Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Union Election Commission
Nay Pyi Taw
Notification No. 22/2012
2nd Waxing of Kason, 1374 ME
(22 April, 2012)

39 Defence Services Personnel Pyithu Hluttaw Representatives substituted

According to the request made in accord with Section 33 of the Pyithu Hluttaw Election Law to substitute 39 Defence Services Personnel Pyithu Hluttaw representatives nominated by the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services in first multiparty democracy general election held on 7 November 2010, the Union Election Commission scrutinized and substituted 39 Defence Services Personnel Pyithu Hluttaw representatives stated hereunder in Notification No. 1/2011 of the commission dated 29-1-2011 with personnel shown against them.

(1) BC 26985 (Substitution)BC 14185
Major Win Moe Khang Brig-Gen Wai Linn
(2) BC 26996 (Substitution) BC 16413
Major Thet Win Aung Brig-Gen Win Myint
(3) BC 27004 (Substitution) BC 17943
Major Khin Zaw Moe Brig-Gen Taik Tun
(4) BC 27012 (Substitution) BC 18280
Major Kyaw Linn Brig-Gen Min Naung
(5) BC 36859 (Substitution) BC 17319
Major Win Aung Col Aung Thiha
(6) BC 33046 (Substitution) BC 18029
Major Win Ko Ko Col Aung Myint
(7) BC 33057 (Substitution) BC 18701
Major Yarzar Linn Col Myint Han
(8) BC 33062 (Substitution) BC 19307
Major Thaw Zin Naing Col Khin Maung Tun
(9) BC 33063 (Substitution) BC 19584
Major Tin Ko Linn Col Saw Min
(10) BC 33079 (Substitution) BC 19642
Major Aung Aung Col Than Hutt Thein
(11) BC 33124 (Substitution) BC 20205
Major Than Soe Htak Col Than Hutt Oo
(12) BC 33129 (Substitution) BC 20255
Major Zaw Aye Tun Col Kyaw Shwe
(13) BC 33135 (Substitution) BC 21915
Major Yan Gyi Aung Col Hla Myint Soe
(14) BC 33138 (Substitution) BC 16617
Major Kaung Htet San Lt-Col Saw Shwe
(15) BC 33142 (Substitution) BC 18074
Major Win Min Thant Lt-Col Ngwe Soe
(16) BC 33145 (Substitution) BC 19001
Major Aung Hsa Win Lt-Col Kyaw Myint
(17) BC 33147 (Substitution) BC 20193
Major Myo Min Tun Lt-Col Nyi Nyi Lwin
(18) BC 33160 (Substitution) BC 20231
Major Zaw Lwin Lt-Col Pe Kyawng
(19) BC 33178 (Substitution) BC 20991
Major Min Han Tun Lt-Col Khin Maung Win
(20) BC 33180 (Substitution) BC 21470
Major Soe Thiha Lt-Col Kyaw Naung
(21) BC 33187 (Substitution) BC 21880
Major Aung Aung Latt Lt-Col Thein Htut
(22) BC 33193 (Substitution) BC 21909
Major Kyaw Lin Lt-Col Tin Moe
(23) BC 33208 (Substitution) BC 22100
Major Chan Min Latt Lt-Col Hla Soe
(See page 2)

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Union Election Commission
Nay Pyi Taw
Notification No. 23/2012
2nd Waxing of Kason, 1374 ME
(22 April, 2012)

20 Defence Services Personnel Amyotha Hluttaw Representatives substituted

According to the request made in accord with Section 33 of the Amyotha Hluttaw Election Law to substitute 20 Defence Services Personnel Amyotha Hluttaw representatives nominated by the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services in first multiparty democracy general election held on 7 November 2010, the Union Election Commission scrutinized and substituted 20 Defence Services Personnel Amyotha Hluttaw representatives stated hereunder in Notification No. 2/2011 of the commission dated 29-1-2011 with personnel shown against them.

(1) BC 24888 (Substitution) BC 13765
Major Myint Naing Than Brig-Gen Kyaw Oo Lwin
(2) BC 26982 (Substitution) BC 16736
Major Win Min Brig-Gen Min Thein Zan
(3) BC 27005 (Substitution) BC 17974
Major Thein Tun Tin Brig-Gen Aung San Chit
(4) BC 33061 (Substitution) BC 18959
Major Sai Thura Brig-Gen Myat Kyaw
(5) BC 33066 (Substitution) BC 16601
Major Pyae Phyo Kyaw Col Khin Soe
(6) BC 33067 (Substitution) BC 18020
Major Nay Tun Lin Col Aung Khin Zaw
(7) BC 33068 (Substitution) BC 19717
Major Soe Thiha Kyaw Col Aung Kyaw
(8) BC 33082 (Substitution) BC 20331
Major Aung Aung Col Thet Tun Aung
(9) BC 33099 (Substitution) BC 20808
Major Zaw Min Thant Col Nay Myo Aung
(10) BC 33108 (Substitution) BC 18032
Major Lin Aung Kyaw Soe Lt-Col San Win
(11) BC 33121 (Substitution) BC 19499
Major Nyan Myo Kyaw Lt-Col Tun Lin Aung
(12) BC 33125 (Substitution) BC 21317
Major Sithu Lt-Col Than Kyaw Soe
(13) BC 33127 (Substitution) BC 21563
Major Yan Naung Soe Lt-Col Zaw Moe
(14) BC 33136 (Substitution) BC 23990
Major Zaw Thant Lwin Lt-Col Zaw Moe Lwin
(15) BC 33155 (Substitution) BC 24192
Major Aung Phone Myint Lt-Col Zaw Than Htak
(16) BC 33156 (Substitution) BC 24927
Major Zaw Zaw Oo Lt-Col Ye Naing Oo
(17) BC 33162 (Substitution) BC 25863
Major Kyaw Swa Win Khaing Lt-Col Htawing Win
(18) BC 33166 (Substitution) BC 26019
Major Kyaw Lin Lt-Col Kyaw Soe Oo
(19) BC 33205 (Substitution) BC 3606
Major Soe Hein Naung Col Kyaw Kyaw Htoo
(20) BC 33341 (Substitution) BC 2162
Major Nanda Aye Lt-Col Soe Lin

By order, (Win Ko)
Secretary
Union Election Commission
**PERSPECTIVES**

Monday, 23 April, 2012

**Improve waste collection system**

Today, local municipal authorities are calling on the people to follow the waste dumping ways such as dumping wastes including plastic bags at garbage and designated dump sites.

Besides, as part of environmental conservation and waste management which was given low-priority attention, people are urged to use recycling bags instead of plastic bags, to dump garbage directly into the vehicles and into garbage tanks.

However, there are garbage piles of garbage tanks and over piling garbage, tarnishing the image of towns.

The constant dumping of domestic garbage at garbage sites make the environment of the area highly unsuitable for students of minor age, as young as three years old. A dumping spot has virtually become the breeding ground for mosquitoes, flies, and germs, multiplying their presence in the environs of the locality that could cause epidemics among minor students. The germs and bacteria rife in the environment especially during the currently changing weather pattern and advent of summer could cause harmful epidemics among residents.

Just conducting garbage campaigns to distribute recycle bags and to urge the people to dump their garbage at designated sites is not enough to create hygienic environments and to clean towns. It is clear that not only the people but also local municipal bodies are responsible for garbage dumping spots with piles of garbage for several days.

Today is the time for local municipal bodies to really look again at our garbage collection system and they should give priority to streamlining waste collection and should open their eyes to the danger its dump poses to the general health of its people.

Meanwhile, people are to cut back on household waste through recycling, a reduction in unnecessary packaging materials, or simply less wasteful consumption. Let’s work together!!!

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**Sports federations meet to prepare for XXVII SEA Games**

**Yangon, 22 April—**Myanmar Sports Federations met at National Indoor Stadium 1 (Thawgunna), Thingangyun Township here this morning to discuss preparations for XXVII SEA Games to be hosted by Myanmar in 2013.

During the meeting, Secretary of Myanmar National Sports Committee Deputy Minister for Sports U Aye Myint Kyu highlighted the need of urgent preparations to host sports events and clinic medals by forming SEA Games preparation subcommittees. He noted that preparedness measures were needed since then to win victories in respective sports events as the success in the SEA Games was of national objective. He called for exploration of qualified athletes and intensivelytraining forment the techniques and tactics. He stressed sending of athletes aboard to receive joint-training and participation in investigational qualifiers is a must.

Next, Secretary of Myanmar Olympic Committee Director-General of Sports and Physical Education Department U Thaung Htaik called for unprecedented victories over sports events, suggesting hosting Olympic sports categories in the SEA Games.

Afterwards, presidents, vice-presidents and secretaries of respective sports federations discussed requirement of coaches, number old selected players and new blood, joint-training programme, and requirement or sports gear for training and sports competitions, followed by concluding remarks of the deputy minister.—MNA

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**New school buildings extended in Thandaunggyi**

**Thandaunggyi, 22 April—**New buildings are under construction at Basic Education Primary Schools in Thandaunggyi of Kayin State.

A one-storey four-classroom reinforced concrete building including toilet, 72 feet long and 23 feet wide, is being built at BEPS in Ward 1 of Thandaunggyi, spending K 44.8 million.

Moreover, BEPS in Ward 3 is being facilitated with a one-storey four-classroom RV building, 120 feet long and 32 feet wide, including toilet. It costs K 65.8 million.

The buildings will be opened before 2012-2013 academic year with the assistance of UNHCR and Progress or Border Areas and National Races Department.

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**ASSISTANCE PROVIDED:** A total of 20 retired teachers were provided K 50,000 each at home through the fund of Thwinny Basic Education High School No 1 old students committee on New Year Day, 17 April. Patron of the old teachers respect paying committee U Tin Win, Secretary U Maung Maung Toe and committee members present cash assistance to SAT (Roh) Daw Aphyena of 99 years old.—Kyemon
Three Tunisians killed in Syrian fighting

TUNIS, 22 April — Three Tunisian nationals were killed by forces loyal to Syrian President Bashar al-Assad, the local newspaper Associated Press reported on Saturday. The three young Tunisian nationals infiltrated into Syria with two others from Tunisia’s southern town of Ben Guerdane in March to join the Syrian opposition in its fight against the Syrian regime.

The families of the victims asked the country’s foreign affairs ministry to repatriate the bodies of their slain relatives, according to the report. In February, five other Tunisians arrived in Syria through Turkey to join anti-government fighters. Four of the five were reportedly arrested while the fifth managed to escape, the newspaper said. — Xinhua

French Red Cross official kidnapped in Yemen

SANAA, 22 April — A French official with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) has been kidnapped by armed men in Yemen. He was seized late Saturday around 10km (20 miles) from the Red Sea port of Hodeida. It is not yet clear who is responsible, but kidnappings of westerners are not uncommon in Yemen.

The ICRC said it had not heard from the kidnappers but it has issued a call for the aid worker’s immediate release. Reports say the man, who has not yet been named, was with Yemeni drivers who were released shortly afterwards.

Iraqis clear the debris following a blast in central Baghdad on 19 April. Bombs exploded in two minibuses in Baghdad on Saturday, killing three people and wounding at least 17, while a bomb attack on a governor’s convoy wounded two guards, security officials said. — Internet

Three killed, 17 injured in bomb attacks in Iraq

BAQUBA, 22 April— Three people were killed and 17 others injured Sunday in separate bomb attacks in Iraq, the police said.

In the morning, two roadside bombs went off almost simultaneously near two ministries at the Shiite neighborhood of Chikok in northwestern Baghdad, killing three people and wounding 12 others, an Interior Ministry source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

In eastern Iraq, Hisham al-Hiyali, governor of Diyala province, survived a roadside bomb explosion near his convoy while travelling near the provincial capital of Baquba, some 65 km northeast of Baghdad, a source from Diyala’s operations command anonymously told Xinhua.

Three of Hiyali’s bodyguards were wounded by the blast, which also damaged one of his convoy’s vehicles, the source said.

In the western province of Anbar, two policemen were injured when a sticky bomb attached to their car detonated near the provincial capital of Ramadi, some 110 km west of Baghdad, a provincial police source anonymously told Xinhua. — MNA/Xinhua

13 dead, 21 injured in road accident in E China

NINGBO, 22 April— Thirteen people were confirmed dead and 21 people injured after a collision between a tour bus and a truck on Sunday morning, Jiangsu provincial government confirmed Sunday.

The accident occurred at 9:25 a.m. after a tour bus from Shanghai drove through the barriers in the middle of the expressway and collided with a heavy truck coming in the opposite direction in the Changshu section of the Yanjiang Expressway in Jiangsu Province.

Both vehicles were overturned at the scene, the government spokesman said. According to official reports, 33 passengers were aboard the bus when the accident happened. Six bus passengers and the driver of the truck were killed instantly, and six other passengers and two drivers were later confirmed dead.

Among the 21 injured, four are still in critical condition. The tour bus left Shanghai People’s Square at 8:00 a.m. and was heading to Changshu in Jiangsu, for a pork show.

The cause of the accident is under investigation. — Xinhua

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The cause of the accident is under investigation. — Xinhua

Blasting breaks Syria’s airbase:监控

DAMASCUS, 24 April— A huge explosion on Saturday rocked a Syrian military airport on the outskirts of the capital, the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights reported. “A loud explosion was heard at the Mazzeh military-based airbase in Damascus,” the Britain-based monitoring group said. It provided no further details. Activists however told AFP that the army blocked the road leading to the military base while snipers took positions on the rooftops of buildings in the area.

Sporadic clashes between government troops and army deserters have rocked Damascus in recent weeks, ahead of the ceasefire that went into effect on 12 April. Mazzeh, an upscale district which houses many government offices and embassies, is a Damascus neighbourhood that has been hit by violence. The latest report comes as a team of United Nations observers monitoring the shaky ceasefire visited the central Syrian province of Homs on Saturday, according to the state news agency SANA. Monitors say more than 200 people have been killed in Syria since the ceasefire to which the government and rebels committed themselves. — Internet

A picture released by the official Syrian Arab News Agency (SANA) in December 2011 shows a Syrian military aircraft. A huge explosion on Saturday rocked a Syrian military airport on the outskirts of the capital, the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights reported. — Internet
Polar bears are no new kids on the block

**Salvador, 22 April**—Polar bears evolved as a separate species far earlier than previously thought, according to a genetic study, which adds to worries about their ability to adapt in a rapidly warming world. Research published on Thursday found the Arctic’s top predators split off from brown bears, their closest relatives, around 800,000 years ago—five times earlier than scientists had generally assumed.

The finding suggests polar bears took a long time to adapt to their icy world and may therefore struggle to adapt as the Arctic gets warmer and the sea ice melts, depriving them of vital hunting platforms. Despite being a very different species in terms of body size, skin and coat color, fur type, tooth structure, and behavior, previous research had indicated that polar and brown bears diverged only recently in evolutionary terms.

That assumption was put to the moment when the two types of bears diverged in the Pleistocene period, when the climate record shows that global temperatures reached their long-term low. That could be coincidental but it suggests that the planet’s climate may have triggered the split.

While the latest research implies that polar bear adaptation was probably a slow process, it also means the animals have been through warming phases before. “If they go extinct in this phase of warming, we’re going to have to ask ourselves what our role in that process was,” Hailer said. “In prehistoric warm phases between the ice ages polar bears were able to survive. The main difference this time is that humans are impacting polar bears as well.”

Genetic studies are an important tool in researching the evolutionary history of polar bears, since the animals typically live and die on sea ice. As a result, their bodies sink to the sea floor, where they get ground up by glaciers or remain undiscovered, making fossils scarce.

“The Bumblebee Gecko (Nactus kunan) is seen on Manus Island, in this handout photo taken 29 May 2010, and released to Reuters by the US Geological Survey on 19 April, 2012.—Reuters

**Heresy, 22 April**—The number of critically endangered Chinese alligators living in the wild has been growing over the past few years, thanks to efforts to aid in the animals’ survival.

The Chinese alligator is widely known as the Yangtze alligator because the animal lives along the lower reaches of the Yangtze River. Anhui Province, where a nature reserve was set up over 30 years ago to protect the extremely rare species, is home to the majority of the country’s Chinese alligators.

The number of wild Chinese alligators is currently estimated to exceed 150, excluding about 50 captive-breeding animals that have been reintroduced to the wild in recent years, Wang Chaolin, deputy director of the Anhui Yangtze Alligator Nature Reserve, said Wednesday, citing a recent census.

Wang said the number stood at about 96 to 108 in 2005. Though the population has been growing, the Chinese alligator remains threatened by extinction, as the population is far below that of the 500- mile separating “endangered” species and “critically endangered” ones, he said.

The Chinese alligator was originally scattered through much of China. However, its wild habitat has been reduced significantly by human activities, especially since land has been converted to suit agricultural needs.

To restore the 230-million-year-old species’ habitat, China has been converting farmlands to forests over the past few years, a move believed to have helped increase the alligator’s population.

Meanwhile, human intervention can raise the freshwater alligator’s survival rate in the wild to 20 percent from the meager 2 percent, Wang said.—Xinhua

**Washington, 22 April**—For computer users, a few mouse clicks could mean the difference between staying online and losing Internet connection this summer.

“Unknown to most of them, their problem began when users ran online advertising scams to take control of infected computers around the world. In a highly unusual response, the FBI set up a safety net months ago using government computers to prevent Internet disruptions for those infected users. But the FBI is encouraging users to visit a website run by its security partner, http://www.dnsogle.org, that will inform them whether they’re infected and how to fix the problem. After 9 July, infected users won’t be able to connect to the Internet. Most victims don’t even know their computers have been infected, although the malicious software probably has slowed their web surfing and disabled their antivirus software, making their computers more vulnerable to other problems.

Last November, the FBI and other authorities were preparing to take down a hacker ring that had been running an Internet ad scam on a massive network of infected computers.

“We started to realize that we had a lot of a problem on our hands because if we just pulled the plug on their criminal infrastructure and everyone everyone went in jail, the victims of this were going to be out of Internet service,” said Tom Grasso, an FBI supervisory special agent. “The average user would open his computer in the morning and get a ‘page not found’ and think the Internet is broken.”

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Fatigue after early breast cancer often fades

New York, 22 April.—Many people treated for cancer are worn out for a time, but new findings suggest that long-lasting fatigue may be less common than thought — at least for women with early-stage breast cancer. — **INTERNET**

Fatigue, or weariness to last for years after treatment ends. Among breast cancer survivors, researchers have found that more than one-third have fatigue two to three years after treatment. The reasons, though, have not been clear. And the new findings support the idea that some cases of chronic fatigue in earlier studies may have had causes other than the cancer itself.

Past studies have often been "cross-sectional," meaning they studied people at one time-point. So it’s possible to catch some bouts of fatigue that are related to various causes, explained Dr. David Goldstein, who led the new study.

That could mean lingering fatigue from a viral illness, for example, or fatigue related to depression, according to Goldstein, of Prince of Wales Hospital in Randwick, Australia.

"There are cancer survivors with true post-cancer fatigue," Goldstein said in an email. "It’s just that the number may be less than previously thought." — **INTERNET**

Wal-Mart silenced Mexican bribe inquiry

New York, 22 April.—Wal-Mart Stores Inc., the world’s largest retailer, squelched an internal investigation into allegations of bribery at its Mexican subsidiary instead of broadening the probe, the *New York Times* reported on Saturday.

The Times said that in September 2005, a senior Wal-Mart lawyer received an email from Sergio Ciceri Zapatia, a former executive at the company’s largest foreign unit, Wal-Mart de Mexico, describing how the subsidiary had paid bribes to obtain permits to build stores in the country. Wal-Mart sent investigators to Mexico City and found a paper trail of hundreds of suspect payments totaling more than $24 million, but it shut down the investigation and notified neither US nor Mexican law enforcement officials, the Times reported.

According to the Times, current Wal-Mart Chief Executive Mike Duke and former CEO Lee Scott, now sits on the company’s board, were among senior executives who were "deeply concerned" about the allegations in the *Times* report and began an investigation into its compliance with the US Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA) last fall. The company said it had disclosed the probe to the US Department of Justice and the Securities and Exchange Commission.

"Many of the alleged activities in the *New York Times* article are more than six years old. If these allegations are true, it is not a reflection of who we are or what we stand for," the company said. "We deeply regret any actions that might have taken steps in Mexico to boost internal controls for stronger FCPA compliance. Indeed we make no efforts to make any executives available for comment, and said the investigation was complete.

In 2011, the Mexican unit reported total sales of 279 billion pesos ($29 billion). Wal-Mart’s fiscal 2012 sales, for the year ended January 31, were $443.8 billion. — **Reuters**

BoFA board $20 million settlement called inadequate

New York, 22 April.—Bank of America Corp directors, who were sued by shareholders for allegedly paying too much for Merrill Lynch & Co in 2008, must defend a proposed $20 million payment of the claims in federal court in New York, court papers showed. Calling the settlement "grossly inadequate," lawyers in a similar Delaware case have asked P. Kevin Casual, the judge overseeing the New York matter, to order the parties agreeing to the deal to justify its terms.

Castel directed that parties submit necessary documents by May 9. The *New York Times* first reported that the Delaware plaintiffs objected to the settlement in New York as inadequate.

Damages in the case could reach $5 billion, according to the plaintiffs, who argued that the board of directors breached its fiduciary duty. The funds are the Louisiana Municipal Police Officers’ Retirement System and the Hollywood Police Officers’ Retirement System.

Bank of America has been the subject of much litigation over Merrill, including its failure to more quickly disclose that Merrill was on its way to losing $15.8 billion in the fourth quarter of 2008 and was also paying out $3.6 billion in bonuses to employees. — **MNA/Reuters**

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According to the Times, current Wal-Mart Chief Executive Mike Duke and former CEO Lee Scott, now sits on the company’s board, were among senior executives who were "deeply concerned" about the allegations in the *Times* report and began an investigation into its compliance with the US Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA) last fall. The company approved, their clients’ damages claims would be wiped out ahead of a scheduled October trial, the newspaper said.

Court papers showed the settlement was struck on 12 April by lawyers representing two public employee pension funds that had sued the directors of Bank of America for breach of fiduciary duty. The funds are the Louisiana Municipal Police Officers’ Retirement System and the Hollywood Police Officers’ Retirement System.

Bank of America has been the subject of much litigation over Merrill, including its failure to more quickly disclose that Merrill was on its way to losing $15.8 billion in the fourth quarter of 2008 and was also paying out $3.6 billion in bonuses to employees. — **MNA/Reuters**

A sign for the Bank of America is seen outside a branch in Vienna. — **REUTERS**

Health Tip: Consider kickboxing

Kickboxing is a fun way to burn calories and tone muscles. But experts say participants, especially beginners, should make precautionary changes to their kickboxing routine.

The American Council on Exercise offers these suggestions for people who are just starting to kickbox:

- Don’t wear weights or hold dumbbells when you punch. Either can injure your joints. When kicking or punching, don’t lock your joints.
- Don’t overstretch when you kick.
- Don’t go too fast to begin with. If you get tired, take a few minutes to rest before continuing exercising when you are tired. — **INTERNET**
Around 130 injured in Amsterdam train collision

AMSTERDAM, 22 April — Around 130 people were injured in passenger trains collision on Saturday in west side of Amsterdam, capital city of the Netherlands. The accident happened at around 18:30 (1630 GMT) when the train from Den Helder to Nijmegen and the train from Amsterdam to Utrecht had a head-on collision. Both trains were damaged.

“Around 130 people were injured, and especially, there are 11 people who have been stuck in the train for long time, we just released them out,” a spokesman of the rescue team told Xinhua at location. “The search and rescue is still going on.” According to the Dutch railways company NS, all injured have been out of the trains.

The Dutch police blocked the whole area around the Ambulances and trauma helicopters are at the scene. Ten triage and rescue centres have been built to treat some light injured. National Police earlier said approximately 125 were injured, 56 of them seriously wounded, 13 in a very bad condition. Most of victims suffered broken bones and severe bruises. The cause of the disaster is still unknown, an investigation will be started. Due to the collision no trains are driving in the west side of Amsterdam, including the trains to Schiphol Airport. XINHUA

Four charged

SYDNEY, 22 April — A man and two teenagers were due to face court on Sunday after a stolen car rammed a crowded footpath in central Sydney, leading to two Aboriginal youngsters being shot by police. The incident in the city’s red-light district early Saturday morning stoked fears of racial tension in the impoverished Aboriginal suburb of Redfern, where the youths came from.

After the car hit a bystander police opened fire, hitting the 14-year-old driver in the chest and arm while his passenger, 18, took a bullet to the neck. Four others in the back seat, a man aged 24 and three youth aged 13, 14 and 16 were charged late Saturday with being carried in a conveyance, or joy riding. Three were to appear in court Sunday and the youngest at a later date.

The two with gunshot wounds remain in a serious condition, police said as they continued working to defuse tensions with Redfern’s Aboriginal elders amid fears of a repeat of 2004 riots.

Police and other rescuers search victims at the accident site of trains collision in the west side of Amsterdam, the Netherlands, on 22 April, 2012. According to the Dutch National Police (KLPD), approximately 125 are injured, of which 56 people are seriously injured. XINHUA

India to declare tea as national drink next year

NEW DELHI, 22 April — India is to declare tea as national drink by April next year, the country’s top planner said. “This drink would be accorded national drink status by 17 April next year to coincide with the 212th birth anniversary of first Assamese tea planter and Sepoy Mutiny leader Maniram Dewan, India’s Planning Commission Deputy Chairman Montek Singh Ahluwalia was quoted by the local media as saying Saturday.

Ahluwalia made the remarks in his address at the Platinum Jubilee celebrations of the Assam Tea Planters Association on Jorhat in the northeastern state of Assam. Maniram Dewan was the country’s first indigenous tea planter who also took part in India’s struggle for freedom, he said. India is the largest producer and consumer of tea in the world, with 83 percent households consuming the beverage considered to be the cheapest in the world after water. XINHUA

China and Russia hold first navy exercises

HONG KONG, 22 April — China and Russia on Sunday launched their first joint naval exercises amid tensions between China and its Asian neighbours over regional territorial claims.

The six days of drills are taking place in the Yellow Sea off China’s east coast, the official China News Service said, adding these were the first dedicated exercises involving the two navies.

Taking place near Qingdao city off the coast of Shandong Province, they were launched by Russian and Chinese military officials on Sunday morning, the state-run Xinhua news agency said.

The exercises come as China boosts military spending and asserts claims over disputed territory, including a chain of islands in the East China Sea also claimed by Japan. China and several Asian countries also have rival claims to uninhabited islands in the South China Sea, which is believed to be rich in oil and natural gas and straddles strategic shipping lanes vital to global trade.

The exercises will focus on joint air defence, anti-submarine tactics and search and rescue, Xinhua has previously said. They will also include simulated rescue of hijacked vessels and anti-terrorism drills.

China has 16 naval vessels and two submarines taking part while Russia has four warships. China said Thursday that the exercises were aimed at upholding regional peace. “This joint military exercise is a long scheduled one between China and Russia in order to uphold regional peace and stability,” foreign ministry spokesman Liu Weimin told a regular news briefing. China and Russia have together participated in four military exercises since 2005, some involving other countries as well, Xinhua has said.

Russian naval flagship arrives in China for joint drill.

Shocking! Moment of bullet breaks through glass.— XINHUA

China steps up probe into contaminated drug capsules

BEIJING, 22 April — More inspection teams have been sent to investigate the incident of contaminated drug capsules and find out those held responsible, said the State Food and Drug Administration (SFDA) on Saturday. Inspection teams from several departments, including the police, health authorities and supervision agencies, have been sent to Zhejiang, Hebei and Jiangxi Provinces to supervise the investigation of the case, said a statement from the SFDA.

China Central Television (CCTV) reported on last Sunday that several companies have been manufacturing drug capsules with industrial gelatin, which contains a greater amount of chromium than edible gelatin and can be toxic if ingested in excessive amounts. It named several medications that have been packaged in the contaminated capsules. In response to the report, the SFDA ordered 13 medications produced by nine companies and manufacturers of gelatin for medical use to be suspended from distribution until their partners are cleared by a lab analysis. An overhaul has been carried out on the production of drug capsule makers, pharmaceutical companies and manufacturers of gelatin for medical use, the statement said.

A test to refute the findings of the investigation and try to cover up multiprocess might be severely punished, the statement said. Supervision agencies have started investigation into officials who might have neglected their duty in this case, it added. The SFDA also promised to timely inform the public the development of the investigation. Chinese police have detained 53 suspects and closed 10 industrial gelatin and gel capsule factories, said in a court report to have been involved in producing contaminated medicine capsules, said the Ministry of Public Security in a Thursday statement.

Customers try new iPads in the Apple Retail Store in Seoul, South Korea, on 20 April, 2012. Apple’s new iPad started selling in South Korea on Friday. XINHUA

Police and other rescuers search victims at the accident site of trains collision in the west side of Amsterdam, the Netherlands, on 22 April, 2012. According to the Dutch National Police (KLPD), approximately 125 are injured, of which 56 people are seriously injured. XINHUA
Towards modern, developed country

By T.S. (NLM)

A vast majority of rural people are farmers whose livelihood is agriculture. Agriculture plays a very important role in the country’s economy. In the past, Myanmar earned most of her foreign exchange by selling agricultural products. Rice alone fetched more foreign exchange than all the non-agricultural exports combined.

With poor transportation plus primitive methods of farming, the country’s rice per acre yield was low when compared to that of her neighbours.

Although the farmers have to work hard day in, day out, they could enjoy very few fruits of their labour. They have been down-trodden and exploited by capitalists for years countable by the thousand. This being the case, they had to live in abject poverty with little or no comfort let alone luxury. And their socio-economic status was as low as could be. Myanmar used to export three million tons of rice a year before World War II. Now she exports less than one million tons of rice due to a variety of reasons.

Realizing such general weaknesses, the government of successive eras had given top priority to the modernization and mechanization of agriculture the length and breadth of the nation. In this context, it had undertaken a series of activities which include disbursing interest-free agricultural loans or low-interest loans, selling chemical fertilizers, pesticides and farm implements to farmers at reasonable prices, launching agricultural banks and seed-banks to help the farmers, building dams and reservoirs in different regions, implementing river-water pumping stations in some areas where water is scarce, introducing high-yield strains of paddy and other crops, disseminating modern agricultural methods to farmers so that they can extensively engage in double and mixed cropping as well as summer paddy cultivation and seeking foreign markets for locally produced rice. Thanks to the endeavours of the government the living standard of farmers has improved remarkably.

Nowadays, economic, political and social transformation has been undertaken steadily in consistent with the Constitution which is in line with multiparty democratic practices. The door is always open for those who are willing to participate constructively in the political process in accordance with the Constitution. As politics and economy usually go hand in hand, necessary amendments to the relevant laws and regulations are being made. Changes have taken place in various sectors. Meanwhile, the mechanization of farming is being introduced steadily with the extensive use of high-yield strains of paddy. More and more farm implements are being imported or manufactured locally so that the farmers can grow paddy all the more.

Being agro-based country, Myanmar is trying its best for the development of agricultural sector, especially boosting paddy output for domestic consumption and export. With this end in view, the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation has taken steps for acquisition of necessary technology, methods, quality strains and cooperation wherever possible including from the international community and international organizations. It is also seeking cooperation from countries enjoying higher technology. As the method to grow Palethwe hybrid strains of paddy is the best for the time being, the ministry is mobilizing and educating farmers across the country to widely grow the hybrid strains. And the growing of Palethwe hybrid strains of paddy with GAP system is demonstrated region-wise, for hybrid paddy production technology is widely used in the world.

At such a time, the participation of private sectors in successful cultivation of paddy is welcomed. And with private sector participation, the country will soon become an agro-based modern and developed nation.

Cash and kind donated to Shwebo Youth Development Centre

Shwebo, 22 April—Rector(Rd) U Ye Myint Aung of Shwebo University, Rector Dr Tin Tun Myint and faculty members cooperated with Pyae Kaday Construction Co in donating K 2 million and two sets of computer to Shwebo Youth Development Centre. Rector(Rd) U Ye Myint Aung explained the purpose of donation.

Rector Dr Tin Tun Myint and faculty members presented K 2 million and two sets of computer to Principal of the centre Dr Than Tun and Chairman of the Centre Supervisory Committee U Tin Win. Principal Dr Than Tun established Shwebo Youth Development Centre in 1963 and now admits 40 students. The 10th anniversary of the centre will be held in 2013.

Any person may set up trust funds for durability of the centre.

Kyemon

Palethwe hybrid paddy grown in irrigated area

Naw Pye Taw, 22 April—A ceremony to grow Palethwe hybrid paddy was held at the field of farmer U Aung Kyi Lay with the use of paddy transplanting machines in the irrigated area of Shwehlanbo river water pumping project being implemented by Water Resources Utilization Department in Singaing Township of Mandalay Region on 9 April.

It was attended by Sagaing Township Administrator U Khin Zaw, Manager of Singaing Township Agriculture Department U Aung Win and officials, officials of Shwehlanbo river water pumping project, administrators of Ywathaya, Meethwaybok and Kanaus villages and personnel of departments, members of Shwethin Home for the Aged, Township Maha Bonhakhtein Committee, Township Bus Association, Thilawa Social Association, Union Solidarity and Development Party and townswelders.

Vehicle donated to Thilawa Social Association

Yamethin, 22 April—A ceremony to donate a vehicle to Thilawa social association of Yamethin in Mandalay Region was held at Kyaungmyin Yasana Beikman on 14 March. It was attended by Region Hluttaw Representative U Kyaw Myint, Deputy Commissioner U Zaw Win of District General Administration Department, Township Administrator U Maung Maung and service personnel of departments, members of Shwethin Home for the Aged, Township Maha Bonhakhtein Committee, Township Bus Association, Thilawa Social Association, Union Solidarity and Development Party and townswelders.

The deputy commissioner made a speech. Secretary of Thilawa Social Association U Thein Lwin reported on tasks of the association and presented gifts to four volunteers.

U Shwe explained the purpose of donation. Chairman of Thilawa Social Association retired Township Education Officer U Mya Thein spoke words of thanks and presented certificates of honour to wellwishers.

Thilawa Social Association of Yamethin has three vehicles during 10-year period of establishment.

Kyemon

MLF invites donation of cash, books

Myanmar Libraries Foundation is giving encouragement to broadening the horizon of the people and developing self-reliant libraries across the nation. Those wishing to donate cash and books to the libraries may contact Myanmar Libraries Foundation No. 228 on Theinbyu Street in Botataung Township, Yangon, Tel: 01-371342, 01-201936 and 01-398756.

Vehicles under surprised checked: Under the supervision of Commander of Sagaing Township Police Force Police Captain Myint Soe, Commander of No 1 Police Station IP Hlaing Myint Than, SIP Thant Zin Htoo of District Traffic Rules Enforcement Team and members surprisingly checked vehicles and motorcycles at the corner of Myoma Market in Sagaing recently. Photo shows police members check motorcycles.

Kyemon

By T.S. (NLM)

Shwehlanbo river water pumping project is implemented in some areas where water is scarce. Use of paddy transplanting machine will solve difficulties of female paddy transplanters.

Assistant Director U Ye Win Tun of the project said, “As the local people do not dare cultivation of high yield paddy strains through modern agricultural methods, paddy transplanting machines were bought to provide assistance for growing paddy. Due to advantages of the machines, the local farmers will apply modern agricultural methods.”

Shwehlanbo river water pumping project is implemented to benefit 3000 acres of irrigated farmlands. While implementing the project, paddy fields are being irrigated. Thus, the local people grow paddy twice or thrice a year. Moreover, the river water project contributes much to greening of the region.— Ko Htoo
YANGON, 22 April—Union Minister for Electric Power No.2 U Khin Maung Soe visited Ahlon Power Plant of Myanma Electric Power Enterprise on Strand Road in Ahlon Township here this morning and inspected control room and operation of three gas turbines at full capacity.

He then went to Ahlon sub-power station and inspected power inflow from control panels, power distribution of respective feeders, installation of power lines, and condition of 230/66/11 KV 100 MVA transformer Nos 1 & 2.

The Union Minister then met the chairman of Yangon City Electricity Supply Board and division heads, deputy commissioners, district electrical engineers, managers of power stations in Y Yangon Region, managers of sub-power stations, and personnel from Yangon, Hago and Ayeyawady regions. On the occasion, he instructed sub-power station managers to guard against unserupulous practices and called for full systematic power supply to the public. He urged them to monitor current power consumption and power distribution, calling for supervision of responsible personnel at different levels.

Next, Chief Engineer Dr Tan Naing of Power System Division under Myanmar Electric Power Enterprise and sub-power station managers explained power available and distributed, coordinated by the Union Minister to fulfill the requirements.—MNA

Kachin State Government provides peace-loving KIA members with cash assistance

An official presents cash assistance provided by Kachin State Government to Cpl Kyaw Hsao of KIA Brigade-5 who exchanged arms for peace.—MNA

NAV PN TAN, 22 April — Kachin State Government has presented cash assistance to KIA members led by Corporal Kyaw Hsao of Brigade (5) of KIA who exchanged arms for peace on 16 April as they are not willing to engage in meaningless armed struggle.

The ceremony to provide them with assistance in cash was held at Basic Education High School (Branch) at the village of Talawgyi in Myitkyina Township on 20 April and it was attended by Myitkyina District Deputy Commissioner U Khin Maung Cho, Myitkyina Township Administrator U Than Zaw Oo, Commander of Myitkyina District Police Force Police Lt Col Ay Than and officers from Northern Command, members of the group who exchanged arms for peace and local people totaling 1500.

At the ceremony, on behalf of Kachin State Government, District Deputy Commissioner U Khin Maung Cho extended greetings and welcomed the members of the KIA and explained peace making efforts of Kachin State Government.

Officials presented K 4.3 million provided by Kachin State Government, K 8.6 million, 67 bags of rice, 1.20 viss of edible oil, 250 viss of gran and 24 viss of salt provided by Northern Command and aids from Relief and Resettlement Department to the members of KIA.

At the ceremony, the leader of the group disclosed how they were recruited forcibly while they were working at farmland, received military training unwillingly, rape cases, exchanged arms for peace after contacting the Tatmadaw and their commitment to defending the country while joining hands with the Tatmadaw. He also expressed thanks for warm welcome by Kachin State Government, the Tatmadaw and the people and cash and aids for the members of the group and families.

Afterwards, townselfder U Than Shwe spoke words of thanks for providing the members of KIA with cash and aids by Kachin State Government, the Tatmadaw and the people. Local Shan ethnic women and men entertained the members of KIA with songs and the ceremony ended.

Polar bears evolutionarily five times older and genetically more distinct

Polar bears are the result of an analysis of information from the nuclear genome of polar and brown bears, and shed new light on conservation issues regarding this endangered arctic specialist.

Polar bears are uniquely specialized for life in the arctic. This fact is undisputed, and supported by a range of morphological, physiological and behavioural evidence. However, conducting research on the evolutionary history of polar bears is difficult. The arctic giant spends most of its life on sea ice, and typically also dies there. Its remains sink to the sea floor, where they get ground up by glaciers, or remain undiscovered. Fossil remains of polar bears are therefore scarce. Because the genetic information contained in each organism carries a lot of information about the past, researchers can study the history of the species by looking at the genes of today’s polar bears.
Gold panning enjoys an unprecedented boom

YEDASHE, 22 April—Some people are engaging in panning gold on a manageable scale at the land near forest reserve in Kalawya Village of Toungoo Township in Bago Region. Since last two years, the people got 70 pieces of gold in sizes of ywey seeds daily. Pieces of gold were sold in Toungoo and to brokers. Some of them spent their money on donations. “We faced loss in cultivation of paddy. So, family of us is panning gold foils there,” said a local. They pan gold foil with the use of hands or machines. A visitor made a remark that it is necessary to supervise the gold panning mine so as to conserve the degradation of ecosystem and fertile soil in next years. Than Lwin

DISTRICT NEWS

Two pieces of tusks seized from express bus

YEDASHE, 22 April—While stopping over at 115th-Mile Bus Stop over in Pyu Township, An express bus that left Yangon for Mandalay along Yangon-Mandalay Expressway at 2.30 pm on 18 April informed Mandalay Expressway at Mandalay along Yangon-Township, An express bus while stopping over at 115th-Mile Expressway Police Station about some suspected materials were contained in some bags. In-charge of the station SIP Nay Lin and party gathered the passenger of Yazar Aung express bus in the bus stop and then announced to search the bus acting on tip off. The police officials ordered the bus to drive into the compound of the police station. The authorities searched the bags and found two tusks of 26 inches in length and 8.5 inches in diameter weighing two viss and 70 ticals from the bags of Maung San, 36, of Kammyint Village, Htanlawgyi Village-tract in Bago Township and Maung Maung, 42, Pinmmayan Village of Mindon Village-tract in Yangon Region. Pyu 115th-Mile Expressway Police Station opened file against them under (pa) 46/2012, section 380/34. Ko Lwin (Shwe)

FREE EYECARE GIVEN: Chairman of U Khin Maung Zin and party of White Heart Group in Mandalay along Yangon-Mandalay Expressway to offer gold foils to eye patients free of charge in commemoration of the New Year on 10 April. MYANMAR ALIN

Kyene Lake contributing to evergreen status in Yamethin

Kyene Lake, located adjacent to Yamethin, was dug in Myanmar monarchical era. The lake has 1525 acre feet of water surface and 15 feet high and can store 8066 acre feet of water. It is a lake dammed on the south and the north sides. The height of southern band of the lake has been raised more six feet so as to store more volume of water. In the past, the lake overflowed water from the southern bund. The local people were worried about breakdown of bund. Thanks to better bund of the lake, local people and students from the villages near Kyene Lake such as Kanwe, Kammyint, Hamara, Wadaw, Hteinkan and Yunbin kwin villages enjoy fruits of smooth transport along the bund. The northern bund of the lake has been filled with retaining walls and gravels. Scenic beauty of Kyene Lake can be seen with the magnificent background of Shan mountain ranges in the east. Hlaing Than Tun

CASH AND KIND DONATED: Township correspondent Pathein Hla Kyi, wife Daw Mya Mya Win and family donated rice, salt, foodstuffs, exercise books and ball-pens as New Year donations to children in Pathein on Myanmar New Year Day, 17 April. MYANMAR ALIN

Trust-fund set up for maintenance of pagoda, monastery

MONDAY, 22 April—A ceremony to offer gold foils to Myatheindan Htawngpyae Pagoda, share merits for construction of Myatheindan Monastery and set up Ky.4.5 million trust-fund of Myatheindan Pagoda and Myatheindan Monastery was held at the monastery in Yanpan Village of Mindat Township in Chin State on 12 April. Present on the occasion were Chin State Chief Minister U Zaw Htay, Mu Chin, District and township authorities and wellwishers. Aung and other wellwishers.—Township Administration

Bangladesh Library, Pre-Primary School opened in Paungde

BAGO, 22 April—A ceremony to open Ye Zarni Library and Pre-Primary School was held in the compound of Paungde Police Station in Paungde Township of Pyay District in Bago Region (West) on 24 March morning. Commander of Township Police Force Police Captain San Wai formally opened the library and the school. The talk was also attended by police veterans and families of police force who were served with light refreshment. Kymon

Take Fire Preventive Measures

Ye Zarni Library, Pre-Primary School opened in Paungde

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Kyemon

Trucks, express buses run at night due to high temperature

YEDASHE, 22 April—Trucks and express buses running along Yangon-Mandalay Highway daily changed their schedules of transport to night time due to high temperature in April. A driver of truck said that day temperature causes overheat of engines and break down of tyres, and so they prefer to run their vehicles at night. “Suffering from diabetes, I cannot drive vehicle under high temperature. As I am worried about unfitness, I drive my vehicle at night comfortably,” he continued. The number of vehicles running along Yangon-Nay Pyi Taw-Mandalay Expressway now declines at day time. They go along the expressway at night. Most of the vehicles stop over at shady areas and restaurants at day time. In consequence, the restaurants can earn increased incomes. Kymon

District News

Talks on traffic rules given to local vehicle owners, drivers

MAWLU, 22 April—Under the supervision of the Indaw Township Police Force Commander, a talk on traffic rules was held near Mawlu railway station in Myanmarlar Ward 5 in Mawlu Region of Indaw Township, Sagaing Region on 13 April morning. It was attended by Commander of Mawlu Police Station IP Sein Gaung and policemen, vehicle owners and drivers. Commander of Mawlu Police Force IP Nay Win talked bout reduction of traffic accidents, traffic rules, and punishments for traffic rules offenders. After that, the authorities of Mawlu Region Traffic Rules Enforcement Supervisory Committee gave talks on traffic rules and disciplines for pedestrians.

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Technology helps young out of depression

A computer game designed to lift teenagers out of depression is as effective as face-to-face counselling, New Zealand doctors reported on Thursday in the British Medical Journal (BMJ). Researchers at the University of Auckland tested an interactive 3-D fantasy game called SPARX on 94 youngsters diagnosed with depression whose average age was 15 and a half.

SPARX invites a user to take on a series of seven challenges over four to seven weeks in which an avatar has to learn to deal with anger and hurt feelings and swap negative thoughts for helpful ones. Used for three months, SPARX was at least as effective as conventional counselling, according to several depression rating scales. In addition, 44 percent of the SPARX group who carried out at least four of the seven challenges recovered completely. In the conventional treatment group, only 26 percent recovered fully.

“Use of the programme resulted in a clinically significant reduction in depression, anxiety and hopelessness, and an improvement in quality of life,” according to the study led by Sally Merrry, an associate professor at the University of Auckland Medical School. The adolescents also gave a high rating to SPARX, saying they liked being able to use it at home and to learn at their own pace. Eighty percent said they would recommend the computer therapy to others, although the treatment-as-usual group had similarly high approval ratings.

Nepali climber, 30, dies in fall on Everest

KATHMANDU, April 22 — A 30-year-old Nepali mountaineer died on Saturday attempting to scale Mount Everest, a government official said, in the second death this season on the world’s highest peak. Namgya Tshering Sherpa fell into a deep crevasse while climbing towards Base Camp Two, more than two-thirds of the way up the 8,848-metre (29,029-foot) mountain, said Gyanendra Kumar Shrestha of the Nepal Tourism Board.

“He slipped from the snow and fell 40 metres into the crevasse. His body has been recovered near Camp Two, which is located at a height of 6,500 metres,” Shrestha told AFP. Namgya grew up in the shadow of Everest and conquered the world’s highest peak. Namgya Tshering Sherpa fell into a deep crevasse while climbing towards Base Camp Two, more than two-thirds of the way up the 8,848-metre (29,029-foot) mountain.— Internet

Computer therapy helps young out of depression.

Rare Egyptian scroils found in Australian collection

A 30-year-old Nepali mountaineer died on Saturday attempting to scale Mount Everest, seen here in February, a government official said, in the second death this season on the world’s highest peak. Namgya Tshering Sherpa fell into a deep crevasse while climbing towards Base Camp Two, more than two-thirds of the way up the 8,848-metre (29,029-foot) mountain.— Internet

On Wednesday, the son of famed Everest climber Ang Rita Sherpa was killed by suspected altitude sickness while attempting his second death this season on the world’s highest peak. Namgya Tshering Sherpa fell into a deep crevasse while climbing towards Base Camp Two, more than two-thirds of the way up the 8,848-metre (29,029-foot) mountain.— Internet

At the peak of Egyptian prosperity, added Taylor, describing it as a “once in a lifetime” find. The fragments were donated to the museum by a private citizen in 1913 and are not on public display, but had been brought out to accompany the British Museum’s touring mummies exhibition, which Taylor was here to open. He said there were pieces of Amenhotep’s scroll scattered across many institutions including the Boston Museum of Fine Arts, British Museum and New York’s Metropolitan Museum of Art. The Australian specimens would be photographed to try and determine where they fit in the scroll, which Taylor said could be up to 20 metres long — among the largest and most significant Egyptian burial scripts recorded.— Internet

Kitten gets new legs and lease on life

SOUTH FARGO, April 22 — Corky, a stray cat born with a rare congenital birth defect was set to be euthanized in Fargo, ND. He was given a new lease on life when he was picked up at a local shelter, Cat’s Cradle, at the end of March. Corky was born with a genetic deformity called bilateral arthrogryposis of the tarsus, where his legs were backwards and overlapping. Cat’s Cradle co-founders Gail Ventzek, Amber Schuhler and Carol Sternefeld fell in love with the kitten when they were scheduled to pick up two others. They took him immediately to get radiographs to see what they were dealing with and realized they needed to operate right away. They called around to find vets and they didn’t want to touch him,” said Ventzek. They took him to the Casseion Veterinary Service where Dr Dan Burchill agreed to operate on the 8-month-old kitten. Unaware of his condition, Corky was a “happy, healthy, engaging, fun cat who dragged his back legs around,” said Burchill.

After considering all options, like amputating him and putting him in a wheel chair, Burchill determined he was unable to surgically fix his legs. A rare disease in cats, the condition was more common in cattle, said Burchill. After practicing for 17 years, he had performed the surgery before on dogs, but never cats. “Dr Burchill is our hero — he customized the surgery for Corky,” said Ventzek. The operation took four hours and cost roughly $1,000 an hour including medication and surgical fees. It was successful, and Corky’s more severely affected right leg is doing “fabulous.” The left leg had a few anatomy problems and was stabilized with a pin. Estimated cost only $2,500, the surgery costs have not affected Ventzek. She says “We’ll fund raise until we cover it. He’s such a great guy, he’s such a great spirit and he has a great purpose and we’ll do whatever we can to get him back up on his feet.”

Corky’s rehab, which includes acupuncture and hydrotherapy, is slow and steady.

Kenya runners gun down suspected elephant poachers

NAIROBI, April 22 — Kenyan police shot dead five suspected elephant poachers in a night-time firefight in the north of the country, the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) said on Saturday. Five suspected poachers were last night gunned down and one escaped during a fierce exchange of fire with Kenya Wildlife Service rangers at Chepareria in West Pokot County, it said.

Two rangers were wounded in the firefight which went on for more than 40 minutes, the KWS said, adding that it had recovered 50 kilograms (110 pounds) of elephant tusks and three assault rifles at the scene. Trading in ivory was banned in 1989 under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora.

Toronto boy and mother found safe after Ontario wide Amber Alert issued

TORONTO, April 22 — A missing Toronto boy who was the subject of an Ontario-wide Amber Alert is now back home with his much relieved father. The Toronto Police Service said eight year old Joshua Low and his mother, Jessica Yi Qing Low-Zhen, 45, were located Saturday night after Ontario Provincial Police issued an Amber Alert earlier.

Detective Mark Charuk of 33 Division said police used their “investigative techniques” to find the two, then brought them back to the station where the boy was later reunited with his father. Detective Charuk said mother and son were both in very good health; however, the mother was taken to York Region Hospital to be assessed by doctors after she’d been questioned by police. Charuk said Low’s parents had recently separated, and Saturday’s Amber Alert indicated police had received information that led them to be concerned for the safety of both the boy and his mother. The Alert called it an abduction case, but Charuk told The Canadian Press that police did not, at this point, expect to lay charges. Police said the boy and his mother had left the family’s Toronto area home on 13th April, more than a week before the Amber Alert was issued.— Internet

File picture shows a papyrus with hieroglyphs (R) and hieratic script (L) from the Library of Alexandria.

INTERNET

Nepali climber, 30, dies in fall on Everest

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“He slipped from the snow and fell 40 metres into the crevasse. His body has been recovered near Camp Two, which is located at a height of 6,500 metres,” Shrestha told AFP. Namgya grew up in the shadow of Everest and conquered the world’s highest peak. Namgya Tshering Sherpa fell into a deep crevasse while climbing towards Base Camp Two, more than two-thirds of the way up the 8,848-metre (29,029-foot) mountain.— Internet

On Wednesday, the son of famed Everest climber Ang Rita Sherpa was killed by suspected altitude sickness while attempting his second death this season on the world’s highest peak. Namgya Tshering Sherpa fell into a deep crevasse while climbing towards Base Camp Two, more than two-thirds of the way up the 8,848-metre (29,029-foot) mountain.— Internet

At the peak of Egyptian prosperity, added Taylor, describing it as a “once in a lifetime” find. The fragments were donated to the museum by a private citizen in 1913 and are not on public display, but had been brought out to accompany the British Museum’s touring mummies exhibition, which Taylor was here to open. He said there were pieces of Amenhotep’s scroll scattered across many institutions including the Boston Museum of Fine Arts, British Museum and New York’s Metropolitan Museum of Art. The Australian specimens would be photographed to try and determine where they fit in the scroll, which Taylor said could be up to 20 metres long — among the largest and most significant Egyptian burial scripts recorded.— Internet

Toronto boy and mother found safe after Ontario wide Amber Alert issued

TORONTO, April 22 — A missing Toronto boy who was the subject of an Ontario-wide Amber Alert is now back home with his much relieved father. The Toronto Police Service said eight year old Joshua Low and his mother, Jessica Yi Qing Low-Zhen, 45, were located Saturday night after Ontario Provincial Police issued an Amber Alert earlier.

Detective Mark Charuk of 33 Division said police used their “investigative techniques” to find the two, then brought them back to the station where the boy was later reunited with his father. Detective Charuk said mother and son were both in very good health; however, the mother was taken to York Region Hospital to be assessed by doctors after she’d been questioned by police. Charuk said Low’s parents had recently separated, and Saturday’s Amber Alert indicated police had received information that led them to be concerned for the safety of both the boy and his mother. The Alert called it an abduction case, but Charuk told The Canadian Press that police did not, at this point, expect to lay charges. Police said the boy and his mother had left the family’s Toronto area home on 13th April, more than a week before the Amber Alert was issued.— Internet

File picture shows a papyrus with hieroglyphs (R) and hieratic script (L) from the Library of Alexandria.
New Mexico fat cat weighs in at nearly 40 pounds

by Jennifer Steketee

LONDON, 22 April — SkyPharma said on Friday its lead product, asthma therapy Flutiform, had been recommended for approval by European regulators, doubling the value of the group’s shares.

Flutiform was referred to the European Medicines Agency (EMA) last year after member states could not reach unanimous agreement on the drug, which will compete with GlaxoSmithKline’s Advair and AstraZeneca’s Symbicort in the multi-billion dollar respiratory drugs market.

A positive opinion from the EMA is usually rubber stamped by the European Commission in a matter of months.

SkyPharma, which has partnered Mundipharma in developing the drug, more than doubled to 85.5 pence, valuing the group at about 22 million pounds.

“This is the end of a long struggle for the company,” said Singer analyst Shawn Manning. “It’s highly unlikely that it will get this stamp of approval and not get approved.”

He said Flutiform could have sales in Europe of $200 million within five years, assuming it won “a modest” 7 percent share of the combination therapy market.

“We estimate 10 percent will go to SkyPharma, so it’s a good solid contributor,” he said, adding that the positive opinion also opened the door to markets in Latin America and Canada.

Flutiform is a combination of two commonly prescribed drugs to treat asthma, the corticosteroid fluticasone propionate and the beta-agonist formoterol fumarate, in a metered dose inhaler.

SkyPharma’s chief executive Peter Grant said the decision was a strong endorsement of the group’s capabilities in developing complex respiratory products.

“It is also good news that we are now on track for a new treatment option to be available for many patients suffering from asthma across Europe,” he said.

Earlier on Friday, SkyPharma received a $10 million payment from Pacira Pharmaceuticals following the launch of post-surgical pain drug Exparel in the United States.

Microsoft quarterly earnings top estimates

SAN FRANCISCO, 22 April — Microsoft on Thursday reported a modest revenue increase and profit decline in the fiscal quarter, with earnings falling shy of numbers still topping analysts’ estimates. For the quarter ending on 31 March, the software giant reported quarterly revenue of $17.41 billion US dollars, a 6 percent increase on a year-on-year basis.

Net income and diluted earnings per share for the quarter were $5.11 billion dollars and 60 cents per share, compared with $5.23 billion dollars and 61 cents per share from the same period last year.

While more consumers are choosing Apple or Google-powered tablets and services instead of Windows PCs, Microsoft was expected to report a modest sales increase and profit decline. Analysts polled by Thomson Reuters expect the Redmond, Washington-based company to report earnings excluding items of 57 cents per share, down 7 percent compared to last year, on revenue of $17.18 billion dollars, up 5 percent on a year-on-year basis.

“While we’re driving toward exciting launches across the entire company, while delivering strong financial results,” said Steve Ballmer, chief executive officer at Microsoft. “With the authorization of new Windows 8 PCs and tablets, the next version of Office, and a wide array of products and services for the enterprise and consumers, we will be delivering exceptional value to all our customers in the year ahead.”

New purple crab species found in Philippines

By MA/ Xinhua

Manila, 22 April — Four new species of freshwater crab, bright purple in colour, have been discovered in the ecologically diverse but ecologically-threatened Philippines, the man who found them said on Saturday.

The tiny crustaceans burrow under boulders and roots in streams, feeding on dead plants, fruits, carrion and small animals in the water at night, said Hendrik Freitag of Germany’s Senckenberg Museum of Zoology. Found only in small, lowland-forest ecosystems in the Palawan island group, most have purple shells, with claws and legs tipped red.

“Based on available new material, four additional species are recognized...four of which are new to science,” Freitag wrote in the latest edition of the National University of Singapore’s Raffles Bulletin of Zoology. The carapace of the biggest, Insulamon magnun, is about 5.3 millimeters by 4.18 millimeters while the smallest, Insulamon porcillum, measures 3.3 by 2.51 millimeters. Their recently new species were called...
Hailstorms kill 29 in China

Beijing, 22 April — Hailstorms had killed 29 people across China from March to 20 April, according to statistics released by the Ministry of Civil Affairs late Friday. Hailstorms had struck 270 county-level areas across 24 provincial regions since March this year, the ministry said.

Visitors try riding tricycles at the Earth Day activity in New York, the United States, on 20 April, 2012.

BTC/Reuters

Russia launches space freighter to ISS

MOSCOW, 22 April — A Russian Soyuz-U rocket carrying a Progress M-15M cargo ship blasted off to the International Space Station (ISS) on Friday, according to Russia’s Federal Space Agency, Roscosmos. The rocket was launched from the Baikonur space center in Kazakhstan at 16:50 Moscow time (1440 GMT) on Sunday in automatic mode, according to Roscosmos.

View of the Khor al-Umayah oil terminal on the outskirts of Basra in 2009. Iraq’s second of five floating Gulf oil terminals came online on Friday, adding 900,000 barrels per day to the country’s export capacity, according to the Southern Oil Company. — Internet

Russia’s rarest coins sold at auction

WASHINGTON, 22 April — One of the first pennies ever produced by the US Mint was put up for auction Thursday night and reportedly sold for more than $1 million. Bids for the 1792 Silver Centre Cent penny reached $1.15 million on Thursday night, according to Heritage Auctions, which conducted the sale. The US Mint itself was founded in April, 1792. If you don’t have $1.15 million on hand, there are more affordable rare coins available. The Canadian Mint recently began selling a limited-edition glow-in-the-dark quarter featuring a dinosaur skeleton for around $30.

Airline execs convicted over 2005 Greece crash

ATHENS, 22 April — Three executives of a defunct Cypriot airline and a British engineer were each sentenced to 10 years in prison for their role in Greece’s worst air crash that killed 121 people, court officials said. The Helios Airways Boeing 737-300 crashed into a mountain near Athens in 2005 after oxygen supply failed and the pilots and most of the passengers fell unconscious.

An Athens court found the defendants guilty of manslaughter and negligence charges, officials told Reuters. Lawyers for the four — Helios’s former chief executive officer, its chief of flight operations, the firm’s Bulgarian head pilot as well as a British engineer who had inspected the plane before it took off, said they had appealed against the decision. The ruling came four months after a Cyprus court acquitted the three executives during a separate hearing over the accident.

Investigators have said the failure to switch a valve affected the oxygen supply to the aircraft shortly after the plane took off from Cyprus’s Larnaca airport. The aircraft flew on autopilot in Greek flight air space for two hours before it ran out of fuel and smashed into a hillside. Greek air force pilots who trailed the aircraft saw a lone man at the controls of the plane, apparently trying in vain to avert the disaster. — Reuters

Experts say Natasha Harris's Coca-Cola 'habit' probably contributed to her death

WELLINGTON, 22 April — When people attribute poor eating habits, Dr Mornin

Hodgkinson testified that Harris drank between 2.1 and 2.6 gallons of Coke every day. The 30-year-old Harris died of a heart attack in February 2010. According to the coroner’s office that the statement:

“We concur with the information shared with the coroner’s office that the grossly excessive ingestion of any food product, including water, over a short period of time with the inadequate consumption of essential nutrients, and the failure to seek appropriate medical intervention when needed, can be dramatically symptomatic.” Harris also said Harris had “toxiclevels of caffeine” in her blood, though it’s not clear if those levels came exclusively from Coke or from a combination of other sources, including coffee.

Karen Thompson, a spokeswoman for Coca-Cola in New Zealand say Natasha Harris drank between 2.1 and 2.6 gallons of Coke every day. The 30-year-old Harris died of a heart attack in February 2010. According to the coroner’s office that the...
VETERINARY
A Kansas veterinarian whose family rescued a piglet that fell from a livestock truck said the animal made friends with the family’s Labrador retriever.

Shane Tonn, a veterinarian at the Newton Animal Hospital, said his wife, Stacie, saw the piglet fall from a livestock truck on US Highway 50 on 29 March and brought the animal to his office, The Wichita Eagle reported Thursday. Tonn said the piglet was unconscious for about two days but was able to eat from a syringe when it woke up. He said the pig, which they dubbed Mu Shu, quickly bonded with the couple’s blended family of four daughters and their 5-month-old yellow Lab, Hunter.

“They recognize his constant stimulation of her, licking her, mugging her,” Tonn said.

He said the family did not notice Mu Shu had been blind for a few days after the accident, but Hunter seemed to recognize the piglet was having trouble and would lead her around the house.

A veterinarian’s rescued piglet has made friends with the family dog.

TUNISIAN DEPORTEE’S MOUTHS TAPED SHUT IN ITALY
Rome prosecutors said they are investigating allegations the mouths of two Tunisian men were sealed with duct tape as they were deported.

Prosecutors said they opened an investigation after filmmaker Francesco Sperandeo posted a photo to Facebook of the two men being deported on an Altitalia flight with their mouths sealed shut and their hands cuffed with plastic bands, ANSA reported Thursday.

“The face of the other passengers” was the worst part, Sperandeo said. He said the officers told him the methods they were using were “normal.”

Man, 92, still working at post office
A New York state man who began working for the US Postal Service when he was 70 is now 92 and the oldest postal worker in a district including eight states.

Officials said Charles Cook, of Pittsford, who works as a supervisor at the mail processing centre in Henrietta, is the oldest. The varsity, including Ohio, Pennsylvania, Kentucky, Tennessee, Delaware, and portions of New York, West Virginia and New Jersey, the Rochester (NY) Courier Democrat reported Thursday.

“I say, if you think I’m going to be replaced and they’re going to bring in some greenhorn to do my job, you’re crazy,” Cook said. “I’m going to be here for another 25 years.”

Cook said he began his career with the Postal Service in 1947. When he told a doctor him when he was 70 he should seek out a job with a lot of physical activity to extend his life.

“Good Morning America” breaks “Today” show’s streak
New York, 22 April — ABC’s “Good Morning America” outperformed NBC’s “Today” show for the first time in 16 years, drawing 31,000 more viewers last week than its rival in the lucrative television morning show market.

“Good Morning America,” co-hosted by George Stephanopoulos and Robin Roberts, out-drew “Today,” drawing almost 5.17 million viewers and was ranked No 1 in the morning slot for the week of 9 April, according to Nielsen ratings data on Thursday.

“Today” co-host Matt Lauer was away on vacation during that week.

Lady Gaga’s performance at the Academy Awards and “True Blood” actor Stephen Moyer’s extramarital affair are two recent topics on which the rival shows have been heating up in recent weeks. Katie Couric guest hosted “Good Morning America” two weeks ago, and NBC responded by booking Sarah Palin to drop in to co-host “Today.”

Couric famously embarrassed Palin during the 2008 presidential race when the then Republican vice presidential candidate struggled to name which newspapers she regularly read.

“We congratulate our friends at ‘Today’ for the greatest winning streak in broadcast history and for their excellence.

Diddy beats Jay-Z, as Forbes’ richest hip hop artist

Los Angeles, 22 April — Rapper Sean “Diddy” Combs topped a list of hip hop’s wealthiest artists compiled by Forbes on Wednesday, besting hip hop contemporaries Jay-Z, Dr Dre, Birdman and 50 Cent.

Combs’ net worth was estimated at $550 million, including high returns from his investment in Croc shoes as well as clothing lines Sean John and Enyce. Label Bad Boy, marketing company Blue Flame and numerous tech start-ups.

The “I’ll Be Missing You” rapper, 42, beat out hip hop mogul Shawn “Jay-Z” Carter, who came in at No 2 with a net worth of $560 million. Captor 42, who is affiliated to R&B superstar Beyonce, continued to rake in substantial earnings from music and tours after signing a $150 million deal with concert promoters Live Nation in 2008, as well as investments in the New Jersey Nets basketball team, the 40-40 club chain and numerous other business ventures. Pioneering rapper Dr Dre, 47, who has worked with top artists including Eminem and 50 Cent, took the No 3 position, with a net worth of $250 million, which he comes from his headphone company, Beats Electronics, which he co-owns with Internet Records founder Jimmy Iovine.— Reuters

Singer Taylor Swift.

Swift considering Joni Mitchell role

Hollywood, 22 April — US country music star Taylor Swift is considering playing the role of music legend Joni Mitchell in the upcoming film “Girls Like Us,” Variety reported.

Swift has been linked to the role for several months as other actresses have auditioned to play fellow music legends Carly Simon and Carole King, the entertainment trade magazine reported Friday.

Alison Phil, who was in Woody Allen’s “Midnight in Paris,” auditioned to play King, Variety said.

“The Girls Like Us,” which would be produced by Sony Pictures and Di Bonaventura Pictures, has yet to be greenlit, though production has been scheduled to start later this year.

INTERNET

“American Idol”
New York, 22 April — Colton Dixon, the young singer from Tennessee known for his flamboyant hairstyle, became the fifth contestant voted off top-rated TV singing contest “American Idol” on Thursday night.

“I wasn’t myself last night,” said Dixon, whose Wednesday performance of Lady Gaga’s “Bad Romance” was roundly criticized by the show’s judges. Dixon thanked them for their honest feedback, and assured them he would incorporate it into a future album.

Host Ryan Seacrest described the singer as “a class act” as he left the stage, and judge Jennifer Lopez shook her head when Dixon’s dismissal was announced.

Colton Dixon voted off of “American Idol”

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Host Ryan Seacrest described the singer as “a class act” as he left the stage, and judge Jennifer Lopez shook her head when Dixon’s dismissal was announced.

Though Lopez described Dixon’s performance as “exciting,” she questioned whether he chose the right song for his voice, and mentor Jimmy Iovine said he sounded “completely wrong.”

Thursday was Dixon’s first - and last - time in the show’s bottom three, where he was accompanied by contestants Hollie Cavanagh and Elise Testone, both of whom were voted off the show.

Finalists (from L-R standing): Elise Testone, Jeremy Rosado, Joshua Ledet, Jermaine Jones, Jessica Sanchez, Shannon Magrane, Heejun Han, Phillip Phillips, Erika Van Pelt, Colton Dixon, from left to right.

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INTERNET

Singer Taylor Swift.
Real Madrid’s Portuguese forward Cristiano Ronaldo (L) celebrates after scoring during the Spanish League “El clasico” football match Barcelona vs Real Madrid at the Camp Nou stadium in Barcelona on 21 April, 2012. Real Madrid won 2-1.— Xinhua

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MADRID, 22 April — Real Madrid took a huge step towards securing the BBVA Primera Liga title on Saturday night as they defeated title rivals FC Barcelona 2-1 in the Camp Nou Stadium. Sami Khedira and Cristiano Ronaldo scored Madrid’s goals in a game they deserved to win with a fine display of pressing football and pace on the break. Alexis Sanchez scored a goal which momentarily celebrate Barca hope, but the fact is that with Madrid leading by seven points with four matches left to play, it need a disaster to stop Madrid claiming the title.

Real Madrid coach Jose Mourinho keeps faith with the side that was narrowly beaten away to Bayern Munich on Tuesday while Barca made changes with Alexis Sanchez and Cesc Fabregas rested and Thiago Alcantara and Cristian Tello brought in.

There had been pre-game speculation over whether or not Madrid would try and play a defensive game, but that was soon shown to be mistaken as Madrid went for the match from the off.

Mourinho’s side pressured Barca continuously to make a brave save at Casillas come quickly off his line to make a quick break by rounding Valdes to make it 2-1 to the visitors. It is a goal that looks like being worth the league title.

In the past when I’ve been in this situation, that’s what I did: I just focused on my game and if at the end of 18 holes it’s good enough to win, great,” Curtis said. “If not, I have to shake the guy’s hand that won and move forward,” Matt Every was alone in second after a one-over 73 at the American seeks his first Tour win, South Koreans Noh Seung-Yul (68) and Charlie Wi (71) were tied for third with American John Huh.

Emirates stalemate for Arsenal and Chelsea

Gunnars and Blues cancel each other out as both have to settle for a draw

LONDON, 22 April — Arsenal and Chelsea cancel each other out as both have to settle for a goalless draw at the Emirates Stadium.

With both clubs in the hunt for a top-four berth and in place next season’s UEFA Champions League, it was a right encounter, though Robin van Persie and Laurent Koscielny both hit the woodwork for Arsenal in the first half.

The Gunners always looked the likelier to take the three points, but Chelsea defended magnificently and Petr Cech made two more fine saves from Van Persie to help earn his side a draw.

Ai Miyazato wins LPGA Tour event in Hawaii

KAPAAH, 22 April — Japan’s Ai Miyazato won the LPGA LOTTE Championship on Saturday for her eighth career LPGA Tour title, birdieing three of the last six holes for a 2-under 70 and a four-stroke victory.

Miyazato finished at 12-under 276 at wind-swept Ko Olina. She opened with rounds of 71, 65 and 70 to take a three-stroke lead in the final round.

Former British Open winner Ben Curtis managed to overcome a pair of double bogeys in the third round of the PGA Tour’s Texas Open to stretch his lead to three shots.

Curtis, who is chasing his fourth US PGA title, on Saturday for his eighth career LPGA Tour title, on Saturday for his eighth career LPGA Tour title, finished at 12-under 276 at wind-swept Ko Olina. She opened with rounds of 71, 65 and 70 to take a three-stroke lead in the final round.

Miyazato a little flustered. “I don’t know what happened,” said Miyazato, a 15-time winner on the LPGA. “I just focused on my game. I was pretty nervous toward the end because I know everyone is playing so well. I had to finish really strong.”

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Dortmund earn Bundesliga title after beating ‘Gladbach’

DORTMUND, 22 April — Borussia Dortmund were crowned German league champions for the second consecutive season on Saturday having proved their worth by beating main title rivals Bayern Munich home and away. Dortmund’s win at home to Moenchengladbach left the defending champions eight points clear with two games remaining and they will be presented with the Bundesliga shield in their final game at home to Freiburg on 5 May.

Jürgen Klopp’s team suffered the last of their three league defeats back September and have now extended their record for the longest unbeaten run in a single German league season to 26. Having amassed 75 points, they can still beat the record of 79 for the most league points won in a season which Bayern achieved twice in the early 1970s. The champions have dominated Bayern in both the table and on the pitch of late as the Bavarians have lost their last four matches against Dortmund and not beaten the champions, home or away, since February 2010.

After beating the Bavarians 1-0 at Munich’s Allianz Arena last November, thanks to a single goal from Germany’s teenage star Mario Goetze, Borussia backed up with another 1-0 win over Munich in Dortmund on 11 April.

This is the first time for 16 years Bayern have been denied the German title for two seasons running when Dortmund last earned back-to-back titles in 1994/95 and 1995/96 before winning the 1997 Champions League title.

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INTERNATIONAL SPORTS

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Wilson Kipsang and Mary Keitany win London marathon

LONDON, 22 April—Wilson Kipsang and Mary Keitany, both from Kenya, won the men’s and women’s races at the London Marathon on Sunday. Kipsang led for the final 11 kilometres with a time of 2:04:44. Keitany won for the second successive year in 2:18:37.

Kipsang’s performance

Mary Keitany of Kenya poses after winning her women’s section of the London Marathon on 17 April, 2011. —REUTERS

Both had early chances before City took control and Aguero slid them ahead from Gael Clichy’s superb cross.

Aguero celebrates his goal with Carlos Tevez

Joe Hart made an excellent save to deny Steven Fletcher as Wolves worked hard to level, but Nasri slotted in to earn his side a vital win in the title race. If City beat United at home on 30 April they will be top with two games left.

Their goal difference is six superior to that of their local rivals and all eyes will now be on that meeting at Etihad Stadium.

Suddenly, though, they are very much back in contention and it promises to be a thrilling end to the campaign.

The same can not be said for Wolves, who drop into 15th place six points of leaders Manchester United.

Terrry Connor’s side have lost a club-record nine successive home games and are without a win of any description since 4 February.

Carlos Tevez fired just over the bar after only 17 seconds and at the other end Sebastien Bassong’s shot was deflected narrowly wide.

Aguero then drilled across the face of goal before David Davis forced Hart into a fine save with a powerful effort from 18 yards.

Tevez took a quick free-kick, squared for Nasri and he benefited from Bassong pulling a hamstring to coolly slot past De Vries.

Wolves were furious with referee Lee Probert’s decision to penalise Davis for his challenge on Tevez, but their protests were in vain. —Internet

Weather forecast for 23rd April, 2012

Respects paid to the aged in Insein Township

YANGON, 22 April — The 32nd ceremony to receive the precepts and serve refreshment was held at the paddal in West Yawma Ward in Insein Township of Yangon Region in Mahā Thígyan period.

The 32nd respect paying ceremony was held at the Dhammayon of the ward. Chairman of the organizing committee Vice-Chairman of Township Writers and Journalists Association U Bo Kyi (Dr Bo Thanman-Thaungdwingyi) and ward administrative member U Myint Kyi made speeches.

After paying respects, they presented cash assistance and gifts to 46 older persons of above 70 years old. — Kyemon

Flood kills 7 in N Afghan province

PUL-E-KHUMRI, 22 April—Heavy rains and floods have claimed the lives of seven people and destroyed dozens of houses in Baghlan province 160 km north of capital Kabul over the past two days, a local official said Sunday.

“About seven people have lost their lives in Burka and Dahnai Ghori districts over the past two days due to heavy rains and flooding,” head of Natural Disaster Department in Baghlan province Mohammad Nasim Kohzad told the media. More than 100 houses have also been damaged in both districts, he said, adding heavy rain is still continuing. The rain and flood have also damaged the properties in the neighbouring Kunduz province, according to offical. Some 500 houses have been damaged and hundreds of people are left homeless in Imam Sahib district of Kunduz province, due to heavy rains and flooding in the past two days, district governor Imamuddin Qureshi said. — Xinhua

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas

INTERNATIONAL

(23-4-12 09:30 am ~)

Focus Myanmar TV Programme

(23-4-2012)(Monday)

1. Paritta By Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw

2. Nice and Sweet Song

3. Song Of National Races

4. Teleplay (Health)

5. International News

6. Martial Song

7. Musical Programme

8. Documentary

9. Songs For Upholding National Spirit

10. Myanmar Language

11. Teleplay (Agri)

12. TV Drama Series

13. News

14. World’s Stars

15. India Drama Series

Myanmar TV

MYANMAR TV

(23-4-12)

1. News

2. Myanmar Traditional Kite Flying & Fighting Contest

3. Charming Myanmar Silk Fabric

4. Music Gallery

5. News

6. National Races from Shan State “Gon Shan & Li Shan”

7. News

8. “Thingyan Road Trip 2012” Day (2)

9. Mawlamyine & Set Sac Beach

10. News

11. Working & Living in Myanmar (Jade and Gem)

12. News

13. Culture Stage

14. Youth & Technology (Chin Twin Technology Training School)

15. News

16. Yatana Thinga City & Shwe Bon Yatananningalar Palace

17. Myanmar Movie

“Misedue”

Paritta By Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw

11 km with a time of 2:04:44.

Keitany won for the second successive year in 2:18:37.

London marathon

LONDON, 22 April—Goals from Sergio Aguero and Samir Nasri saw Manchester City relegate Wolves and move to within three points of leaders Manchester United.

Both sides had early chances before City took control and Aguero slid them ahead from Gael Clchy’s superb cross.

Aguero celebrates his goal with Carlos Tevez

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Wolves were furious with referee Lee Probert’s decision to penalise Davis for his challenge on Tevez, but their protests were in vain. —Internet
**Nay Pyi Taw, 22 April—Union Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Myint, in meeting with building, airport, road/bridge special groups in Yangon Region and staff from district and township offices at Yangon Region Superintending Engineer’s Office of Public Works yesterday morning, called for disciplined and responsible performance, goodwill and devotion to work, systematic distribution of machinery and vehicles, allocation of fund in line with financial rules and regulations, and observance of civil servants code of conduct.

Deputy Minister U Kyaw Lwin also called on them to work hard, demanding speed, quality and cost-effectiveness.

Next, Deputy Managing Director (Administration) U Kyi Win Oo reported on personnel affairs, Superintending Engineer U Thein Hsaing on construction of roads and bridges in Yangon Region, and district engineers-in-charge on construction works in districts concerned.

The Union Minister then visited Department of Human Settlement and Housing Development where he urged the staff to work hard with a sense of duty.

Deputy Minister U Kyaw Lwin reported to the Union Minister on works divisions the Yangon Region DSHHD would undertake and, Director-General U Min Hein on organizational set-up and directors from divisions on works of respective divisions. —MNA

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**Calculation tables issued to pay BOT bridge tolls at a set rate**

**Nay Pyi Taw, 22 April—**In granting permit for taking charge of collecting bridge tolls for 2012-2013 fiscal year, the Ministry of Construction has no longer granted permit to the person who could offer the biggest amount of money at the auction with sealed tender system. Instead, it has granted permit to those who are allowed to engage in the business to pay 85 percent of their bridge tolls collected at BOT bridge toll gates to the State, based on the floor price collected during a year.

Bridges have been categorized into various levels—bridges 180 feet to less than 1000 feet long as normal level (D), bridges 1000 feet to less than 5000 feet long as normal level (D), bridges more than 5000 feet long as project level (C), bridges 5000 feet to less than 8000 feet long as project level (B) and bridges 8000 feet and above as project level (A). The business can be done only with bidding system and the contract includes types of vehicle, types of axle and types of bridges prescribed by the Ministry of Construction. Moreover, the ministry has issued calculation tables for the public and drivers/owners so that bridge tolls can be paid at a set rate. The Ministry of Construction requested that the public and drivers/owners are to pay charges of roads and bridges exactly and they must be ready to pay the charges with respective currency notes. —MNA

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**Cultivation of Palethwe hybrid paddy demonstrated**

**YANGON, 22 April—**Sowing of paddy seeds was held on 10 acres of Palethwe hybrid field in Nyaunggan Village-tract in Yeasaw Township of Pakokku District recently.

Township Manager U Sein Maung of Yeasaw Township Agriculture Department and an official of OISCA of Japan explained cultivation of Palethwe hybrid paddy strain in detail to farmers.

“OISCA training school purchased paddy seeds at K 3300 per pyi from Nay Pyi Taw. So, we cost K 231,000 for 10 acres of farmlands as seven kilos of paddy seeds are to be used for one acre. Moreover, we provided one bag of Armo compound fertilizer per acre for the 10-acre paddy field. We have disbursed K 100,000 per acre as agricultural loans to farmers for five months. Furthermore, we will give other necessary assistance to the farmers,” said Assistant Manager Daw Ni Ni Soe of the OISCA training school.

Palethwe hybrid paddy will be grown there for the first time this year. The paddy strain produces over 200 baskets per acre. The seeds will be distributed to local farmers of the township. —El Mon Soe

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**Nadal beats Djokovic to win Monte Carlo final**

**MONACO, 22 April—**Rafael Nadal finally managed to beat Novak Djokovic in a final, thrashing the top-ranked Serb 6-3, 6-1 on Sunday to win the clay-court Monte Carlo Masters for the eighth consecutive year and end a run of seven straight defeats to his rival in title matches.

Nadal was hardly troubled by Djokovic this time and broke the Serb’s serve five times in a one-sided matchup. He thrust his hands in the air after clinching victory in style with an ace that flew past the beleaguered Djokovic, who beat Nadal in an epic Australian Open final this year. Nadal had promised to be aggressive and, after Djokovic held his opening service game at love, the Spaniard was relentless in running the Serb all over the court. It was his first title since last year’s French Open. —Internet

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**Everton shock United as draw revives title race**

**Manchester, 22 April—**Everton twice came from two goals behind to share the points in an extraordinary 4-4 draw away to leaders Manchester United that reignited the Premier League title race on Sunday.

Everton, who last won at Old Trafford 20 years ago, took a 3-3 lead before the final whistle when Nélida Jelvić headed in Tony Hibbert’s cross as the visitors looked to bounce back from their FA Cup semi-final defeat by cross-town rivals Liverpool. But United were level before the break when Wayne Rooney, against his former club, powered in a header from Nani’s cross. Danny Welbeck’s superb curling shot past former United keeper Tim Howard gave Sir Alex Ferguson’s men a 2-1 lead before Nani’s clever finish on the hour made it 3-1. Everton, however, wouldn’t lie down and Marouane Fellaini’s first time shot from Tony Hibbert’s cross cut United’s lead to 3-2. But when Welbeck fed up Rooney for the England striker’s second goal in the 69th minute, it appeared United had wrapped up all three points. Everton though had other ideas with Jelvić scoring his second seven minutes from time and, two minutes later, South Africa’s Steven Pienaar swept in Fellaini’s cross. United almost won the match in the 90th minute when Holebas took a long-range shot past Howard saved from Rio Ferdinand. —Internet

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**Ai Miyazato wins LPGA Tour event in Hawaii**

**Masters tournament in Monaco, Spain’s Rafael Nadal plays a return to Novak Djokovic of Serbia during their final match of the Monte Carlo Tennis Masters tournament in Monaco, Sunday 22 April, 2012.**

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**Al Miyazato wins LPGA Tour event in Hawaii**

**The ABC’s “Good Morning America” anchors (L to R) Robin Roberts, Sam Champion, Josh Elliott, Lara Spencer and George Stephanopoulos, celebrate becoming No. 1 ranking in the week of 9th April in New York in this 19 April, 2012 handout photo.**

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**Evil 2012 Handout Photo.**

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