamps, stationery and school uniforms worth K 27 million for households in 27 flood-hit villages. A villager, on behalf of all the victims, spoke words of thanks. The officials concerned demonstrated how to use of the solar lamps.—MNA

Myanmar meets Malaysia in SEA Games semifinal

NAY PYI TAW, 17 Nov—Group matches of XXVI SEA Games wrapped up today, setting Myanmar to play Malaysia in semifinal.

Ten-men Vietnam returned in second half to beat Laos 3-1 and went top of Group (B). The host Indonesia failed to equal Malaysia's first-half goal, the only one of the game, losing first spot of Group (A) to the rivals.

Vietnam meets Group (A) runners-up Indonesia in semifinal, both of which are sheduled to play on 19 November.—NLM

United expect to beat Arsenal to French starlet’s signature

MANCHESTER, 17 Nov—Manchester United are confident that Arsenal target Paul Pogba will pen a new deal at Old Trafford.

The 18-year-old has been stalling on a new deal and is refusing to sign unless he receives assurances from Sir Alex Ferguson regarding his future role at the club, reports Talksport.

The versatile midfielder’s reluctance to put pen to paper has stoked Arsenal’s interest, as they feel they can lure him with greater first team opportunities at the Emirates Stadium.

Arsene Wenger has previously shown interest in the midfielder, and attempted to sign him for the Gunners from Le Havre before the Red Devils switch took place.—Internet

Arshavin likely to head to Italy

LONDON, 17 Nov—According to reports, Arsenal striker Andrey Arshavin is all set to move to Serie A club Fiorentina as they are preparing to make a £10 million bid for him.

The Russian international has fallen from Arsene Wenger’s thoughts this campaign following the arrival of Gervinho and the return to form of Robin van Persie and Theo Walcott. A string of unimpressive cameo performances from the bench have not done much for his Arsenal future and is often considered as wasteful.

There is no doubt he has plenty of quality but he often fails to show his true ability which frustrates not only Wenger and his teammates but the fans as well.

Italian newspaper La Nazione has claimed that Fiorentina will make a move for the 30-year-old when the transfer window re-opens in January.

Arshavin signed for Arsenal in January 2009 and has scored 23 goals for the Gunners including his famous four goal performance at Anfield. Speaking just a short while ago, Asharvin explained, “Wenger is a very strict manager,” revealing his frustrations .—Internet

MLF donates cash to Talanzar village for construction of library

NAY PYI TAW, 17 Nov—A ceremony to hand over cash donated by Myanmar Libraries Foundation for reducing poverty in rural areas by broadening horizons of the people was held in Talanzar village of Falam Township on 15 November.

Assistant Director U Kyaw Hsint of Information and Public Relations Department of Chin State donated K 0.5 million, the first in two installments, to village in-charge U Htan Hay.

Self-reliant library committee chairman U Hanar Kyon explained plans for constructing the library building.—MNA

Hawga Park to run an extra hour on National Day

YANGON, 17 Nov—For public recreation, Hawga Park in Mingaladon Township of Yangon Region will be open from 8 am to 6 pm on 20 November (The National Day).—MNA

Significant night temperature (17-11-2011)

Haka (4°C)
Pinlaung (7°C)

Woods to open 2012 in Abu Dhabi, not Torrey Pines

Union Attorney-General receives ROK Ambassador

Evidences on both Bronze Age, Iron Ages discovered

Doctors urge UK government to ban smoking in cars

US study shows exercise better than stents for PAD patients

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