Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham meets Brazilian counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 30 June—Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham met Finnish Foreign Minister Mr Erkki Tuomiosa at Pavilion 5 of Riocentro Building in Rio de Janeiro of the Federative Republic of Brazil on 20 June.

Also present at the meeting were Deputy Foreign Affairs Minister Dr Myo Myint, Myanmar Permanent Representative to the United Nations U Than Swe and Director-General of International Organizations and Economic Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs U Win Naing.

The meeting focused on Myanmar’s reform processes, strides for peace and economic development, and assistances of Finland in Myanmar’s peace and other processes.—MNA

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham receives Finnish Foreign Minister

NAY PYI TAW, 30 June—Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham met Finnish Foreign Minister Mr Erkki Tuomiosa at Pavilion 5 of Riocentro Building in Rio de Janeiro of Brazil.

MNA

Workshop focuses salvage of historical heritage Dhammazedii Bell

Indonesian delegation concludes visit

Monsoon trees planting ceremony for 2012 held in Shan State

NAY PYI TAW, 30 June—The Shan State monsoon trees planting ceremony for 2012 was held in the compound Yandaingaung Hsutaung-pyae MyoU Pagoda in Lashio on 28 June morning.

The participants led by Shan State Chief Minister U Sao Aung Myat planted altogether 2000 saplings of various kinds at the designated spots.

After looking into the growing of saplings, the state chief minister paid homage to the pagoda and made cash donations to members of the Pagoda Board of Trustees.

Next, the state chief minister attended the clarification on taxes held at the town hall and made a speech on the occasion. MNA
**PERSPECTIVES**

Sunday, 1 July, 2012

**The Great Bell of Dhammazedodi**

It remains ever unsolved lying at the bottom of a muddy confluence for four centuries hiding from explorers trying to spot its exact location for salvage. Many are previous attempts to bring back the Dhammazedodi Bell to its original place were unsuccessful because of the reasons including the existence of a number of shipwrecks in the area, poor visibility and 400 years of changing water currents and courses coupled with other natural forces such as low and high tides and silting.

Truly, the task of searching and salvaging the 270-ton ancient Bell is easier said than done as it is a gigantic mission involving a lot of hidden difficulties, problems and complex matters indicating firm commitment plus intellectual, technological, financial and human resources for achieving success.

Anyhow, it is a national task as Dhammazedodi Bell is our invaluable cultural heritage and the largest of its kind ever cast in the world. Moreover, the bell has many things to offer as its engraved writings will provide useful historical facts and we can study our ancient art of metal casting as the copper Bell included an alloy of gold, silver and tin.

In Yangon today, we held a workshop in which experts at home and abroad were presenting suggestions, means and action plans for the successful salvaging of the Great Bell of Dhammazedodi.

In addition to many suggestions and options, Union Minister for Information and for Culture U Kyaw Hsan in his opening address also stressed the job’s value, saying, “It is a national task so much important for all of us that we must accomplish the mission successfully.”

As we are going to use modern equipment and techniques, we must also aware of the environment factor, the water course and the traffic. Anyway, we are hopeful that the workshop will be a milestone in our dedicated task of preserving our centuries-old cultural heritage.

**Mawlamyine Tree-growing ceremony hails Myanmar Women’s Day**

**YANGON, 30 June—**The Workshop on Salvage of Dhammazedodi Bell was held at Chatrium Hotel on Natmauk Road, here, this morning. Member of Myanmar Historical Commission Dr Khin Maung Nyunt presided over the workshop. Member of MHC Dr Chi San (Chi San Win) introduced salvaging of historical heritage Dhammazedodi Bell.

CEO Mr Dean Lim of SD Mark International LLP Co recounted his experiences in salvage of underground materials and replied to queries raised by those present.

In the afternoon, the second-session workshop was presided over by Director-General Daw Nanda Hmnn of Historical Research Department. Professor Dr Nyein Nyen of Myanmar Department of Maubin University submitted the paper on “literary evidences and Panalwe region”, Rector Dr Charlie Than of Myanmar Maritime University “change of water flow at study on confluence of Yangon River and Bago River”, U Nay Min Hein of Society of Myanmar Civil Engineers (Singapore) “Method Statement of Salvage of Dhammazedodi Bell”, Daw Maw Maw (Lamin Eim-Pammyo Taw) “Dhammazedodi Bell and the Foreign Documentations” and U Htay Win (Pya Research) “Dhammazedodi Bell in Panalwe River and its location”.

In the third session, Secretary of MHC Dr Kyaw Win presided over the workshop. Assistant Lecturer Dr Nein Sin Lan of Port Engineering Department of MMU and Lecturer U Myint Thein of MMU University explained the paper “report on location of probable Dhammazedodi Bell”, Assistant Registrar Dr Tin Maung Oo of MMU Department of Archaeology and History while Dhammazedodi Bell “downed”, Director U Maung Maung Than of Ministry of Conservation and Forestry “Assessment on Land use and Land cover change around Pazundaung Creek” and U Nay Tun (Senior Engineer) “way to search exact location of Dhammazedodi Bell”.

Those present took part in the discussions.

**Workshop focuses on salvage of historical heritage Dhammazedodi Bell**

**YANGON, 30 June—**The Workshop on Salvage of Dhammazedodi Bell was held at Chatrium Hotel on Natmauk Road, here, this morning.

Member of MHC Dr Chi San (Chit San Win) speaking about salvage of Dhammazedodi Bell.—MNA

Director-General Daw Nanda Hmnn reviewed the discussions.

After the workshop, Union Minister for Information and for Culture U Kyaw Hsan cordially greeted the attendees and resource persons.

Also present on the occasion were Union Minister for Social Affairs Dr Myint Thein, Singaporean Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Robert Chua, members of Myanmar Historical Commission, departmental heads of the Ministry of Information and Ministry of Culture and officials of SD Mark International LLP Co of Singapore.

Based on facts and figures, suggestions and technologies from the workshop, duties and functions were assigned and necessary committees formed to search and save Dhammazedodi Bell in line with the prescribed laws.

**MBE provides grants and note books for needy students**

**YANGON, 30 June—**Myanmar Business Executive Group contributed grants and note books to needy students from 37 schools in Pyapon, Dedaye, and Kyaiklat. The contribution by the group amounted K 16.2 million with 2490 dozens of note books worth K 4 million.

**One killed in motor cycle mine blast**

**YANGON, 30 June—**A man was killed in a mine blast in Ayeya Ward of Myitkyina in Kachin State on 29 June.

The mine was supposed to be carried by the man himself which exploded as he was riding the motor cycle past Region-3 Gym in Ayeya Ward around 6 pm yesterday. The man was seriously wounded and died on the spot. The authorities concerned are investigating into the case.—MNA

**Nay Pyi Taw, 29 June—**To mark Myanmar Women’s Day that falls on 3 July, Mon State Women’s Affairs Association and Mawlamyine Township Forest Department organized to hold a tree-growing ceremony in front of Paritiyatti Dhamma Beikman in Myaynigon Ward, Mawlamyine this morning.

Among participants were Speaker of Mon State Hluttaw, Chief Justice of Mon State High Court, Advocate-General of the state, Auditor-General of the state, state ministers, State/ District/ Township level departmental heads, social organization members and locals.

A total of 550 saplings, shady trees and flowery plants were planted at the ceremony. MNA

**MNA**
**China responds to exemption from US sanctions**

BEIJING, 30 June — A Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman on Friday responded to a US State Department decision to exempt China from sanctions over imports of Iranian oil, stressing the Asian country’s opposition to sanctions imposed unilaterally. “China is always against one country’s unilateral sanctions on another country, according to its domestic law. It is even less acceptable for such unilateral sanctions to be imposed on a third country,” said Hong Lei, speaking at a regular Press conference.

Under America’s National Defense Authorization Act signed by US President Barack Obama late last year, the foreign financial institutions of governments who continue to purchase Iranian crude oil after 28 June, will be denied access to the US financial market. However, US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton on Thursday announced Washing-
Iconic Atari turns 40, tries to stay relevant

Washington, June 30 — A scholar, a youth, a man who worked at Atari before he founded Apple. “Pong,” one of the world’s first video games, was born there, as was “Centipede,” a classic from the era of quarter-guzzling arcade machines. “Call of Duty” creator Activision was started by four of Atari’s former game developers. The iconic video game company turns 40 years old this week, much slimmer these days as it turns 40 years old this week, Iconic video game company started by four of Atari’s arcade machines. “Call of the era of quarter-guzzling “Centipede,” a classic from

HOW YOUR BODY HEAT COULD POWER FUTURE DEVICES

Apples wins block of Samsung smartphone sales in US

New York, 30 June — A judge granted Apple’s request for an injunction blocking US sales of Samsung Galaxy Nexus smartphones made in collaboration with Google to challenge the iPhone. Friday’s ruling by US District Judge Lucy Koh was the second victory for California-based Apple this week in a dispute over IP rights.

Steve Guggenheimer, Microsoft’s corporate Vice-President of Surface, said in an interview with Reuters, “Microsoft will move from its position of corporate vice president of Microsoft’s original equipment manufacturer unit 1 July, the company said, to take up an unspecified new senior leadership job within the company. The move was a result of long-term planning, Microsoft said. Guggenheimer will replace another Microsoft executive from the unit, Nick Parker.

Microsoft broke with more than 30 years of focusing on software last Monday when it announced it would make two new devices called Windows 8 operating system, in an attempt to directly counter Apple Inc’s iPad and light-weight laptops. Some hardware makers complained they were kept in the dark about the move, which petulantly puts Microsoft in direct competition with PC manufacturers. —Reuters

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Airbus poised to invest $600 million in new US plant

New York, 30 June — Babybells born small or premature go on to develop autism at higher rates, although the risk is still small, according to a new study from Finland.

The research is part of a global effort to identify the culprits behind the developmental disorder and the recent uptick in its occurrence, which has had scientists scratching their heads for years.

“Previous reports of how birth weight or gestational age is associated with autism have not been consistent,” Dr Andre Sourander, a psychiatrist at Turku University, told Reuters by email.

“Because autism spectrum disorders are one of the major challenges in child mental health it is extremely important to get more understanding of its causes,” Sourander said. Autism spectrum disorders, which range from mild Asperger syndrome to severe mental retardation and social disability in childhood autism, are diagnosed in about one in 88 children in the US, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The new results, published in the Journal of Pediatrics, are based on almost two decades’ worth of data from more than one million children in the US.

As of 2005, the rate of autism in the Northern European country was 9 per 10,000 children, whereas Asperger was diagnosed in 14.3 children out of 10,000.

After accounting for the mother’s age, smoking, number of previous births and other factors, Sourander’s team found an increased risk of autism, but not Asperger syndrome, in preemies and babies that were very small at birth.

Small babies at higher risk of autism, not Asperger

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Kabul making progress on reforms: IMF

WASHINGTON, 30 June — Afghanistan has made progress on structural reforms despite a difficult environment, the IMF said on Friday as it approved the release of $18.2 million in new funds under its loan programme.

The International Monetary Fund said Kabul had moved ahead on targets to draft a value-added tax law, set a strategy to fight economic crimes, and strengthen the central bank’s capitalization framework. The IMF said it was releasing the second tranche of the $133.6 million loan programme approved in November even though Kabul had not met a goal on fiscal revenues.

“In a very difficult environment, Afghanistan has begun a transition toward greater macroeconomic stability and economic self-reliance,” IMF deputy managing director Nemat Shafik said. “The authorities have also reported on asset recovery from Kabul Bank where cash recoveries have increased following a presidential decree,” she added. “Going forward, the programme will continue to focus on safeguarding the financial sector, strengthening economic governance, and moving forward fiscal sustainability. While progress has been made on all these fronts, strong government ownership of the programme remains crucial to resist opposition from vested interests.”

The original IMF loan was held up for a year as foreign donors and the Fund pressed the government to deal with the massive Kabul Bank scandal, in which nearly one billion dollars were lost in a scheme involving many powerful Afghan businessmen and officials. The bank, once Afghanistan’s largest, had to be taken over by the central bank in late 2010 amid accusations that powerful former executivesiphoned off more than $900 million, some of which was used to buy luxury properties in Dubai.

A pair of young Afghans pose as US Marines walk past while conducting a patrol in Garmsir, Helmand Province. Afghanistan has made progress on structural reforms despite a difficult environment, the IMF said Friday as it approved the release of $18.2 million in new funds under its loan programme.

Afghanistan storm eastern Afghan district, killing 10

KABUL, 30 June — Hundreds of Taliban fighters stormed a remote district in eastern Afghanistan on Friday, sparking a fierce 12-hour battle in which 10 people were killed, including four civilians, an official said.

Afghan security forces fought off the attack in Kamdish district of Nuristan Province, which began in the early hours of Friday morning, with the help of NATO air strikes, provincial spokesman Mohammad Zarin told AFP. Zarin said more than 20 militants — who he said had infiltrated the district from across the border in Pakistan — were killed in the counterattack.

“More than 20 insurgents were killed and as many as 20 others wounded in the clash with security forces on the mountainous border area of Nuristan in 2010. — Internet

A Pakistani policeman walks past the wreckage of a destroyed bus after a bomb explosion on the outskirts of Quetta on 26 June. — Internet

Iraq attacks kill at least thirteen

BAGHDAD, 30 June — Bombings and shootings killed at least 13 people and wounded more than 50 across Iraq on Friday, security and medical officials said in a month that has seen at least 220 people killed in violence nationwide.

Twomotorcycles rigged with explosives exploded at the same time in two markets and a third went off near a police station in Balad north of Baghdad late on Friday, police said. Mohammed Radhi, a member of the Salaheddin provincial council, said seven people were killed and 50 wounded in the blasts.

A medical source at Balad hospital confirmed the toll, saying that some of the wounded were moved to Baghdad, some 70 kilometres (43 miles) south because their injuries were serious. Earlier, gunmen attacked a checkpoint in Khan Bani Saad south of the city of Baquba, killing four others.

Iraqi police have arrested some 24 suspects after the explosion.

An Iraqi man stands in the rubble of destroyed buildings following a car bomb in the Kadhimiyah District, on the outskirts of Baghdad on 13 June. — Internet

Pakistan car bomb toll rises to 15: police

QUETTA, 30 June — The death toll in a car bomb targeting a bus in Pakistan’s insurgency-torn southwest rose to 15 as police Friday arrested some two dozen suspects to investigate the attack, police said. Some 23 others were wounded in the bombing on a bus carrying Shiite pilgrims returning from Iran on Thursday in the Hazar Ganji area on the outskirts of Quetta city, the capital of the oil and gas rich Baluchistan province bordering Iran and Afghanistan. Police had earlier put the death toll at 13.

“The death toll has risen to 15 as more injured persons have succumbed to their wounds,” senior police official Hamid Shakel told AFP. Police raided various parts of the city and rounded up some 24 suspects after the attack, he said and added that they are being investigated for any clues in connection to the bombing.

The banned Sunni extremist group Lashkar-e-Jhangvi claimed responsibility for the killing in telephone calls to the local newspapers, saying the bus was targeted as it carried Shiites returning from Iraq.

Police said that they could not still confirm whether it was indeed a suicide attack. “We are investigating this aspect also, but cannot confirm now that it was a suicide bombing,” Kakar said. Markets were shut on Friday in Quetta after a strike call given by Shiite leaders to mourn the deaths. Baluchistan has become an increasing flashpoint for sectarian violence between Pakistan’s majority Sunni Muslims and minority Shiites, who account for around a fifth of the country’s population of over 170 million.

Baluchistan is also rife with Islamist militancy and a regional insurgency waged by separatists who rose up in 2004 demanding political autonomy and a greater share of profits from the region’s wealth of natural resources.

Around 5,000 people have been killed in outbreaks of sectarian violence between Sunni and Shiite militant groups in Pakistan since the late 1980s. — Internet

A Pakistani policeman walks past the wreckage of a destroyed bus after a bomb explosion on the outskirts of Quetta on 26 June. — Internet

Iraqi policemen salute as they march in a parade on the outskirts of Baghdad on 26 June. — Internet

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An Iraqi police officer stands guard near a police station, in the northern province of Nineveh, on June 26. — Internet

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The New Light of MyanmarSunday, 1 July, 2012

K 50000 per acre of loans disbursed

Ayeyawady Region Pyithu Administrator U Khin Min,
Nyaungdon Township

Abeyawady Region on 26 June.

Want to enjoy Film Festival in Japan

YANGON, 30 June—The Asian International Children’s Film Festival will be held in Minamiaiwaji of Japan on 24 November 2012.

The film festival is entitled with Meaning of Life for You. The participants are allowed to present images of friendship, hobby, environmental problems, earthquakes and wars with the Global Theme. They have the opportunity to depict three works in each country or region. The participant may be single or in group.

The participants of the teams are limited with nine members arranging from 12 to 18 youths headed by one leader. The works taken up to 7th September 2012 are to be put up at the DVD to the attachment of titles for the works, directors and schools for participants and then the works are to be sent to the Japanese Embassy.

MPT gives Internet services to CDMA phones

Mandalay, 30 June—Myanma Posts and Telecommunications of Mandalay Region freely sells GSM phone worth K 200,000 each and WCDMA phone worth K 250,000 at the public communication centre on 25th street between 80th and 81st street in Aungmyethazan Township of Mandalay with two photos of the users and copies of citizenship scrutiny cards.

At present, private phone shops sell GSM phones with numbers of 09-4025xxxx at K 220,000 and WCDMA with number 09-4440xxxxxx at K 290,000. Myanma Posts and Telecommunications puts phones on sales at correct prices, its communication rate is speedier than GSM.

Shade and flowery plants grown in Okpo

Oovo, 30 June—Hailing Myanmar Women’s Day, the shade and flowery plants were grown at the road leading to Okpo on 25 June morning.

Pyithu Hluttau representative U Tin Htwe, Bago Region Hluttau representative U Tin Soe, Deputy Commissioner U Hla Myo of District General Administration Department, the chairperson of District Women’s Affairs Organization, district and township level Forest Departments and staff, students and local people grew trees, ironwood, mahogany and eucalyptus saplings.

Tree growing ceremony marks Myanmar Women’s Day

THAYAWADY, 30 June—As a gesture of hailing the Myanmar Women’s Day, Thayawady District of Bago Region held the rainy season tree growing ceremony for contributing to the environmental conservation was held in the place near District General Administration Department on 24 June morning.

The ceremony was jointly organized by Thayawady District Forest Department and District Women’s Affairs Organization.

At the ceremony, Pyithu Hluttau representative U Maung Maung, Region Hluttau representative U Tin Soe, Deputy Commissioner U Hla Myo of District General Administration Department, the chairperson of District Women’s Affairs Organization, district and township level Forest Departments and staff, students and local people grew trees, ironwood, mahogany and eucalyptus saplings.

PRIZES PRESENTED: A ceremony to present prizes to winners in the essay, painting, cartoon and poster contest in commemoration of the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking was held at Pakokku Education College in Pakokku District on 26 June. Commander of District Police Force Police Li-CoL Zaw Win gives prizes to the winners.

Manway Alin

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Union Minister for Information and for Culture addresses opening of workshop on salvaging Dhammazedi Bell

YANGON, 30 June—The Workshop on salvaging Dhammazedi Bell, jointly organized by Historical Research Department of the Ministry of Culture and SD Mark International LLP Co of Singapore, kicked off at Chatrium Hotel on Natmauk Road, here, at 9 AM today, with an address by Union Minister for Information and for Culture U Kyaw Hsan.

Also present on the occasion were Union Minister for Environmental Conservation and Forestry U Win Tun, Union Minister for Transport U Nyan Tun Aung, Chief Minister of Yangon Region U Myint Swe, Deputy Minister for Culture Daw Sandra Khin, Deputy Minister for Construction U Kyaw Lwin, Yangon Region Minister for Finance and Revenue Daw San San Nwe, Region Minister for Social Affairs Dr Myint Thein, Singaporean Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Robert Chau, members of Myanmar Historical Commission, departmental heads of Ministry of Information and Ministry of Culture, officials of SD Mark International LLP Co of Singapore, resource persons and guests.

Speaking on the occasion, the Union Minister said that he wished Union Ministers, Yangon Region Chief Minister, deputy ministers, region ministers, resource persons, Myanmar Historical Commission members, historians, archaeologists, rectors and professors, wellwishers, donors, organizations, members of NGOs, distinguished guests and journalists health and happiness. He said that he thanked all those who contributed to organizing the workshop a reality.

Through coordination, the workshop focused on seeking suggestions, means and action programs for the successful salvaging of the Great Bell of Dhammazedi which is invaluable cultural heritage.

Historical records say the Bell was cast of 180,000 viss (290 tons) of metal. The bell in Moscow which is said to be the largest in the world is just 128 tons in weight. So, Dhammazedi Bell is much larger than its Moscow cousin. Records also said it had writing engraved from top to bottom all around its circumference. So, it was an invaluable ancient heritage.

Actually, the workshop was part of efforts for promoting national pride and preserving centuries-old cultural heritage and national characteristics.

He expressed his view that it is a national task so much important for all that they must accomplish the mission successfully. So, he said that he is optimistic the workshop would produce a firm commitment for the success of the mission.

According to the history of Thanlyin (Syrian) ancient city state, palm leave manuscripts on Mon history, paper on mission. The Bell was cast from an alloy of copper, gold, silver and tin. So, we need special research as well as advanced techniques for salvaging and transport.

Historical records say the Bell is 520 years old and has been lying underwater for 400 years. So, they said the Bell was cast from an alloy of copper, gold, silver and tin. So, its nature is huge, and the nature of work that is difficult and complicated. So, they must apply means that have no adverse impact on natural water course, navigation and the environment.

Research works at Panawhle region where Bago river, Yangon river and Ngamooyeik creek meet will also be conducted along the course of the process.

As the work is difficult and huge, it takes time. Its success calls for a large array of intellectual, technological, financial and human resources. But it is a priceless historical cultural heritage for the nation and people. So, he said that he would like to request participation from the people of all walks of life including those in the religious order, masses and classes, political parties, and the media with nationalism as the base.

He said that he would like to express thanks again to resource persons of foreign institutions, local experts, resource persons from ministries, and distinguished guests. Moreover, he requested continuous involvement of all ministries and experts in the whole process.

If the Bell can be saved, it will be able to:

place our invaluable cultural heritage back on the platform of Shwedagon Pagoda as globally shining glory apart from enhancing the image;

study ancient Myanmar metal casting skills, engraved writings, and historical facts and evidences, helping to fill the blanks history has left behind.

It will attract attention of the people around the world and help develop Myanmar’s tourism industry.

Again he would like to express special thanks to Singaporean S.D Mark International LLP, its CEO and other officials that values more to the task of salvaging a priceless cultural artifact than the cost they are going to bear. He also thanked Union ministers, the region chief minister, honored guests.

Later, the Union ministers, the region chief minister, deputy ministers, local and foreign experts and resource persons posed for documentary photo.

Union EP-2 Minister inspects power plants in Mandalay Region

NAWPHO TAW, 30 June—Union Minister for Electric Power No (2) U Khin Maung Soe met staff of 132-KV Power Plant in Pyigyidaw Township in Mandalay Region this morning.

He inspected control panel room and left necessary instructions.

The Union minister also visited 33/11-KV power plant in Changkhaukzay Township and 132-KV and 230-KV power plants in Patheinji Township.

He also inspected generators in Mandalay to supply electricity to the city if there is any electricity outage.

MNA
Union Science and Technology Minister receives Singaporean guests

NAY PYI TAW, 30 June—Managing Director of National Instruments ASEAN of Singapore Mr Chandran Nair and party paid a call on Union Minister for Science and Technology U Aye Myint at the ministry, here yesterday morning and discussed development of competent human resources and cooperation in science and technology sector.

Present at the call were Deputy Minister Dr Ko Ko Oo and Director-General of Dr Zaw Min Aung.—MNA

Education Ministry holds tree planting and fingerling releasing ceremony

NAY PYI TAW, 30 June—Union Minister for Education Dr Mya Aye and Deputy Minister U Ba Shwe participated in monsoon tree planting and fingerling releasing ceremony at the ministry this morning.

Staff planted saplings and released fingerlings into the dam. A total of 1557 saplings were planted and 10350 fingerlings were released at today’s ceremony.—MNA

Mon State Chief Minister attends state-level informal primary education activity launch in Mawlamyine

NAY PYI TAW, 30 June—Mon State Chief Minister U Ohn Myint on 28 June morning addressed at the launch of a state-level informal primary education activity for 2012-2013, which took place at Yadana Man Hall of No. 6 Basic Education High School in Mawlamyine in Mon State.

At the opening, cash donation worth K 5 million for the development of Thaton Township, made by Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe, was handed over by Township, here this morning. Mon State Minister for Transport U Tun Hlaing to Mon State Chief Minister. Donors presented cash assistance for Mawlamyine, Mudon, Kyaikto and Paung Townships.

The donation amounted K 8.5 million for the activity will be used to implement in Mawlamyine, Mudon, Kyaikto, Thaton and Paung Townships. At the prize-presenting ceremony of Mawlamyine University, the Chief/Minister awarded the first, second and third winners who won in the essay contest and in-charge rector Dr Htay Aung of Mawlamyine University and Professor of the English Department of the University Daw Hnin Hnin Wai presented prizes to the victors of the essay contest. —MNA

Indonesian delegation concludes visit

YANGON, 30 June—President of ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly Speaker of House of Representatives of Indonesia Dr Marzuki Ali Se MM and party concluded their goodwill visit this noon.

The Indonesian delegation was seen off by Chairman of Amyotha Hluttaw ASEAN Political and Security Community Committee U Nyunt Tin and officials of AIPA President, Speaker of House of Representatives of Indonesia Dr Marzuki Ali Se MM and party at Yangon International Airport.—MNA

Mingaladon GAD provides grants to students

YANGON, 30 June—Mingaladon Township General Administration Department of Yangon North District provided grants to offspring of its staff for 2012-2013 academic year on 28 June. Township Administrator U Neung Han presented K 196,000 for 30 students.—MNA

Rail Transportation Minister calls for coordination in implementing reform processes

NAY PYI TAW, 30 June—Union Minister for Rail Transportation U Aung Min addressed meeting of the ministry on reform processes at the ministry this morning.

He said electricity, transportation and communication play key roles in development of the country. He urged respective departments to review and implement reform processes. The minister called for coordination with the staff in implementing reform strategy and development of the regions and people. He also called for systematically drafting reform processes.—MNA

Hotel 7 Mile opened in Mayangon Tsp

YANGON, 30 June—Hotel 7 Mile on Gonmyint Yeikha Street in Mayangon Township was opened this morning, attended by Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe.

The hotel is constructed as local 3 star level with 52 rooms and one meeting hall. —MNA

Timber certification course conducted

YANGON, 30 June—A timber certification course aiming at sustainable development of forest was opened at Myanmar Timber Entrepreneurs Association in UMFCCI Office Tower on Minye Kyaw Swa Street, Lanmadaw Township, here this morning.

Chairman of MTEA Myanmar Timber Certification Committee U Shwe Kyaw and Mr Van Hensbergen Hubertus Jacobus and McNilson Josefien of SSC Forestry of Sweden gave lectures on timber certifications to 35 personnel from Myanmar Timber Enterprise, Forest Department, NGOs and MTEA members.

SSC Forestry delegation during its visit in Myanmar observed timber extraction works of MTE, forest reserves and natural reserves and made recommendations for forest development and communal forest development. —MNA

Universities Men’s Table Tennis Championship concludes

NAY PYI TAW, 30 June—Final match of Universities Men’s Table Tennis Championship was played yesterday at Mandalay University Gymnasium.

Mau Lin Hein of Mandalay University overwhelmed Maung Thein Zin of Myingyan Degree College in the final showdown.

Deputy Directors-General Dr Aung Win Kyi, Dr Thein Win and Dr Soe Win of Higher Education Department (Upper Myanmar) awarded winners.

Mandalay Region Social Affairs Minister Dr Win Hlaing awarded championship shield to Mandalay University team.—MNA

SPED DG meets athletes

YANGON, 30 June—General Secretary of Myanmar Olympic Committee Director-General of Sports and Physical Education Department U Thaung Htaik yesterday met sportspersons who will compete in international games at Kyaikkasan Sports Ground in Tamway of Yangon Region.

The chess, track and field and Karatedo players introduced themselves and officials explained preparations for the international events. The director-general attended to the needs.—MNA

Ayeyawady to fall below its danger level in Katha

NAY PYI TAW, 30 June—According to the (12.30) hr M.S.T observation today, the water level of Ayeyawady River at Katha (1050) cm has exceeded by (10) cm (about3-4ft) above its danger level. It may fall below its danger level (1040) cm during the next (48) hours commencing noon today, announced Department of Meteorology and Hydrology.—MNA

RESPECT-PAYING CEREMONY HELD: Mudon Township Thabin Ayaslon on 25 June held the 80th respect-paying ceremony and its annual meeting at its office in Mon State. Ayaslon members presented cash and kind to a total of 12 senior members.—MNA
Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Union Election Commission
Nay Pyi Taw
Directive No (1/2012)
11th Waxing of First Wase, 1374 ME
(29 June, 2012)

Subject: Compiling list of fund, finance and materials of party systematically

1. Union Election Commission has issued this directive in pursuant to Section 26 of Political Parties Registration Law as regards keeping and spending of fund, finance and using of materials of parties.

2. Political parties which are granted permission to register at Union Election Commission have the right to issue party membership certificates, collect membership fee and monthly fees and campaign in line with the rules of the party. Furthermore, they have the right to fund campaign of the party and pay set allowances for Hluttaw candidates who represent the party during a term of Hluttaw under Section 16 of Political Parties Registration Law and Rule 21.

3. Political parties shall keep accounts, records and evidences after compiling the following lists in line with Sections 15 and 16 of Political Parties Registration Law and Rules 19 and 21 as regards maintenance and usage of fund, finance and materials owned by the party.
   
   a. Account of party membership and monthly fees,
   b. List of cash and materials donated to the party by a citizen, an organization or national company or group of companies inside the country from legally extracted cash and materials,
   c. List of legally extracted cash and profit from business activities managed by the party,
   d. Fund and budget of the party,
   e. List of materials owned and purchased by the party,
   f. List of campaign fund drawn on in line with the rules of the party, and
   g. List of campaign fund drawn on by each of Hluttaw candidates.

4. Political parties shall complete compiling annual financial statement for each fiscal year and annual list of party-owned materials, auditing the records under the rules and regulations of the party within three months from the end of a fiscal year.

5. Union Election Commission and subcommissions at each level, with the help of relevant government department and organizations, will audit lists of a party, if necessary, under Political Parties Registration Law Section 18 and Rule 23.

6. So, political parties are directed to systematically compiling fund, finance and materials of the party under the law and rules as stated in paragraph (3) and to prepare for audits of the commission and subcommissions at each level as stated in paragraph (4).

Signed by
Tin Aye
Chairman
Union Election Commission

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Tawwin bus line extends its route at Khayaybin Junction

KAYIN, 30 June—The council area of Kayin Khayaybin Junction in Kayin has extended its route from the Kayin Khayaybin to the Kayin Khayaybin Junction in Zeyathiri. The bus route is now connecting the two areas, making transportation easier for the people in the region. The extension of the route is expected to benefit the local community by providing better access to various services, including education and healthcare.

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Cash donated to fund of rural library in Kawa

KAWA, 30 June—A ceremony to donate cash to the fund of Almanht Library was held in Kawa Township, Bago Region on 17 June afternoon. Daw Wai Wai Thin of the Education Sub-Working Group under Social and Cultural Working Group under Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation donated K100,000 to the library.

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Union F&R Minister receives foreign guests

Union Minister for Finance & Revenue U Hla Tun received Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Li Junhua at the ministry here this morning. They discussed matters related to cooperation in Myanmar’s development measures including rural development and poverty alleviation tasks, loans of Chinese banks and cooperation in banking and monetary sector.

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Rainy season tree growing ceremony held in Kawthoung

KAWTHOUNG, 30 June—The rainy season tree growing ceremony of Forest Department was held at point 1199 and along the uphill road to Koenawin Hill in Ayemyakantha Ward of Kawthoung in Taninthayi Region on 23 June morning. Deputy Commissioner U Myint Than of the District General Administration Department, Assistant Director U Min Htet of District Forest Department, Township Administrator U Pa Si and departments concerned, Staff Officer U Myo Min Naing of Township Forest Department and staff, members of social organizations and local people planted 800 mahogany and 400 ironwood saplings.

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Micro-credit cooperative limited formed

SINGU, 30 June—As a gesture of hailing International Cooperatives Day 2012, a ceremony to constitute Sthreeithi Micro-credit Cooperative limited was held at its office in Singu on 8 June morning. At First, Township Administrator U Win Naing and chairman of the meeting Chairman of Township Level Organizing Commission Staff Officer Daw Mu Ma made a speech. Chairman of the society U Tin Nyunt and five members of Board of Directors including executive director U Hla Thaung, and audits U Maung Ko and U Myint Hsaw were elected at the ceremony.

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Direct News

Myanmar Alin
China to lead talks on nuclear definitions
WASHINGTON, 30 June — China will lead talks among the five original nuclear-armed states to define arms-control terms, the group said on Friday, a first for Beijing and France. China and France are expected to launch talks this summer on a glossary of nuclear terms, an arcane but necessary step for wider talks on disarmament. Of the five original nuclear-weapons states within the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, China is the most secretive about its arsenal, its stockpile of fissile material and its nuclear doctrine, analysts say.

Under the treaty, which entered into force in 1970, the five committed to pursuing disarmament, while the other signatories committed to develop or acquire nuclear weapons. Rose Gottemoeller, the acting US under-secretary of state for arms control and international security, said the United States and Russia have a far better grasp of each other’s nuclear posture than they do of China’s. China’s leadership of the so-called P5 group, described in a statement issued by the five nations on Friday at the end of a three-day conference, could signal its greater interest in cooperating on these issues.

Obama pledges aid on Colorado wildfire visit
COLORADO SPRINGS, 30 June — President Barack Obama on Friday promised federal assistance for Colorado’s worst-ever wildfire as he toured damage in a mountainous area south of Denver. While fire officials said 20,000 homes were threatened by the flames, Obama began his three-hour visit with an Air Force One fly-over of a burning neighborhood, a joint statement said.

Obama welcomed the outcome as a “tangible step” toward a European banking union that could help shore up a struggling member state. “It is a first step to break the vicious circle between banks and sovereigns,” European Council President Herman Van Rompuy told a final news conference after talks which lasted past midnight.

Obama is still pleased with the outcome of the European Union leaders’ summit this week, which ended with a decision to set up a temporary European Stability Mechanism (ESM) to provide funds to troubled members of the euro zone.

WTO rules against US in meat labelling case
GENEVA, 30 June — The World Trade Organization on Friday ruled a US meat labelling programme unfairly discriminated against Mexico and Canada, putting pressure on the United States to bring the scheme in line with WTO rules. The WTO’s Appellate Body said the United States’ country-of-origin labelling rules, commonly known as COOL, were wrong because they gave less favourable treatment to US products exported from Mexico and Canada, the countries that brought the case, than to US meat.

The decision is not subject to appeal, but gives the United States time to comply and does not immediately alter the labelling rules. US officials hailed other parts of the decision, which they said confirmed the right to adopt country-of-origin labels, even though the United States will have to change how it operates the programme.

Strong quake hits remote western China: USGS
BEIJING, 30 June — A magnitude 6.3 quake struck a remote region of western China close to the Kazakhstani border early on Saturday, the US Geological Survey said.

A graphic locates the site of an earthquake in western China. A magnitude 6.3 quake struck a remote region of western China, close to the Kazakhstani border, early on Saturday, the US Geological Survey said.

China quake: USGS

EU deal for Spain, Italy buoys markets but details sketchy
BRUSSELS, 30 June — Under pressure to prevent a catastrophic breakup of the single currency, euro zone leaders agreed on Friday to let their rescue fund inject capital directly into stricken banks from next year and intervene on bond markets to support troubled member states.

The deal was widely seen as a political victory for embattled Italian Prime Minister Mario Monti and his Spanish counterpart, Mariano Rajoy, over German Chancellor Angela Merkel, who had brushed aside any need for such emergency measures earlier this week. ECB President Mario Draghi endorsed the “tangible results” which sent the euro nearly 2 percent higher and sharply cut Spanish and Italian bond yields.

The meagre steps to shore up their common currency were no more than a temporary fix. The financial system is still under threat and the economic backdrop is bleak.

The ECB had been expected to pump billions into the banking system on Tuesday, but that dovetail into a 14-hour tense talks that ended at 4:30 am (0230 GMT), the G17 leaders agreed on a series of short-term measures to stabilize the euro zone.

But expansion of the euro zone’s rescue fund and the establishment of a permanent euro zone bailout fund will be considered after the budget policy recommendations, a joint statement said.

Intergovernmental position: European Council President Herman Van Rompuy addresses a news conference after a European Union leaders summit on June 29, 2012. —REUTERS
China dairy recalls hundreds of cartons of tainted milk

BEIJING, 30 June — A Chinese dairy company has recalled hundreds of cartons of milk after a mechanical error tainted the batch with alkaline water, the latest blow to China’s scandal-plagued dairy industry. The recall comes just weeks after China’s top-selling dairy firm, Inner Mongolia Yili Industrial Group Co, pulled six months’ worth of infant formulas from shelves due to mercury contamination.

China’s milk industry is struggling to restore consumer confidence after a series of scandals, the worst of which was in 2008 when milk and infant formula laced with the industrial chemical melamine killed at least six children and made nearly 300,000 ill. Latest incident, the Bright Dairy & Food Co, called “Sen’ or ‘Kaku Kaku,” Ishihara said, as quoted by Xinhua.

Tokyo governor’s panda naming proposal a “cheap farce”: FM spokesman

BEIJING, 30 June — Chinese Friday called Governor of Tokyo Shintaro Ishihara’s proposal to name a panda cub a “cheap farce.”

A seconds-long mechanical delay during routine maintenance at one of its Shanghai factories caused a “small amount” of alkaline cleaning solution to be flushed into 300 cartons of milk produced on Monday, the company’s notice said.

“We deeply apologize for any impact this has had on our customers. From today on, we will strictly strengthen relevant management procedures,” it said, thanking media and customers for their “supervision.” — Reuters

China urges parties in Afghanistan to continue inclusive political dialogue

UNITED NATIONS, 30 June — China hopes parties concerned in Afghanistan will continue to be devoted to an inclusive political dialogue and peace process in order to realize national reconciliation, said Li Baodong, Chinese permanent representative to the United Nations here on Wednesday. His statement came as he addressed a Security Council open meeting on the situation in Afghanistan. “Thanks to the joint efforts by the Afghan government and its people and under the support by the international community, there has been positive progress in the situation in Afghanistan,” Li told the meeting.

“China supports the reconciliation and reintegration process led by Afghan government,” Li said. “We hope that various parties in Afghanistan will remain committed to an inclusive political dialogue and peace process so as to achieve national reconciliation.” “It is of vital importance that the next elections in Afghanistan will be held smoothly. China welcomes the preparations carried out by Afghan government in this regard,” he said.—Xinhua

EU leaders agree on compact for growth, jobs

BRUSSELS, 30 June — European Union top leaders have agreed on a compact for growth and jobs that aims at long-term economic revival as the two-day summit tackling the eurozone debt crisis ended here on Friday.

The compact, a total of 120 billion euros (about 150 US dollars) are being mobilized for growth measures to boost the financing of the economy, European Council President Herman Van Rompuy said at the Press conference.

The compact aims at launching growth, investment and employment as well as making Europe more competitive. Country-specific recommendations have also been endorsed to guide relative policies and budgets of EU member states, according to the conclusions of the summit. —Xinhua

Guatemala sends dozens of drug traffickers to prison

GUATEMALA CITY, 30 June — A Guatemalan court sentenced 36 alleged members of a powerful Mexican drug cartel to prison on Wednesday for various crimes, including dismembering a state prosecutor who was investigating the gang. Judges determined that the three dozen gang members, including seven of those arrested for at least three murders in the northern region of Peten last year.

Prosecutors said the attorney general’s office is investigating 10 of the 36 suspects for their participation in trafficking arms and murder. Seven of those arrested were found responsible for kidnapping and decapitating prosecutor Allan Stoswinski in Coban, north of the capital, leaving his arms and legs in bags in front of his office and his head in a central market.

China calls "Senkaku Islands" (China's Diaoyu Islands) belong to China no matter what Japan does, as Japan cannot change the fact that the Diaoyu Islands belong to China no matter what names Ishihara gives to Chinese pandas, he cannot change the fact that the pandas belong to China, just as Japan cannot change the fact that the Diaoyu Islands belong to China no matter what names it gives to the islands and their adjacent islets, he added. — Xinhua

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EU leaders agree on compact for growth, jobs
**Man travelling from Minnesota to Florida in kayak**

A Florida man is travelling from the northernmost point in Minnesota to the southernmost point of Key West, Fla., in a kayak. According to his Instagram feed, the attention-grabbing journey was undertaken to raise awareness for an environmental organization that he supports. The journey has been documented on social media, with updates on his progress and the challenges he faces. **Japanese fans flock to meet S Korea boyband**

**INTERNET**

SEOUL, 30 June — Thousends of Japanese fans flocked to South Korea to see an exhibition dedicated to boyband JYJ and meet members of the K-pop group who have taken Asia by storm. JYJ has invited 7,000 Japanese fans to an exhibition centre in southern Seoul featuring performance costumes, trophies, film footage, pictures and favourite items of each member. 

Hoagolams of the three band members were placed to guide fans and explain the show. "This event was organized for the fans... I hope they create many good memories here with us," said Kim Jae-joong at the show launch on Thursday. The group, which is also winning a fan base far beyond the South Korean and Latin American fan base.

**Rock in Rio festival to defray Spanish austerity**

**INTERNET**

MADEIRO, 30 June—One of the world's biggest festivals, Rock in Rio, opens in recession-hit Spain this week, vowing to defy the misery of austerity with rock, and food. We gave people tickets to the festival in Rio, said Pablo Rodríguez, mayor of Arganda del Rey, the town southeast of Madrid where the festival venue, the man-made “City of Rock”, rises amid parched yellow fields. The food donations supplied branches of the charities Caritas and the Red Cross for their local programmes to help the needy. “We gathered 15 tonnes of non-perishable food like sugar and oil – many more than we had asked for,” and gave out 3,000 tickets to the festival in return, Rodriguez added. —INTERNET

**Tennessee couple find, return $12,000**

A Tennessee couple who found a bag containing more than $12,000 on top of a convenience store trash can said it never crossed their minds to keep the money. Kenneth Allen and his wife Kristy found the bank bag with $12,764.73 and a man’s wallet on 23 June, evening, Jim Knoll, a spokesman for the Clarksville police, said in a release. 

Kenneth told the Clarksville Leaf-Chronicle he never thought to keep the money because “that’s not the right thing to do.” “I knew I had to return it,” he said. “Someone might have needed that for something really important.” The Allens tried to track down the owner, but after no success, turned the investigation over to Clarksville police. Officers found the owner, a 51-year-old man who had suffered a reaction to medication and was hospitalized. That’s why the bag was left behind, Knoll said. 

Kenneth added, “If anyone else had found this money, they’d have thrown one heck of a party,” he said. “We were meant to find it.”

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**Air force plane and crew missing for 60 years discovered on Alaska glacier**

A US Air Force plane that disappeared 60 years ago in Alaska has been found on a glacier, 14 miles from where it originally crashed into a mountain.

The C-124 Globemaster and its crew of 52 servicemen were lost when the plane crashed in November 1952. A military spokesman said that a recovery team is still working to officially identify debris found on Colony Glacier, about 45 miles east of Anchorage, that the military believes it to be from the long-missing place.

“Some of the evidence positively correlates to the United States Air Force Globemaster that crashed in 1952,” said Captain Jamie Dobson of the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command (JPAC), which specializes in recovering remains of lost military personnel, the Associated Press reports.

An Alaska National Guard helicopter crew conducting a routine training mission in the area first spotted the wreckage on 10 June. The findings, which reportedly include suspected bone fragments, are currently being analyzed at JPAC’s laboratory in Hawaii.

“They weren’t seeing human remains, but they saw some other stuff,” Dobson said.

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**Helen Mirren wins award as Czech film festival opens**

**INTERNET**

PRAGUE, 30 June—British actress Helen Mirren added a “crystal globe” to her collection of awards Friday as the Czech Republic’s Karlovy Vary international film festival opened for its 47th edition.

The festival’s jury will consider 12 films and announce a grand-prize winner at its closing ceremony, when actress Susan Sarandon will also be present. The Czech jury has added a “crystal globe” to its awards list this year.

“I do operas that I think people want to see. They come from all around the country,” said La Selva, founder and general manager of the La Selva production.—INTERNET

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**Japanese fans flock to meet S Korea boyband**

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The group, which is also winning a fan base far beyond the South Korean and Latin American fan base, will personally meet the Japanese fans on Saturday and Korean fans on Sunday. According to the band’s publicist, the Japanese fans paid an average 30,000 yen ($360) for a three-day tour to Korea after winning a draw held among 15,000 JYJ fans in their country.

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**Midsummer night’s dream: free outdoor opera in NY**

**INTERNET**

NEW YORK, 30 June—It is an opera lover’s midsummer night’s dream: a picnic blanket, a bottle of wine and blissful strains of Mozart, Verdi or Puccini in New York’s Central Park.

This year, under the baton of the octogenarian maestro Vincent La Selva, music lovers enjoyed a production of Giacamo Puccini’s “Tosca.”

The performance took place in Central Park’s Naumburg Bandshell, where many music lovers snubbed the amphitheater’s built-in seats in favour of folding lawn chairs or simply took in the music while reclining on the grass.

“I do operas that I think people want to see. They come from all around the country,” said La Selva, founder and director of the New York Grand Opera, which staged the free public production. —INTERNET

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**Tom Cruise and Katie Holmes divorcing**

**INTERNET**

LOS ANGELES, 30 June—It all seemed more than a little weird, didn’t it? The whirlwind romance of Tom Cruise and Katie Holmes to their very public, very emphatic proclamations of love. It all occurred so quickly and — soundly to seem real. Now, after nearly six years of marriage, Holmes is divorcing Cruise. She filed the papers on Thursday, said Cruise’s lawyer Bert Fields. The two share a daughter, 6-year-old Suri, who’s been featured in celebrity media nearly as frequently as her parents.

But it’s telling that even in addressing their split in the typically vague fashion of famous people, Cruise still refers to Holmes by the name she called him: Kate, as if to distance her from the adorable Katie audiences came to know and love from the teen soap “Dawson’s Creek.”

“Kate has filed for divorce and Tom is deeply saddened by the news,” he called it. Katie, as if to distance her from the adorable Katie audiences came to know and love from the teen soap “Dawson’s Creek.”

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**JYJ doesn’t visit Japan often so I came here to see them,” said Saito Okai, 22, who flew in from Fukuoka. “Of course I plan to come next year and I’m thankful such an event is being held to show the items, photos and footage of all three members.”

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**Man travelling from Minnesota to Florida in kayak**

A Florida man is travelling from the northernmost point in Minnesota to the southernmost point of Key West, Fla., in a kayak. Daniel Alvarez, who won $10,000 adventure grant from Outdoor Magazine for his 4,000-mile kayak trip, said his “heart of America paddling journey” crosses both as an adventure for himself and a chance to promote environmental organizations Friends of the Boundary Waters Wilderness, American Rivers, Gulf Restoration Network and the Florida Wildlife Federation, the Tallahassee (Fla.) Democrat reported.

“I want this trip to be more than just my fun adventure,” he said. “The wilderness has already given me so much. I want to give back.”

Alvarez, who is currently making his way through Minnesota’s Boundary Waters Wilderness, said he will head from Lake Superior to the Mississippi River and then to the Gulf of Mexico for the last leg of his journey.
Spain, Italy rematch in historic Euro 2012 final

KIEV, 30 June—And so they meet again at Euro 2012. This time, however, Spain and Italy are playing for the European Championship and a place in the history books. The Mediterranean rivals meet on Sunday in Kiev’s Olympic Stadium, three weeks after they drew 1-1 in their opening match of the tournament’s group stage. As the defending champion and World Cup holder, Spain is bidding to win a third straight major title, cementing its place as one of the greatest national teams. It would also match Germany’s record of three European Championship titles.

Spain’s Andres Iniesta scores his penalty shootout during the Euro 2012 soccer championship semifinal match between Spain and Portugal in Donetsk, Ukraine, on 27 June, 2012.—INTERNET

“Spain remain favorites because of the years of hard work that they have put in. They have been dominant in every game they’ve played so far.”

Spain hasn’t lost in a European Championship since 2004 and has already matched West Germany as the only defending champion to return to the final after winning the World Cup. The West Germans managed it in 1974, but Spain will be following Argentina and Panenka’s famous chip shot in a penalty shootout. This final brings together teams with players brazen enough to have successfully copied Panenka’s audacious spot kick during their penalty shootouts in the knock-out rounds. Spain defender Sergio Ramos used it in the semifinal win over Portugal, after Pirlo employed it against England in the quarterfinals.

It also features the tournament’s best defensive team against one of its most exciting attacking squads. Spain has not conceded a goal since that opening draw with Italy and hasn’t been scored upon in nine elimination games at major tournaments. Balotelli, Antonio Cassano and Pirlo are leading one of Italy’s top attacking teams in recent history.

“We always just tried to play, I think that is our strength,” said Prandelli, whose team is bidding to give Italy its second Euro title on Thursday, but will now have to face any of the world’s top three on his route to the final. The world number four faces Cyprus’ Marcos Baghdatis, who beat Murray at Wimbledon in June 2006 on his way to the semi-final. In the women’s draw, four-times winner Serena Williams faces China’s Zheng Jie.

Felix, Tarmoh easily advance to 200 final

EUGENE, 30 June—Maybe the response just slipped. Or maybe the question completely caught her guard. As Allyson Felix sauntered away from the crowd and toward the safety of a restricted area, she actually broke her vow of silence. “Feeling good,” she said in almost a hushed voice. And then she was off again, escorted by coach Bobby Kersee. Felix is looking solid on the track even in the midst of controversy, winning her second heat of the semi-final heat at Olympic trials on Friday. Same with training partner Jeneba Tarmoh, who moments earlier captured her race convincingly, too.

After the 200 final Saturday, these two sprinters will finally address what everyone is anxious to know. Just how will they break their third-place tie in the 100 and decide who earns the final spot to the London Games in the event. A runoff? A flip of the coin? Soon, there will be a choice. Maybe even something as simple as one of them surrendering the spot to the other. The controversy has overshadowed everything at the trials. Including this: Some of the biggest names in US athletics had to go through the starting blocks in the opening round of the men’s 200 meters. 200meters. Justin Gatlin and Tyson Gay were expected to sit out this race after securing spots to London in the 100.

INTERNATIONAL SPORTS

Djokovic drops set to Stepanek, comes back to win

WINDSOR, 30 June—Top-seeded Novak Djokovic dropped a set against No 28 Radek Stepanek before coming back to win 4-6, 6-2, 6-2, 6-4 on Friday, reaching the Wimbledon quarter-final round at Windsor.

Djokovic is trying to become the first man since Roger Federer in 2007 to win consecutive titles at the All England Club. A day after two-time Wimbledon champion Rafael Nadal stunningly lost to 100th-ranked Lukas Rosol in the second round under the roof at Centre Court, Djokovic fell behind another Czech player with the stadium covered.

But after getting broken at love to end the first set, Djokovic recovered quickly.

Novak Djokovic of Serbia reacts to a shot by Radek Stepanek of the Czech Republic during a third round men’s singles match at the All England Lawn Tennis Championships at Wimbledon, on 29 June, 2012.—INTERNET

He broke Stepanek in the first game of each of the last three sets. Djokovic now faces 34th-ranked Viktor Troicki in an all-Serbian match. Troicki beat No 15 Juan Monaco 7-5, 7-5, 6-2.

Lukas Rosol of the Czech Republic celebrates after defeating Rafael Nadal of Spain in their men’s singles tennis match at the Wimbledon tennis championships in London on 28 June, 2012.—REUTERS

LONDON, 30 June—After creating one of the biggest shocks in living memory, Lukas Rosol’s reward for his victory over Rafa Nadal is a third round clash against Germany’s Philipp Kohlschreiber on Wimbledon’s Court 12. The Czech bruiser battered Nadal’s hopes of winning a third Wimbledon title on Thursday, but will now have to prove he can shine out of the limelight. "When the guy’s firing missiles left and right, going for broke, I think it’s one of those days,” women’s world number one Maria Sharapova said about Rosol’s heavy hitting display against Nadal. Nadal’s defeat opened up the draw for Britain’s Andy Murray who now knows he will not have to face any of the world’s top three on his route to the final.

The world number four faces Cyprus’ Marcos Baghdatis, who beat Murray at Wimbledon in 2006 on his way to the semi-final. In the women’s draw, four-times winner Serena Williams faces China’s Zheng Jie.

Sharp-shooter Rosol prepares for Nadal encore

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Mahan builds 2-shot lead at Congressional

BETHESDA, 30 June—A punishing golf course. Temperatures that topped 100. Hunter Mahan still managed to make Friday at Congressional feel like a two-shot lead going into the weekend at the AT&T National as he goes after a PGA Tour-leading third win of the year.

Chris Couch sought medical attention and struggled to finish in the oppressive conditions. One caddie had to stop after nine holes and another vomited to the side of the 13th green from drinking too much water. Tiger Woods stayed in the game with a 68 in the morning, when it was still so hot that towels were used to wipe sweaty faces more than to clean clubs. He talked about the value of staying fit and strong to survive days like this. Five shots behind. Mahan, though, has himself apart for two days. “I hit a lot of good shots,” said Mahan, who missed only two fairways and three greens. “I hit so many fairways and greens, I made it easy on myself. This has to be a pretty punishing golf course if you get off line a little bit. I put myself in some great spots to make putts. And I felt like I played well on the back, when it was getting really hot and you’re getting a little bit more tired.” Mahan was at 7-under 135. His two rounds fulfilled what his swing coach, Sean Foley, said Thursday when describing his ball-striking as “a laser show.”
A businessman walked into a New York City bank and asked for the loan officer. He said he was going to Europe on business for two weeks and needed to borrow $5,000.

"You don’t know where you are, or where you’re going," the loan officer said. "You must be in a hot air balloon, or perhaps a helium balloon!"

"You’re in the same position you were before we met, but now it’s my turn to be the one who needs help," A businessman below said. "I have some heat on my back to start the day, but then being hot and humid certainly was a good advantage of it."
Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham meets officials of World Cup organizing committee, Petrobras, Softex

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham enjoys sightseeing in Rio de Janeiro from the hill of world-famous Christ Redeemer Statue. MNA

Locals in Rakhine State supplied with cash and kind

Strong earthquake rocks

Nay Pyi Taw, 30 June—A strong earthquake of magnitude (6.3) Richter Scale with its epicenter outside Myanmar (Northern Xinjiang, China) about (1600) miles northwest of Mandalay seismological observatory was recorded at (03) hrs (43) min (54) sec M.S.T today, announced Department of Meteorology and Hydrology.—MNA