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True patriotism

* It is very important for every one of the nation regardless of the place he lives to have strong Union Spirit.

* Only Union Spirit is the true patriotism all the nationalities will have to safeguard.

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham visits Paletthwe hybrid paddy plantations, nurseries in Nay Pyi Taw

NAY PYI TAW, 7 April—Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Dr Sai Mauk Kham visited Paletthwe hybrid paddy plantations and seed nurseries in Alyinlo Village of Pyinmana Township, Aungchantha Village and Tegygion Village of Zabuthiri Township and Kyargu Village of Dekkhinathiri Township in Nay Pyi Taw this morning.

At the briefing hall near 369-acre farmer educative high yield Paletthwe hybrid paddy farm in Alyinlo Village of Pyinmana Township, the Vice-President met local farmers and heard reports on current sown acreage of Paletthwe hybrid rice plantations in eight townships of Nay Pyi Taw and cultivation target for the coming monsoon presented by Nay Pyi Taw Council Member U Myint Shwe, construction of irrigation facilities, irrigation plan and preparation of irrigation water for summer paddy cultivation by Director-General of Irrigation Department U Kyaw Myint Hlaing, characteristics of Paletthwe hybrid rice plant and its agricultural viability by Director-General of Agriculture Department U Kyaw Win.

Next, Director U Tin Ohn of Ayeyya Hintha Rice Company reported to the Vice-President on commercial viability and market prospects of hybrid paddy, and purchasing plan at price of K 400,000 for 100 baskets of rice, Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing on his ministry's measures for agricultural development such as seed production, research and development, cultivation of hybrid paddy, sunflower and beans and pulses for research purpose, fulfillment of requirements and farmer educative works.



Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham at 369-acre farmer educative high yield Paletthwe hybrid paddy plantation in Alyinlo Village of Pyinmana Township.
MNA

Afterwards, region/state ministers for agriculture and livestock breeding explained current cultivation of rice and requirements for bumper harvest, assessed by Union Minister U Myint Hlaing suggesting possible approaches.

Local farmers then reported to the Vice-President on their requirements for running farm. The Vice-President spoke on the occasion and cordially greeted them.

The Vice-President then viewed Philippine Paletthwe hybrid paddy, Vietnam hybrid paddy, Myanmar Paletthwe hybrid paddy, samples of Myanmar Paletthwe hybrid paddy seeds, rice, cooked rice and rice plants displayed near the 369-acre Paletthwe hybrid paddy farm and hybrid paddy plantation.

The Vice-President then proceeded to 288-acre Paletthwe hybrid paddy plantation in Aungchantha Village of Zabuthiri Township where he met local farmers and heard reports on introduction of mechanized farming presented by Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Khin Zaw.

The Vice-President then viewed 100-acre Paletthwe paddy plantations of four different hybrid strains at Tegygion Village of Zabuthiri Township and cordially greeted farmers.

The Vice-President then visited 10-acre Chinese hybrid paddy plantations in Kyargu Village of Zabuthiri Township and heard reports on agricultural techniques, and seed production, proposed pilot farms, and paddy strains that are suitable to climate and rainfall of Myanmar presented by Chinese agriculturalist Mr Tao Zhi Chuan.

(See page 8)



Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham speaks to local farmers at 369-acre farmer educative high yield Paletthwe hybrid paddy plantation in Alyinlo Village of Pyinmana Township.—MNA



Myanmar hockey, a sports event to bring honour to the nation

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Cash assistance for rice, uniform provided in Htantabin

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Environmental conservation talk held

NAY PYI TAW, 7 April—Kalaw Township Forest Department held an educative talk and distributed high-performance stoves as part of Inlay Lake conservation, at Namohn Monastery in Kalaw Township on 31 March.

Present were Director of State Forest Department U Win Zaw, Assistant Director U Than Zaw Oo of Inlay Lake Perpetuation and Watershed Area Conservation Multi-Purpose Project, Kalaw Township Administrator U Nyi Nyi Aung and members of Kalaw Township environmental conservation committee members and villagers from Myinmahti Village-tract.

Township Forest Department Staff Officer U Aung Thu gave a talk on environmental conservation and personnel distributed high-performance stoves to 300 households in Kyauktalon, Kyauksu and Namohn villages.—MNA

PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 8 April, 2012

Say no to heart attack

According to the World Health Organization, cardiovascular disease is the leading cause of death globally and is projected to remain so. It has no geographic, gender or social-economic boundaries, although genetically, men have shown a higher propensity of heart attacks than women.

Normally, your heart needs oxygen to function. Heart attacks occur when the coronary artery that supplies the muscles of the heart with oxygenated blood is suddenly blocked off by a blood clot. This blood clot can block the artery and shut off blood flow to the heart muscle. When the heart muscle is starved for oxygen and nutrients, it is called ischaemia. Within minutes of ischaemia, the muscles of the heart will die, thus resulting in a heart attack.

Heart attacks are sudden and intense. Most heart attacks involve discomfort in the centre of the chest that lasts for more than a few minutes, or pain that goes away and come back. It can feel like uncomfortable compression, heaviness of the chest, or gripping chest pain. And its symptoms include pain or discomfort in one or both arms, the back, neck, jaw, or stomach, shortness of breath with or without chest discomfort, breaking out in a cold sweat, nausea or lightheadedness.

The risk factors are smoking, high blood pressure, physical inactivity, obesity and overweight, diabetes, stress, alcohol, and diet and nutrition.

A healthy diet is one of the best weapons to fight against heart attack. The food you eat can affect other controllable risk factors like blood pressure, diabetes and overweight.

With high blood pressure exists with other factors like obesity, smoking, alcohol and diabetes, the risk of having a heart attack increases exponentially.

9th MNSP Chairman's Cup Men's Hockey League concludes

YANGON, 7 April—The prize presentation for the 9th Myanmar National Sports Committee Chairman's Cup Men's Hockey League 2012, jointly organized by Ministry of Sports and Myanmar Hockey Federation, was held at Theinbyu Hockey Turf Pitch this evening.

In the final match, Yangon Command team beat Defence Services (Air) team 2-1.

At the prize presentation ceremony, Police Lt-Col Maung Soe presented the third prize to Defence Services (Navy), Vice-President of Myanmar Hockey Federation U Zaw Win the second prize to No. 11 LID, Vice-President U Saw Lu Lu Htaw the first prize to Yangon Command and President U Htin Zaw Win,

the best player wards to the respective winners.

Director-General U Thaug Htaik of Sports and Physical Education Department awarded the championship shield and duplicate shield to Yangon Command team.—NLM



Union Defence Minister receives Cambodian delegation

NAY PYI TAW, 7 April—Union Minister for Defence Lt-Gen Hla Min received a delegation led by Lieutenant General Nem Sowath, the special envoy of Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defence General Tea Banh, at his office, here, this morning.

The guests presented the invitation card to the Union Minister to attend the 6th ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting-6th ADMM and shared experiences of Cambodia in hosting the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting and process of works.

MNA



Union Minister for Defence Lt-Gen Hla Min receives Lieutenant General Nem Sowath, the special envoy of Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defence General Tea Banh.—MNA

Union EP-2 Minister, GEC Vice Chairman hold talks over gas power plants

NAY PYI TAW, 7 April—Union Minister for Electric Power No 2 U Khin Maung Soe and Vice Chairman of General Electric Corporation Mr John G Rice and party discussed matters on running the natural gas power plants at full capacity.

Also present at the meeting at the HeadOffice of

Yangon City Electricity Supply Board in Yangon on 5 April were Chairman of YESB U Aung Khaing, Vice Chairman U Maung Maung Latt, Chief Engineer of steam/gas power plants department of Myanma Electric Power Enterprise U Soe Hlaing and officials concerned.

MNA

Bangladeshi guests conclude visit



NAY PYI TAW, 7 April—The Bangladeshi delegation led by Chief of the Air Staff of the Bangladesh Air Force Air Marshal Shah Mohammad Ziaur Rahman, ndc, fawc, psc visited Defence Services Academy, Defence Services Technological Academy, and National Kandawgyi Gardens in PyinOoLwin and Myanansankyaw Golden Palace in Mandalay on 3 April.

On 4 and 5 April, they visited Inlay Lake.

The delegation on 6 April laid wreaths at the Memorial to Fallen Heroes and visited at King Zafar Shah's Tomb. On their departure, they were seen off by Brig-Gen Thit Lin Ohn from Mingaladon Station, Brig-Gen Thein Naing, officials concerned, the Bangladeshi Ambassador to Myanmar and the military attaché at Yangon International Airport.

MNA

Senior military officers see off Bangladeshi Air Marshal Shah Mohammad Ziaur Rahman, ndc, fawc, psc at Yangon International Airport.—MNA

Self-reliant gravel road inaugurated in Shwegu

SHWEGU, 7 April—An opening ceremony of an inter-village gravel road linking Shwegu and Wekhu village in Shwegu Township was held on 29 March morning.

Township Administrator U Nyi Nyi, Pyithu Hluttaw

representative U Win Naing and wellwisher formally cut the ribbon to open the road.

On the occasion, the township administrator and the Pyithu Hluttaw made speeches. The executive officer of Township Development Affairs Committee reported on facts about the road. After that, a local spoke words of thanks. The 450 feet long and 12 feet wide gravel road was built at a cost of K 25 million by wellwisher U Kalar (Pinyathu Brick Industry).—Myanma Alin

Sports and Physical Education Department Director-General U Thaug Htaik presents championship shield and replica trophy to Yangon Command team. —NLM

Navy jet crashes into Virginia apartments, three unaccounted for

VIRGINIA BEACH, 7 April — A US Navy F/A-18D fighter crashed into an apartment complex in Virginia soon after takeoff on Friday, sending fireballs into the sky, damaging six buildings and injuring at least seven people. No deaths have been reported, but three residents of the Mayfair Mews complex for the elderly were unaccounted for, authorities said. "We have physically been in every structure, and we have 95 percent completed the search and rescue," Virginia Beach Fire and Rescue Battalion Chief Tim Riley said.

All the injuries, including those to the F/A-18 crew, have so far been described as minor, officials said. Both crew members ejected safely from the aircraft before it crashed into the buildings in Virginia Beach, and one pilot was found still strapped into his ejection seat. Four of the injured were taken to a hospital for treatment. Authorities had said nine people were injured, but later revised the number to seven,



Firefighting foam covers the scene of a crash of an F/A-18D Hornet assigned to Strike Fighter Squadron (VFA) 106, in Virginia beach on 6 April, 2012. — INTERNET

not including the pilots. The F/A-18D "suffered a catastrophic mechanical malfunction" during a training flight, Navy Captain Mark Weisgerber said in a statement from the Pentagon.

Thick black clouds of smoke billowed into the air as fire reduced the apartment buildings to a blackened shell. The Mayfair Mews complex was less than two miles from Naval Air Station Oceana, where the F-18D was based. Crews searched for any injured residents in five buildings, several of which

have collapsed, Riley said. Three residents in one building were unaccounted for. Investigators will remain on the scene for three or four more days after the search is complete, Riley said. Witness Kelly McQuaid, who lives near the apartment complex, said the jet was on fire before it crashed.

Reuters

All residents safe after US Navy jet levels Virginia apartments

WASHINGTON, 7 April — All residents of an apartment complex for the elderly in Virginia that was destroyed when a US Navy fighter jet crashed into it on Friday, have been accounted for, with only one resident still hospitalized with minor injuries, a rescue crew chief said on Saturday. The person not yet discharged is in good condition though believed to have broken bones, Virginia Beach Fire and Rescue Battalion Chief Tim Riley. "Everyone has been accounted for" at the Mayfair Mews complex in Virginia Beach, Riley told Reuters. "We are not actively looking for anyone."



Fire fighters survey the burnt-out wreckage of the tail of a Navy F/A-18D jet fighter which crashed into an apartment complex in Virginia Beach on 6 April, 2012. — REUTERS

The US Navy F/A-18 jet fighter suffered what a Pentagon official described as "a catastrophic mechanical malfunction" during a training flight before it crashed shortly after take-off, sending fireballs into the sky, damaging six buildings and injuring seven people, including both crew members. Both crew members ejected and one was found still strapped into his ejection seat. Thick black clouds of smoke billowed into the air as fire reduced the apartment buildings to a blackened shell. The Mayfair Mews complex was less than two miles from Naval Air Station Oceana, where the F-18D was based. Crews had searched into the night for any injured residents in five of the buildings, several of which have collapsed.

Riley said officials are now attending to the needs of the up to 63 residents whose apartment units were destroyed, including finding long-term housing for them. — Reuters

Avalanche buries 100 Pakistani soldiers on glacier

ISLAMABAD, 7 April — An avalanche smashed into a Pakistani army base on a Himalayan glacier along the Indian border on Saturday, burying around 100 soldiers, the military said. Helicopters, sniffer dogs and troops were deployed to the remote Siachen Glacier to rescue those trapped, according to a military statement.

The avalanche hit a

battalion headquarters in the glacier's Gayari sector at 5:45 am, according to a security official who didn't give his name because he is not an official spokesman. Siachen is on the northern tip of the divided Kashmir region claimed by both India and Pakistan.

Both countries station hundreds of troops there, who brave viciously cold

temperatures, altitude sickness and high winds for months at a time. Troops have been deployed at elevations of up to 6,700 meters (22,000 feet) and have skirmished intermittently since 1984. The glacier is known as the world's highest battlefield. More soldiers have died from the harsh weather there than combat.

Internet

Bomb found by Dublin-Belfast road

BELFAST, 7 April — Police said a "significant" bomb was found near the main Dublin-to-Belfast motorway on Friday, the anniversary of a peace deal that in 1998 largely ended three decades of sectarian violence in Northern Ireland.

The A1 between Newry and Dublin was closed briefly to allow a bomb disposal team to clear a "viable device" that had the potential to cause fatalities, a spokeswoman for the Police Service of Northern Ireland said. A police source said investigators believed the attack may have been carried out by dissident Irish nationalists opposed to the Good Friday Peace Agreement and may have been intended to hit a passing police patrol.

The agreement largely ended more than three decades of violence between mainly Catholic Irish nationalists opposed to British rule of Northern Ireland and predominantly Protestant unionists who wanted it to continue. However, dissident nationalists opposed to the deal still mount sporadic gun and bomb attacks.

Reuters

Iran lawmaker: Country can produce nuclear weapon

TEHRAN, 7 April — A prominent Iranian lawmaker says Iran has the knowledge and scientific capability to produce nuclear weapons but will never do so. Gholamreza Mesbahi Moghadam says Iran can easily produce the highly enriched uranium that is

used to build atomic bombs but it is not Teheran's policy to go that route.

Moghadam made the comment in an interview with the parliament's news website, icanair, late Friday.

His views do not represent the Iranian government's policy. It is

the first time that a prominent Iranian politician has publicly stated that Iran has the technological capability to produce a nuclear weapon. The US and its allies accuse Iran of seeking to develop nuclear weapons, a charge Teheran denies.

Internet

Suicide bomber kills Afghanistan peace councillor

KABUL, 7 April — A suicide bomber has killed the influential head of a regional peace council in eastern Afghanistan, security officials say. Maulvi Hashem Munib was on his way home from Friday prayers in Kunar Province when he came under attack. President Hamid Karzai condemned the murder, saying enemies of Afghanistan had killed a messenger of peace.

Maulvi Munib was a former commander of a major Afghan mujahideen group, Hizb-i-Islami. The head of the government's High Peace Council in Kunar, he is said to have persuaded insurgents to lay down their arms and join the peace process. Kunar is a stronghold of the decade-long Taliban-led insurgency against President Karzai's government and its Western allies.

The president said: "The

terrorists are trying to undermine the role of elders who are working for the good of Afghanistan, but they should realize that they can never achieve their evil goals by such heinous acts." The national head of the High Peace Council, ex-President Burhanuddin Rabbani, was assassinated last year by a man posing as a Taliban envoy who hid a bomb in his turban.

On Thursday, Nazik

Mir, a prominent anti-Taliban commander in the province of Badakhshan, was killed in a suspected Taliban suicide attack. Late on Wednesday, gunmen in Farah Province killed eight people in an attack on a checkpoint manned by a government-sponsored militia. Officials say all three attacks show how the Taliban is targeting Afghan enemies as well as NATO forces. — Internet



Kunar has been at the centre of the Taliban's insurgency. — INTERNET



All 28 Chinese crew members aboard a China-linked cargo ship hijacked by Somali pirates were rescued on 6 April, 2012. — INTERNET

Iran: Navy rescues Chinese sailors from pirates

TEHRAN, 7 April — Iran's state TV says the country's navy has rescued 28 crew members of a Chinese ship hijacked by pirates. The Saturday broadcast says the Iranian Navy also detained nine Somali pirates in the operation in the Arabian Sea in the north of the Indian Ocean.

The pirates attacked the ship Friday but they surrendered after Iranian Navy sent warships to rescue the crew and free the ship. The freighter was carrying iron and was heading to a port in southwestern Iran. Both the attack and the rescue operations were carried out in international waters. Iran has clashed with pirates on several occasions in the past and freed ships captured by them.

Internet

Top scientist quits anti-doping body over 'muzzling'

LAUSANNE, 7 April — A leading scientist says he is resigning from an expert body on biological passports in sport because he is being "muzzled". Dr Michael Ashenden accused the anti-doping movement of fostering a culture of "omerta" — a term describing the pact of silence in the mafia. He said the imposition of a new confidentiality clause in his contract was an attempt to silence him. Since 2008 he has been an independent reviewer of blood profiles in cycling. The governing bodies of professional cycling and international athletics extensively use the passport.

The Union Cycliste International (UCI), which governs cycling, thanked Dr Ashenden for his contribution to the sport but made no



direct comment on the circumstances of his resignation. The International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF), which oversees athletics, acknowledged that Dr Ashenden had declined an offer to be part of their expert panel.

Dr Ashenden is regarded as one of the world's foremost experts on blood doping and the athlete's biological passport. He has acted as an expert witness in high profile

The governing body of professional cycling uses the passport extensively.—INTERNET

cases, including those of Lance Armstrong and Alberto Contador. Both cycling and athletics have recently handed over management of the biological passport to a newly created Athlete Passport Management Unit (APMU), based at the Swiss Laboratory for Doping Analyses (LAD) in Lausanne. The APMU has issued new contracts to its experts, with much tighter confidentiality clauses.— *Internet*

Scientists raise energy level at Big Bang machine

GENEVA, 7 April — Scientists say a Big Bang machine, where high-energy beams of protons are sent crashing into each other at incredible speeds, is now able to operate at a record new energy level, improving the prospect of scientific breakthroughs.

Researchers at the

European Organization for Nuclear Research, or CERN, say the \$10 billion Large Hadron Collider in a 27-kilometer (17-mile) tunnel under the Swiss-French border at Geneva has begun operating at 8 trillion electron volts, greater than any previous physics accelerator.

Steve Myers, a director

of accelerators and technology at CERN, said in a statement that two proton beams were brought into collision at a new world record energy level Thursday. He says it marks a new round of data collection through the remainder of the year, and "increased discovery potential." — *Internet*

Two salmon-eating sea lions killed at Bonneville Dam

PORTLAND, 7 April — A Washington state wildlife spokesman says two salmon-eating California sea lions have been captured this week at Bonneville Dam and killed by lethal injection. The Oregonian reports the deaths are the first this year after a federal judge ruled last month the programme could proceed. Washington Fish and Wildlife spokesman Craig

Bartlett says the sea lions were captured Tuesday.

The killings are limited to California sea lions documented as targeting spring chinook or steelhead near Bonneville, the first dam the returning fish encounter on their run up the Columbia River. The sea lions also must

return to the dam despite nonlethal hazing and be spotted nearby for at least five days, though the days can accumulate over several years. The Humane Society of the United States has filed suit in an effort to permanently end the sea lion killings.

Internet



Final assembly of 1st A350 XWB underway in Toulouse, France. This latest step in the A350 XWB's progress was achieved as Airbus started joining the 19.7-meter-long central fuselage with the 21-meter-long front fuselage.

XINHUA

Sushi-making robots can crank out tasty fish rolls 24 hours a day

NEW YORK, 7 April — Like many traditional dishes, great sushi is as much about the skill of the chef as it is the quality of the ingredients, and we all know by now that there's no person on the planet that can match the dexterity of a robot. Japanese company Suzumo feels the same way, and while it claims to have created the very first sushi-making robot way back in 1981, its newest automaton puts all others — and almost all humans — to shame.

The new bots work as a team: One machine creates the all-important sushi rice mounds at a rate of 3,600 per hour, while the other takes the seaweed wrapping and raw fish and folds it into the perfect roll. Working at its maximum rate, the robotic roller can craft approximately 300 medium-sized rolls per hour, which averages out to 10 rolls every two minutes. The current human world record sushi roller is Joakim Lundblad, whose record stands at 12 rolls in two minutes.

Of course, while Lundblad put every ounce of energy into that two-minute world record, the Suzumo bot can work at its maximum speed 24/7. If the two were put together head-to-head in a marathon sushi-rolling throwdown, the winner would likely be the one with a power plug on its backside. Check out the bots in action above, and try not to get too hungry.

Internet

Ex-Intel employee pleads guilty to theft charges

SAN FRANCISCO, 7 April — A former Intel Corp employee who allegedly stole from the chipmaker documents worth hundreds of millions of dollars pleaded guilty on Friday to five counts of wire fraud. Federal prosecutors in Boston had alleged that Biswamohan Pani, 36, downloaded some of Intel's "most valuable" design and manufacturing documents in June 2008, in his final days as an engineer in a Massachusetts facility.

Intel was not aware at the time of the alleged downloads that Pani had already sought a position and begun working at Advanced Micro Devices, Intel's largest rival in the chip industry. Pani acted alone and there was no evidence that he was instructed by AMD to carry out the theft — nor was AMD aware of his actions, prosecutors said. In court filings, Intel estimated the company secrets to be worth at least \$200 million to \$400 million.

AMD fired Pani in 2008. "AMD was not accused of wrongdoing, and the FBI has stated that there is no evidence



An Intel logo is seen at the company's offices in Petah Tikva, near Tel Aviv on 24 Oct, 2011. — *INTERNET*

that AMD had any involvement in or awareness of Mr Pani's alleged actions," said Drew Prairie, a spokesman for AMD. Pani faces up to 20 years in prison on each count, and is scheduled to be sentenced on 8 August. A lawyer for Pani did not immediately respond to a request for comment late Friday.— *Internet*

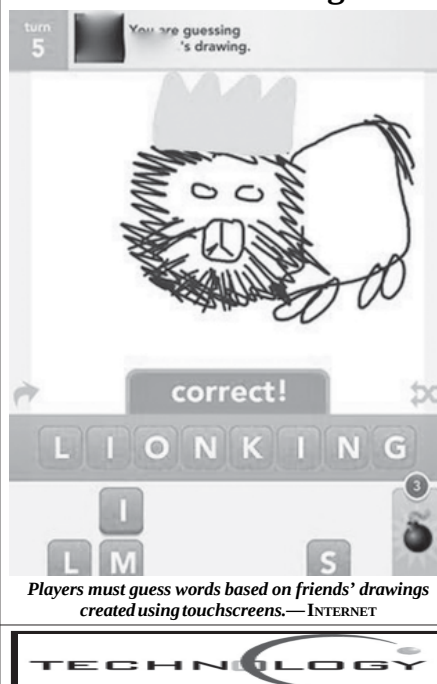
Draw Something is 'fastest growing' mobile game

LONDON, 7 April — Mobile game Draw Something has been downloaded 50 million times in just 50 days, the game's owner has said. Zynga, which bought the game's developer OMGPOP last month, said they believed the figures made it the "fastest growing" mobile game of all time. The simple game involves players drawing pictures in order to guess words, much like board game Pictionary. At peak times, Draw Something players create over 3,000 drawings per second.

Apple told the BBC that it did not disclose download figures for specific titles, and therefore could not verify Zynga's claim. However, Draw Something's success has seen it top the iPhone app charts, beating the highly-anticipated sequel to Angry Birds, Angry Birds Space. In a statement, Zynga said: "We believe it's not only the fastest growing original mobile game of all time — 50 days to hit 50 million downloads — but one of the fastest growing web sensations that we've seen."

The company said more than six billion drawings have been created on the app so far. In the game, players are given words to try to illustrate by drawing on a smartphone or tablet's touchscreen. If the friend guesses correctly, coins are earned to purchase additional items, such as more colours, within the game. Security experts have warned that scammers are trying to capitalise on the game's popularity by offering fake prizes via social networks like Twitter.

Last month, Zynga, which owns other popular social games like Farmville, bought small New York-based developer OMGPOP for \$180m (£113m; 137m euros). After news of the buyout broke, OMGPOP chief executive Dan Porter attracted criticism after tweeting that a former employee — who did not want to work with Zynga — was "selfish" and the "weakest one on the whole team". Mr Porter later apologized.— *Internet*



Planning pregnancy may cut birth defects

NEW YORK, 7 April — Women who'd like to become pregnant — especially those who are taking medications for chronic conditions — may need to add something to their to-do list: Plan, plan, plan. That's because some medications are known to cause birth defects. Avoiding all medications during pregnancy is not always possible, however, and sometimes not taking a prescribed medication could be harmful, too.

"The best thing for women to do, all women, is to plan their pregnancy," said Dr Diane Ashton, deputy medical director for the March of

Dimes. "Women should speak with their physician about their plans to become pregnant. If they have a condition that requires medication, that's an ideal time to switch to medications that have less risk, if necessary. And, it gives time for the condition to be stabilized." About 120,000 babies born each year in the United States — or about one of every 33 — are born with a birth defect, something abnormal that occurs in a baby's development, according to the US Centres for Disease Control and Prevention. Some are more cosmetic than dangerous, such as an extra toe, but others are

serious and include heart defects and spina bifida. Birth defects are the leading cause of death in babies younger than 1 year, according to the National Birth Defects Prevention Network.

Most birth defects happen in the early stages of pregnancy, often before a woman even knows she's pregnant, according to the CDC. — *Internet*



This is a 27 March, 2012 file photo of baby Andrei, eight months old, son of Roma underage parents as he is held by a nurse in the intensive care unit of the Marie Curie children's hospital, in Bucharest, Romania.
INTERNET

Green tea could cloud Olympic doping tests

LONDON, 7 April — Olympic doping officials are considering whether to tweak their tests after a recent British study showed green tea might hide testosterone from the standard test used to spot it. The study was a test in a lab dish so scientists aren't sure if the effects will be the same in people. But some experts say the results are intriguing

enough that Olympic testing could be updated to include that possibility. "It's interesting that something as common as tea could have a significant influence on the steroid profile," said Olivier Rabin, scientific director of the World Anti-Doping Agency, or WADA. He said other foods and beverages, such as alcohol, are also known to

muddle test results.

"We may need to adjust our steroid (test) to allow us to exclude whether a test is modified by food or training or disease, before we can say that it's doping," Rabin said. He said they might have to raise their normal threshold for what is considered a legal amount of testosterone to allow for any such

interference. In the study, researchers added green and white tea extracts — or catechins — to testosterone and tested whether the enzyme that usually detects testosterone in the body could still identify it. Tea seemed to reduce the testosterone concentration by up to 30 percent and appeared to work best when testosterone was only slightly higher than normal. — *Internet*

Resistance spread 'compromising' fight against malaria

LONDON, 7 April — Scientists have found new evidence that resistance to the front-line treatments for malaria is increasing. They have confirmed that resistant strains of the malaria parasite on the border between Thailand and Myanmar, 500 miles (800km) away from previous sites. Researchers say that the rise of resistance means the effort to eliminate malaria is "seriously compromised". The details have been published in *The Lancet medical journal*.

For many years now the most effective drugs against

malaria have been derived from the Chinese plant, *Artemisia annua*. It is also known as sweet wormwood. In 2009 researchers found that the most deadly species of malaria parasites, spread by mosquitoes, were becoming more resistant to these drugs in parts of western Cambodia. This new data confirms that these *Plasmodium falciparum* parasites that are infecting patients more than 500 miles away on the border between Thailand and Myanmar are growing steadily more resistant.

Internet



Malaria is spread by mosquitoes. — INTERNET

Business



An employee poses with Samsung Electronics' Galaxy phones at a store in Seoul on 14 March, 2012. — INTERNET

Samsung estimates record first quarter profit; beats most bullish view

SEOUL, 7 April — Samsung Electronics, the world's top technology firm by revenue, estimated operating profit nearly doubled in January-March from a year ago, boosted by sales of its flagship Galaxy smartphones and its Note mini-tablet and phone.

The South Korean group, which out-sold global smartphone rivals last year, is set to consolidate its market position with new products, including a revamped Galaxy S, in the next few months. Samsung, which will release its full quarterly results on 27 April, estimated its January-March operating

profit at a record 5.8 trillion won (\$5.15 billion) versus a consensus forecast of 5.0 trillion won from analysts surveyed by Thomson Reuters I/B/E/S. It estimated sales at 45 trillion won.

Samsung shares have risen by a quarter so far this year, and hit a life high of 1.351 million won (\$1,200) on Wednesday. Over the same period, shares in smartphone rival Apple have soared by more than half, taking the California-based firm's value to above \$582 billion — more than three times that of Samsung. (\$1 = 1127.2750 Korean won)

Reuters

Tax evasion treaty signed by Switzerland and Germany

GENEVA, 7 April — Germany has signed a new tax evasion treaty with Switzerland, but opposition MPs are threatening to block it. If approved, the deal could bring Germany 10bn euros (£8.3bn, \$13.1bn) next year, its finance ministry estimates.

The agreement is the latest in a long-running dispute about German nationals who hide taxable income in banks in neighbouring Switzerland. It was toughened after opposition MPs objected, but may still be voted down.

It is not clear how much money Germans have banked

in Switzerland. The initial agreement was held up when the German parliament's upper house asked for stricter conditions to be imposed on tax evaders.

But although some changes have been made, the leader of the centre-left Social Democrats (SPD), Sigmar Gabriel, predicted: "It will fail a second time because the SPD-led states will not go along with it." He said it left tax evaders too much time to move their assets to another tax haven.

"The core problem remains unsolved — that tax cheaters will get away without

punishment." Under the deal, Germans who have

German politicians have long complained about Switzerland's strict banking secrecy. — INTERNET



undeclared assets in Switzerland would not face penalties. But they must make a one-off payment of between 21% and 41% of their value. That is higher than the 19-34% range initially planned.

Switzerland's secretive banks have faced growing pressure internationally as governments try to recover taxes in the wake of the financial crisis.

Internet

JJB Sports shares boosted by US investment



JJB said it had been an "extremely challenging" period. — INTERNET

LONDON, 7 April — Shares in JJB Sports have risen more than 10% after the retailer announced a £30m investment package, which will see US retailer Dick's Sporting Goods take a stake in the firm. The initial £20m investment from Dick's will purchase ordinary shares and convertible loan notes. Existing shareholders will invest £10m. It came as Wigan-based JJB said pre-tax losses for the year to 29 January 2012 narrowed to £101.1m from £181.4m. JJB shares closed up 4.6% on Thursday.

The UK retailer is in the process of a restructuring programme that includes closing 43 of its stores. Revenues for the year fell 21.7% to £284.2m. JJB said the year had been "extremely challenging" and said that sales had continued to fall since the end of its financial year. Like-for-like sales for the nine weeks to 1 April 2012 were down 5.7%, while the company's net debt had risen to £20.6m from £11.3m at the end of January.

JJB said that the investment from Dick's gave it the opportunity to draw on the US firm's experience in the sports retail market. On conversion of its purchased loan notes, Dick's will become a controlling shareholder. JJB said at least one representative from Dick's was expected to join the board. The other £10m investment comes from four existing shareholders, including the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Dick's also has the right to buy a further £20m of convertible loan notes next year.

As part of the refinancing package, JJB said that supplier Adidas would provide security for a two-stage loan of up to £15m to fund store refits and that Bank of Scotland would extend existing loan facilities until May 2015. JJB said it hopes to accelerate its store refit programme in time for this summer's European football championships and the London Olympics. — *Internet*

Israeli chefs target every last crumb for Passover

TEL AVIV, 7 April — The Jewish springtime holiday Passover is known as a festival of freedom, but its hallmark is a litany of dietary restrictions centered on not eating leavened bread for a week.

The rules are so elaborate that chefs who want to observe the ritual law must prepare weeks before, removing every last crumb,

buying up new sets of kitchen utensils and planning menus without bread or wheat flour.

At Liliyot, one of Tel Aviv's most prestigious kosher restaurants, chef Noam Dekkers oversaw his staff on Wednesday, their last regular day in the kitchen before the annual Passover scrubdown — a process he calls "logistical mayhem." The holiday begins on Friday at

sundown.

At the end of the day, Dekkers' cooks threw away leftovers like chopped vegetables and fish.

Then, they stored plastic cutting boards and boxes, locked grains away and scrubbed all steel cooking ware.

The following morning, city rabbis oversaw the final sterilization, when the

restaurant staff blowtorched grease off the grills and dunked all the metal and glass cooking utensils into cauldrons of boiling water. As of Thursday night, Liliyot was kosher for Passover.

"Tel Aviv is a secular city," said Dekkers, a nonobservant Jewish Israeli. "But quite a big part of the community keeps the Jewish religious traditions, especially of the holidays."

Reuters



A general view of the ArcelorMittal Orbit Sculpture and the Olympic Stadium is seen in this picture taken on 3 April, 2012 in the Olympic Park in London, the United Kingdom.—XINHUA

Mazda to recall more than 62,000 vehicles in China

BEIJING, 7 April — Mazda Motor and its joint venture partners in China will recall more than 62,000 vehicles from Sunday to fix problems with anti-lock braking systems that could cause false warnings, China's quality regulator said.

The three-party joint venture with Ford Motor and Chongqing Changan Automobile will recall 58,949 Mondeo sedans and 3,496 S-Max vehicles and replace problematic parts, China's General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine said on its website.

The move comes on the heels of Mazda recalling 16,857 vehicles in September 2010 because of a similar problem. Joint venture executives could not be reached for comment on Sunday.

MNA/Reuters

Champion Zhang Jing (C), runner-up Song Xexin (L) and second runner-up Li Jiayi greet the audience at the 7th China Super Model Contest in Beijing, capital of China, on 1 April, 2012. Zhang Jing is from north China's Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region. Both Song Xexin and Li Jiayi are from Beijing.
XINHUA



The Technogym Recline Personal, an Internet-connected bike, will be on show at the Australia Fitness & Health Expo.—INTERNET

French academic Descoings found dead in New York hotel

NEW YORK, 7 April — The head of one of France's most prestigious academic institutions has been found dead in a New York hotel room, police say. The naked body of Richard Descoings, 53, director of the Paris Institute of Political Studies, was discovered at the Michelangelo hotel in Manhattan. His laptop and mobile phone were found on a third-floor ledge. A police spokesperson has said that as yet there is no evidence a crime has been committed. Police investigators are awaiting a medical report to determine the likely cause of death.

Mr Descoings had been the director of the Sciences Po institute, one of France's elite "grandes ecoles", since 1996. Colleagues raised the alarm on Tuesday morning when he failed to appear at a UN-sponsored conference of university heads he had



Police say they are awaiting a medical report on the death.
INTERNET

travelled to New York to attend. The police spokesman, Paul Browne, told the AFP news agency that there was "no sign of trauma". He said the disorderly state of Mr Descoings' room at the time of the discovery was the result of attempts by medical staff to resuscitate him.

Deputy Commissioner Browne told the Associated

Press that the mobile phone and laptop probably had been thrown out of the window and had landed on the lower ledge. Richard Descoings was known for carrying out a programme of far-reaching reform at Sciences Po, which educates much of the French political, media and administrative elite.

Internet

Weather Service to test more graphic tornado warnings

WASHINGTON, 7 April — The National Weather Service on Monday plans to begin a new initiative in Kansas and Missouri designed to make people in Tornado Alley sit up and take notice when potentially devastating twisters are headed their way. Under the new system, tornado warnings will be accompanied by stark language like, "mass devastation is highly likely, making the area unrecognizable to survivors," according to the National Weather Service. Or even: "This storm is not

survivable." "We call this 'impact-based warning,'" Dan Hawblitzel, a National Weather Service meteorologist in Pleasant Hill, Missouri, said on Sunday.

"The idea is to better convey the impact that a storm is likely to have on a community." Current National Weather Service tornado warnings generally cover portions of counties and urge people in the storm's path to take action. "There is quite a lot of over-warning going on; it's kind of the car alarm syndrome," said Col Galyean, a meteorologist with



Concerns grow over children using tablet computers.
INTERNET

The Weather Channel. "People who live in areas where tornadoes happen frequently, like Joplin, Missouri, for example, are kind of becoming desensitized to the warnings."

A tornado slammed into Joplin last May, killing 161 people in the southwestern Missouri City and causing extensive damage. The new warnings will be tested in the two states through November 30. After that, a panel of social scientists and meteorologists will examine the responses and determine whether the system should be used

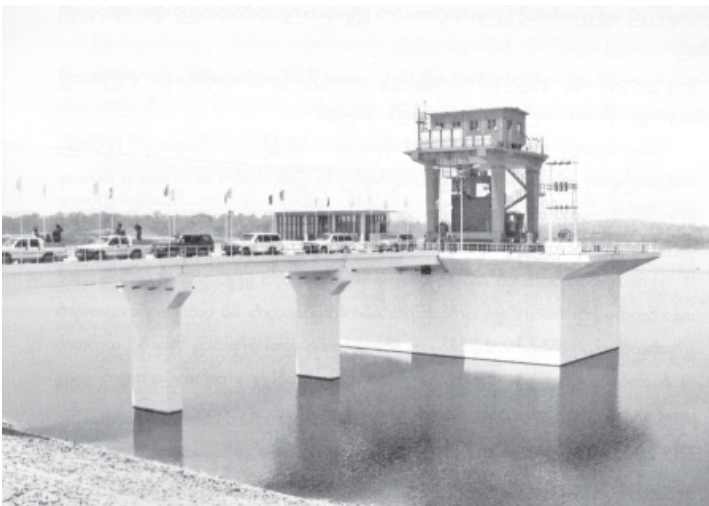
nationwide, Hawblitzel said. Messages such as, "Complete destruction of entire neighborhoods is likely" may get more people posting on social networking sites and taking instant action, Hawblitzel said.

Galyean and Hawblitzel say the more detailed warnings are largely made possible because of a new type of Doppler radar called dual polarization, which can measure both the horizontal and vertical properties of a storm system and can tell forecasters whether debris is being picked up by the storm, a sure sign of a destructive system. "Right now it's tough to tell if a storm is actually causing damage," Galyean said.—Reuters



Yenwe Dam in Kyaukdaga Township, Bago Region.

Dams supplying irrigation water, drinking water, enhancing agricultural sector in Bago Region



Zaungtu Dam in Bago Township, Bago Region.

Yenwe Dam

- * Yenwe Dam is built on Yenwe Creek near Myochaung Village in Kyaukdaga Township.
- * It is 1050 ft long and 251 ft high. The dam is an earthen type.

Zaungtu Dam

- * It can prevent floods in its environs in Bago Township.
- * It benefits over 36000 acres of farmland.

Baida Diversion Weir

- * The diversion weir is located in DaikU Township, Bago Region. It is an reinforced concrete type.
- * It is 20.5 ft high, 250 ft wide and 98 ft long.
- * The main canal of the dam is 15 miles long with four tributary canals which are 57 miles long in total.
- * The dam can prevent floods over Pyuntaza plain and Yangon-Mandalay Road and rail roads in rainy season.
- * The dam can benefit 46700 acres of farmland.

Translation: AMS

Archive: Maung Nyein Aye



Baida Diversion Weir in DaikU Township, Bago Region.

Soy may alleviate menopause hot flashes

NEWARK, 7 April — Two daily servings of soy might reduce the frequency and severity of hot flashes by up to 26 percent compared with a placebo, US researchers found. Study co-author Melissa Melby, a medical anthropology professor at the University of Delaware, reviewed 19 previous studies that examined more than 1,200 women. The effectiveness of soy in alleviating hot flashes has been inconclusive — some studies suggested soy to be beneficial and others suggested it was not — but much of the discrepancy was due to small sample sizes

and inconsistent methodology, Melby said. "When you combine them all, we've found the overall effect is still positive," Melby said in a statement. The study published in *Menopause: The Journal of the North American Menopause Association* found ingesting at least 54 milligrams of soy isoflavones daily — about two glasses (16 ounce) of soy milk or 7 ounces of tofu — for six weeks to a year reduces menopause hot flash frequency by 20.6 percent and severity by 26 percent, compared to a placebo.

Internet

Women can't rewind 'biological clock'

NEW HAVEN, 7 April — Despite advances in reproductive techniques many women in their 40s do not know their chances of having a child is low, US fertility experts said. Dr Pasquale Patrizio, professor at Yale School of Medicine and director of the Yale Fertility Center, and colleagues said more women are coming to the fertility clinic at age 43 or older expecting pregnancy can be instantly achieved — and they're disappointed to learn that it can't be done easily.

"There is an alarming misconception

about fertility among women," Patrizio said in a statement. "We are really seeing more and more patients 'upset' after failing in having their own biological child after age 43 so we had to report on this.

Their typical reaction is, 'what do you mean you cannot help me? I am healthy, I exercise, and I cannot have my own baby?'"

The growing popularity of assisted reproductive technologies has given women the impression female fertility may be manipulated at any stage in life, Patrizio said.— Internet

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham...

(from page 1)

The Vice-President then presented Chinese agriculturalists with gifts and viewed 19-day old and 22-day old hybrid paddy plantations.

Speaking on the occasion, the Vice-President said that as an agricultural country, Myanmar is trying for successful cultivation of paddy as well as other crops. In doing so, coordinative measures are being taken with the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation to acquire necessary techniques. He next invited open questions for any requirements stressing the need for efforts of the farmers while departments are fulfilling requirements. Only then, will the agricultural sector improve as expected. Moreover, research and development are essential for every nation. It is necessary to develop the sector not only in the Nay Pyi Taw area but also in the whole nation. Success will surely be achieved if agricultural tasks meet the input requirements such as quality strains and fertilizers. Carrying out such tasks needs capital so it will be difficult for a single farmer to do that by himself, noted the Vice-President. The State on its part will be able to render all assistance only if it is economically strong and it may cause a barrier. This is why the private contribution is also necessary, said the Vice-President.

He went on to say that although there is not much difference of cultivation acreage between Myanmar and neighbours, there is difference in export volume. Therefore, the State, experts and farmers need to conduct study after considering and reviewing. The State is carrying out eight rural development tasks and paying emphasis on micro-credit services as well as the improvement of agricultural and meat and fish sectors.

The Vice-President added that looking to the developed countries, they are found to have been focusing on industrial development and engaging in agricultural tasks with the use of modern machinery. For Myanmar which relies on agriculture for fulfilling people's basic needs, it is to introduce mechanized farming in order to improve the agricultural sector. If the nation can develop the industrial sector while engaging in agricultural work, its economy will develop as well. Technology and capital are necessary to change the conventional farming into mechanized farming. Only if national economy develops, will



Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham cordially greets locals at briefing hall near 288-acre Paletwe hybrid paddy farm in Aungchantha Village.—MNA

the State be able to render assistance in such sectors as education and health for the wellbeing of the entire national people.

The Vice-President continued that farmers are to work hard accepting advice of experts to be successful in their agricultural business. Regarding the agricultural loans, farmers need to pay their debts regularly so that additional loans can

be disbursed for next years. As the technique to grow Paletwe hybrid paddy strains is the best for the time being, that strain should be grown nationwide, noted the Vice-President. Later, he spoke of the need for technicians to develop methods that can benefit in the long run, for the private sector to try to acquire all necessary agricultural inputs and for all people to work together for national development.—MNA

Union A&I Minister attends meeting of heads of Region/State SLRDs

NAY PYI TAW, 7 April—Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing attended a work coordination meeting of heads of Region and State Settlement and Land Records Departments held at the ministry here on 5 April afternoon.

At the meeting he gave instructions on implementation of the tasks in accord with the law by thoroughly studying the prescribed rules, laws and procedures, making efforts for winning the public trust and reliance and working together

with a sense of unity.

Next, Deputy Ministers U Ohn Than and U Khin Zaw explained forming of teams to prescribe rules and procedures and implementation of the tasks by the staff in accord with the rules and laws.

Then, Director-General U Myint Swe of the Settlement and Land Records Department gave a supplementary report. Later, the Union Minister left an instruction on dissemination of land law to the villages across the nation.—MNA

World Health Day marked



Deputy Health Minister Dr Win Myint speaking at the celebration of World Health Day.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 7 April—Jointly organized by the Ministry of Health and World Health Organization, World Health Day was marked at the ministry here this morning with an address by Deputy Minister for Health Dr Win Myint.

Present on the occasion were Deputy Health Minister Dr Daw Myat Myat Ohn Khin, Deputy Education Minister U Aye Kyu, departmental heads from various ministries, members of social organizations, representatives from WHO and UNICEF, guests and personnel from the health ministry.

First, Deputy Minister Dr Win Myint delivered a speech. Next, WHO Resident Representative Dr H SB Tennakoon read the message sent by WHO Southeast Asian Regional Director Dr Sam Lee Plianbangchang.

After the ceremony, Deputy Minister Dr Win Myint and guests viewed World Health Day-2012 commemorative booths.—MNA

WHO Resident Representative Dr. H. SB. Tennakoon reading message sent by WHO Southeast Asian Regional Director Dr Sam Lee Plianbangchang.—MNA

Lacquerware College (Bagan) confers diploma certificate on students

NAY PYI TAW, 7 April—Union Minister for Cooperatives and for Livestock and Fisheries U Ohn Myint delivered an address at the ceremony to confer diploma certificates on the students of Lacquerware College (Bagan) of Ministry of Cooperatives in Bagan ancient cultural region yesterday morning.

After that, the Union minister presented prizes to outstanding students.

Next, he viewed works of the students, lacquerware sale room and the 400-500

years old lacquerwares kept at the lacquerware museum.

The Union Minister looked into production of Myanmar lacquerwares and cotton wares at Amata lacquerware workshop and saleroom.

In the afternoon, the Union Minister met local people of villages in Nyaung U Township and explained increasing of incomes of households engaging in lacquerware industry and breeding of chicken, goat and cow through cooperative method.—MNA

CBM Governor receives Joint General Manager of Mizuho Corporate Bank

NAY PYI TAW, 7 April—Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar U Than Nyein of the Ministry of Finance and Revenue received Joint General Manager Mr Takeshi Ohashi and party of Mizuho Corporate Bank Ltd at his office, here, yesterday morning.

They discussed cooperation of Mizuho Corporate Bank in banking services of Myanmar.—MNA

Myanmar hockey, a sport event to bring honour to the nation

T.S. (NLM)

Nowadays, the State is undertaking a series of activities to promote sports and games so that the standard of sports in the country will gradually reach the world level in accordance with the motto "Myanmar Sports—the World to Conquer". Among the many different kinds of sports, hockey is being given a place receiving encouragement from the government, for success in sports is a source of national pride.

Now is a time when people are to take part in sports as a national concern. All sports federations and those responsible in different events of sports must make field tours right down to the grassroots levels, hunt for talented athletes and train them well so that they will become outstanding ones. In this context, the Myanmar Hockey Federation was reconstituted with the motto "To promote hockey in the entire country right down to village level".

In the past, games similar to modern field hockey were played in many parts of the world. The Arabs used curved sticks and a ball fashioned from palm fibres and esparto and the Indians of North and South America used bone stick and a deerskin ball in a team contest within a goal area.

According to an old manuscript, a crooked-stick game was played in England as early as 1175, and the 13th century stained glass windows of Canterbury and Gloucester cathedrals show figures of youths holding curved sticks or hitting a ball with them. In the 17th century, the Indians of Chile used crooked sticks to

drive a ball through a goal in a game called *cineca*, probably an adoption of *chueca*, a popular game that was brought to the new world.

Modern field hockey, however, evolved in the British Isles early in the 19th century, the first organized club, Blackheath, being established in 1840. The style of play undoubtedly developed from the stick and ball games as hurley, played in Ireland; shinty, in Scotland; and bandy, in Wales. The name was derived from the French word *hoquet* (shepherd's crook).

In the 19th century, English schools and clubs such as Blackheath, Mosely and Wimbledon produced most of the players and competitions; and in 1875 the Men's Hockey Association of London published revised regulations, which reduced the size of the ground and goal posts and number of players in a team.

About this time the British Army was introducing the game to the Commonwealth countries, and Indian later adopted the game as its national sports.

In 1900, men's group in England, Ireland and Wales united to form the International Hockey Board. When the Scots joined in 1942, the rules become uniform throughout the British Isles. In 1948 the Federation Internationale de Hockey formed in Paris in 1924 became a constituent body of the board. All the FIH member countries recognized the authority of the board.

Until 1887, hockey was played exclusively by men and was regarded too rough and dangerous for women. But in that



Myanmar National Sports Committee Chairman's Hockey Tournament being held at Theinbyu Hockey Pitch.

year English women adopted the game and organized the first women's club in East Moseley. In 1895 the English Ladies Hockey Association, subsequently called the All-England Women's Hockey Association, was founded and proceeded to popularize the game for women throughout the world. A Women's Hockey Federation established in 1927 included a membership of 35 countries by the early 1970s.

Field hockey is a major sport in the British Isles, where the modern game was developed. And it was widely played in continental Europe and in most Commonwealth countries, especially Indian, Pakistan and Australia. As hockey has been a permanent part of the Olympic Games since 1928, it spread to all parts of the world and it is now one of the events of Summer Olympics held once in every four years. It is also included in the Asian Games and SES Games.

Hockey was played in the country during the pre-war days and there were many teams in Pyin-Oo-Lwin. The game was revived in the country in 1951. It was played at the BA Grounds in Yangon. Later, it was played at the Theinbyu Grounds also known as the Theinbyu Hockey Pitch. There were men's teams as well as women's teams and some of the tournaments were the Open Knockout Tourney, Hockey League Tourney, the Knockout Tourney, etc.

Now that the State is giving encouragements to all events of sports including hockey with a view to ensuring achievements in sports as the 27th SEA Games which is a decisive factor for Myanmar athletes is drawing near. And I am sure that more and more athletes will come to take part in hockey as it is also one of the sports events of the 27th SEA Games to be held in Myanmar in 2013.



MEASLES VACCINATED: The age-wise measles vaccination campaign 2012 was launched at the administrative office in 1/Htupayon ward of Thakayta Township of Yangon Region on 22 March morning. Township Administrator U Hsan Min and Head of Township Health Department Dr Naing Myat Kyaw view vaccination of measles to children.—KYEMON

Antiphonal chant teams to enjoy Mandalay Maha Thingyan Festival

MANDALAY, 7 April—In the Traditional Maha Thingyan Festival 1373 ME, Mandalay moats will be packed with four decorated pavilions, 31 water throwing pavilions and one local decorated pavilion, totalling 36. Moreover, there will be seven decorated floats representing the district and Silver Swan Myoma.

At the Mandalay Mayor's Maha Thingyan Pandal, Myanmarpyi Thein Tan, Khin Maung Htoo, Than

Myat Soe, Mandalay Thein Zaw, Ye Lay, Chit Thu Wai, L Hseng Xi and Yadana Mai will entertain the people to the accompaniment of Metal Zone Band of Yangon.

At Alpine pavilion, Zar Ni, Sai Sai Kham Hlaing, Khant Sithu, Phyu Phyu Kyaw Thein, Tun Eindra Bo, Waing Su Khaing Thein, Yadana and Khaing Thin Kyi will perform entertainments to the

accompaniment of The Tree Band.

At Nanmyothu Pavilion, film and music stars and Mandalay's famous comedians U Chit Saya, U Htin Paw, Thabye, Ja Aye, U Myat Tha, U Paw Sein, U Di Pa, Monywa Tet Toe, Pa Pa Lay and U Lu Maung will go around the city by singing antiphonal chants by car.

Kyemon

DISTRICT NEWS

Philippines Ambassador meets UMFCCI President

YANGON, 7

April—Ambassador of the Republic of the Philippines to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Ms Maria Hellen Barber met President U Win Aung and CEC member Dr Thin Nwe Win of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry at the office of the federation at 1.30 pm on 22 March.

At the call, they



discussed signing the MoU on economic cooperation between the UMFCFI and Philippine Chambers of Commerce and Industry, visit of the Philippine entrepreneurs to Myanmar, promotion of Philippine-

Myanmar trade, holding of economic forums between entrepreneurs of Philippines and Myanmar and observation at agro-based value-added products in a cordial manner.

UMFCCI

New library put into service in Kyaukme

KYAUKME, 7 April—A ceremony to open Dhammasami Library was held at Namlan Myole Monastery in Hsipaw Township of Kyaukme District on 21 March, unveiled by Sayadaw Dr Dhammasami.

Sayadaw Dr Dhammasami handed over K 2.7 million for the library, wellwishers K 560,000 and

books to the library supervisory committee.

After that, the departments, members of religious and social organizations and local people paid homage to Professor of International Theravada Buddhist Missionary University Secretary-General of International Association of Buddhist University and

Association of Theravada Buddhist University Oxford Buddha Vihara Monastery Sayadaw Bhaddanta Dr Dhammasami offered Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja title by the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, and Namlan Myole Monastery of Hsipaw Bhaddanta Nanobhasa.

Myanma Alin

Training courses conclude at Vocational Training School

PUTAO, 7 April—The basic domestic science course No. 21 and the advanced tailoring course No. 15 concluded at Women's Vocational Training School in Putao of Putao District in Kachin State on 23 March morning.

At the ceremony, Deputy Commissioner U

Hlaing Tun of District General Administration Department made a speech.

Afterwards, Deputy Commissioner U Hlaing Tun presented prize to an outstanding trainee in the advanced tailoring course.

Next, Township Administrator U Lin Thu Maung of Putao Township

gave prizes to the trainees in the basic domestic science course.

Chairperson of Putao Township Women's Affairs Organization Daw Myat Mon The presented disciplinary award to the trainee; and Principal of the training school Daw Khin Mar Yin gave completion certificates to the trainees.

VTS

CSC ISSUED: Dagon Myothit (North) Township Immigration and National Registration Department made citizenship scrutiny cards for eligible citizens in implementing Moe Pwint-2 Plan. On 3 March, Head of Township Immigration and National Registration Department U Myo Myint hands over cards to Ward 45 Administrator U Tin Tun Wai.

KYEMON



Prevention against animal disease talked

HOPIN, 7 April—A talk on bio-security and prevention against animal diseases was given in Tatwin Village of Hopin Sub-Township of Mohnyin District in Kachin State on 25 March afternoon.

The talk was attended

by livestock breeding entrepreneurs of the state.

Head of Hopin Sub-Township Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department Dr Zaw Myint Naing explained bio-security and animal diseases.—Myanma Alin



BOOKS DONATED: A ceremony to donate books to Mawlamyine Township Information and Public Relations Department on 26 March. Vice-Chairman of Insein Township Writers and Journalists Association U Bo Kyi (Dr Bo Thanmani) and party present books to Staff Officer Daw Hla Hla Oo of Mawlamyine District IPRD and Head of Township IPRD Daw Thida Aye.

TOWNSHIP WJA

DISTRICT NEWS

Dead whale floats in sea near Palaw Township

NAY PYI TAW, 7 April—According to the information that a dead whale with the measurement of 40 feet long and 15 feet diameter floated in the sea in Pyinbugyi-Pyinbunge region of Palaw Township in Taninthayi Region, Head of Taninthayi Region Fisheries Department Dr Nyunt Wai together with Head of Palaw

Township Fisheries Department U Tun Than inspected the whale on 19 March.

They undertook measuring the dead body of whale, moved it to away not to cause hazard to the environs and villages, buried it to take skeletons and prevent the environmental pollution.—Myanma Alin

Reserved seats on highway buses for service personnel during Maha Thingyan period

YANGON, 7 April—Seats will be reserved on highway buses and express buses for service personnel for their convenient traveling during the days of Maha Thingyan festival, according to the officials of the Aungmyingala Highway Bus Terminal.

"Directives have been issued to bus lines to take eight seats reservation for service personnel compulsorily if the personnel buy the seats for emergent traveling. Although there will be least number of highway buses on their runs during the days of Maha Thingyan festival, reserved seats are to be left for personnel before and during the days of Maha Thingyan festival," he said.

He further explained, "It is arranged for emergent traveling of service personnel. If any personnel do not buy the tickets, the seats will be sold to the passengers."

"The highway buses will run up to 11 April regularly. Moreover, warnings have been issued to the bus lines not to raise the price of tickets."

The highway bus lines expected that as the number of highway bus lines have increased this year and raise the runs of their plies, the passengers would not face difficulties in purchasing bus tickets during this year's Maha Thingyan festival period.

Khin Lay Myint Aung

Insein Township WJA donates books

YANGON, 7 April—The book donations of Insein Township Writers and Journalists Association to Kyaikto Township

Information and Public Relations Department was held at the Dhammayon of Kinpunchaung in Kyaikto Township on 25 March.

Vice-Chairman of Insein Township Writers and Journalists Association U Bo Kyi (Dr Bo Thanmani-Taungdwingyi), Secretary U Soe Win Maung (Shwe Taik Soe) and Auditor U Win Myint (Maung Maung Win Myint-Hmukhin) donated books.

Staff Officer Daw Khin Saw Lin of District IPRD and Head of Township IPRD Daw Aye Myo Myo San accepted the book donation.

Township WJA

Cash assistance for rice, uniform provided in Htantabin

YANGON, 7 April—A ceremony to provide rice for service personnel and cash assistance for uniforms was held at the office of Township General Administration Department in Htantabin Township of Yangon Region

on 3 April.

At the ceremony, Township Administrator U Ngwe Doe presented K 1.52 million for the staff members to Office Superintendent Daw Khin Khin Win.

Myanma Alin



Township Administrator U Ngwe Doe of Htantabin Township presents bags of rice and cash assistance for uniforms to staff members through Office Superintendent Daw Khin Khin Win.

Twantay Township gets new rural library



NAY PYI TAW, 7 April—Pyinnya Alin Library was put into service in Alanok Village of Htawtho Village-tract in Twantay Township of Yangon South District on 23 March.

In front of the library, the opening ceremony was held. Major Than Kyaw of the local station, Township Administrator U Than Zaw

Han, Head of Township Information and Public Relations Department U Thet Oo and Chairman of the library committee U Soe Win cut the ribbon to open the facility.

Next, the book donation ceremony followed. Myanmar Libraries Foundation donated 200 copies of books and

publications, Township Women's Affairs Organization K 10,000, and U Aung Soe K 50,000 and one radio to the library.

Wellwisher U Mya Thau-Daw Khin Htay Yi who donated the land plot for the library handed over documents related to the library plot to officials.

Myanma Alin

MLF invites donations 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 at No. 228 on Theinbyu Street in Botahtaung Township, Yangon, Tel: 01-371342, 01-201936 and 01-398756.



Police and fireman remove an injured person from the site of a crane collapse where construction is going on for the 7 line subway extension on 3 April, 2012, in New York. Fire officials say a crane collapse at a Manhattan construction site has injured two people.

INTERNET

James Murdoch quits as BSKyB chairman

LONDON, 7 April — James Murdoch resigned as chairman of BSKyB on Tuesday to prevent his links to a tabloid phone-hacking scandal from undermining the pay TV group, which has so far escaped the worst of the damage convulsing its controlling shareholder News Corp.

In a bitter blow to Murdoch, until last year seen as heir apparent to his father Rupert's media empire, James said he would step down from the British pay-TV company where he made his name as a talented executive in his own right.

"I am aware that my role as Chairman could become a lightning rod for BSKyB and I believe that my resignation will help to ensure that there is no false conflation with events at a separate organization," Murdoch said.

The 39-year-old is a previous chairman of News International, News Corp's British newspaper arm that published the News of the World tabloid at the heart

of the scandal. News of the World was shut down last year. "As attention continues to be paid to past events at News International, I am determined that the interests of BSKyB should not be undermined by matters outside the scope of this company," Murdoch wrote in a letter to the BSKyB board.

Internet



News International Chairman James Murdoch speaks to parliamentarians in London in this 10 Nov, 2011 file photo.—INTERNET

Fire at Penly nuclear reactor in northern France

PARIS, 7 April — Fire crews have been rushed to a nuclear reactor in northern France after an escape of smoke but the energy company EDF says the site is secure. Ten fire engines were sent to the Penly site near Dieppe, where the reactor was shut down after the alarm was raised at 12:20 (11:20 GMT). Nobody was hurt, the firm said, and the incident had "no consequences for the environment".

Two small fires had broken out but were later extinguished, the firm said. The fires were

caused by hot oil leaking from a pump inside the reactor building, an EDF spokeswoman said, quoted by Reuters news agency. The Penly plant has two pressurised water reactors, cooled by water from the English Channel. France obtains 75% of its electricity from nuclear power and the industry's future has become a political issue. A release of smoke automatically shut down the No 2 reactor, according to the EDF. Emergency services tackled the two fires at 13:15, it said on its website.—Internet

With sights set on Romney, Obama says eager for campaign

WASHINGTON, 7 April— President Barack Obama on Thursday called out his likely opponent for the White House by name for the second time this week and said he "cannot wait" for the chance to pit his vision for America against the Republicans in this year's election.

In remarks that underscore the president's shift into full general election-fighting mode, Obama acknowledged Mitt Romney was the front-runner to win the Republican nomination to face him on 6 November, and said he relished the upcoming contest.

"We are going to have a big and important debate in this country, and I cannot wait," the Democrat told supporters at a fundraising event in Washington. This is going to be a big debate and it's going to be a fun debate. It's always good to have the truth on your side," he said.

The president had barely mentioned the former Massachusetts governor by name for months but has done so twice this week. Romney moved closer to clinching the Republican presidential nomination on Tuesday when he won three primary contests.

Obama fiercely attacked Republican budget plans earlier this week. On Thursday he again warned supporters the plan would gut many popular social programmes, adding that it was "a budget that Governor Romney, who is the front runner on the Republican side, has embraced....the budget was marvelous, he said.—MNA/Reuters

Malaysian police bust football betting syndicate

KUALA LUMPUR, 7 April—Malaysian police on Thursday busted a football betting syndicate and arrested 144 foreigners in an upscale residential resort in Kajang, 30 kilometres south of Kuala Lumpur.

Police raided six bungalows the syndicate had rented as betting dens following a tip-off, Selangor state police chief Hisan Hamzah told a Press conference. The suspects were said to be taking bets for the European Champions League using laptops and telephones during the raid.

The syndicate was also involved in illegal online gambling and Internet scams and had raked in billions of ringit in bets and stakes over the past month.

Police seized 35,800 ringit (11,674.5 US dollars) in cash, 241 telephones, 43 laptops and 48 modems in the raid.—MNA/Xinhua

Singapore PM donates \$280,000 to set up three awards

SINGAPORE, 7 April—Singapore Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong is donating 350,000 Singapore dollars (280,000 US dollars) to set up three new awards to promote community bonding, social services and the arts, he announced on Thursday.

"I hope that these donations and awards will encourage charities and volunteers to continue their excellent work to make Singapore a better home for all," Lee said in a statement. The Prime Minister announced in 2007 following the ministerial salary adjustments that he would donate the increase in his salary to charity in the next five years. This year is the fifth year of his donations.

This year, Lee is giving to a range of

community, grassroots, youth, arts and welfare organizations and also donating the 350,000 Singapore dollars to establish the awards. He will be donating 200,000 Singapore dollars (160,000 US dollars) towards a Community Initiatives Fund to sponsor projects initiated by the People's Association towards the goal of a more inclusive and united community.

Another 100,000 Singapore dollars (80,000 US dollars) will go to a Prime Minister's Social Service Award to encourage people to choose social service careers. The other 50,000 Singapore dollars (40,000 US dollars) will go to a Prime Minister's Valedictorian Award for the top student in each graduating cohort from the School of the Arts.—MNA/Xinhua

Treesaves woman from out-of-control truck

HOUSTON, 7 April — A truck driver was killed but a 95-year-old Houston woman was unharmed Thursday when an 18-wheeler crashed into a tree she planted in her yard 40 years ago. The driver of the truck lost control of the vehicle when he had a heart attack. Paramedics took the man, whose name was not reported, to the hospital where he was pronounced dead.

Alice Wright said she slept through the truck crashing into her yard, stopping just short of her bedroom, but credits the Live Oak tree she planted there with saving her life, KHOU-TV, Houston, reported. "My neighbour across the street called me and said, 'Are you all right,' and I said, 'What's the matter,' and she said, 'Oh, Mrs. Wright you don't know that truck is in your yard and could have come in your house?'"

"I'm just so thankful to the good Lord it was there, to stop that truck, I tell ya," Wright said. Wright told KHOU she got the tree in the early 1960s when she in Cleveland, Texas. "Me and my niece went out there and dug them — she got one and I got one — they were little bitty saplings then," she said.—Internet

Mexican gang member sentenced to life in US prison for murders



Federal police escort drug suspect Jose Antonio Acosta Hernandez, "El Diego", as he is presented to the media during a news conference at the federal police headquarters in Mexico City on 31 July, 2011.—INTERNET

AUSTIN, 7 April — A senior member of a Mexican drug cartel was sentenced to life in prison in a US court on Thursday after authorities implicated him in more than 1,500 murders, including the 2010 execution of a US

consulate employee in northern Mexico. Jose Antonio Acosta Hernandez, 34, pleaded guilty to 11 counts that included murder, conspiracy to kill people in a foreign country and various racketeering, money laundering and drug charges.

US District Judge Kathleen Cardone in El Paso, Texas, sentenced Hernandez to seven concurrent life terms and three additional consecutive life terms. "The defendant directed or participated in over 1,500 murders since 2008," according to the plea agreement with Hernandez, who was extradited from Mexico in March.

Hernandez was in charge of the armed enforcement wing of the Juarez Drug Cartel, which had formed an alliance with the Barrio Azteca drug gang that operated in Texas and Mexico to control the Ciudad Juarez, Chihuahua, Mexico drug trafficking, prosecutors said in the court papers.

Ciudad Juarez has served as a major route for smuggling narcotics into the United States. He ordered his men to kill members of a rival gang at a January 2010 birthday party in Ciudad Juarez that killed 16 and ordered a car bombing that killed four individuals including two Mexican police officers, the plea said.

Internet

Grounded New Zealand ship Rena's owners charged

WELLINGTON, 7 April — The owners of a ship which ran aground off New Zealand spilling hundreds of tonnes of fuel oil are being charged with discharging harmful substances. The *Rena* ran aground on a reef near Tauranga on 5 October 2011, causing what has



The Rena broke in two in January, three months after it ran aground.

INTERNET

been called the country's worst environmental disaster.

Maritime officials filed the charge against Daina Shipping, a subsidiary of Greek shipping giant Costamare. The charge carries a maximum fine of NZ\$600,000 (\$489,000, £308,000). The company faces additional fines of NZ\$10,000 for each day the offence continues.

Internet

MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY HOLIDAY NOTICE

As the wharves, warehouses and chellan offices of Yangon Port will be closed on the 11th April 2012 to 20th April 2012 (New Year Public Holiday) Goods Shipped or delivered on payment will be received as Holiday Fees.

FA Porsche, designer of iconic 911 sports car, dies



Now in its seventh version, the 911 is still recognizably FA Porsche's design.

INTERNET

STUTTGART, 7 April — The designer of the iconic Porsche 911 sports car, Ferdinand Alexander Porsche, has died at the age of 76. FA Porsche first designed the model in the early 1960s. The 911 first appeared in 1963, and the elegance and simplicity of its shape quickly made it a classic. It is now in its seventh version, and was recently voted one of the best cars of the twentieth century. His grandfather, Ferdinand Porsche, designed the Volkswagen Beetle. FA Porsche was in charge of the family firm's design department when he conceived the 911 as a

replacement for its first model, the 356.

While it has undergone many technological changes since its inception, the 911 is recognizably still the same car today. FA Porsche became the chairman of Porsche AG in 1990, and served in that role until 1993, helping to secure the company's future after sales fell in the late 1980s. The company says FA Porsche died on Thursday in the Austrian city of Salzburg, but it has not revealed how he died. He will be buried in Austria, and a memorial service will be held in Stuttgart, the city of his birth, and where the company is based. — *Internet*

North Sea gas leak plug 'achievable'

ABERDEEN, 7 April — A plan to plug a leaking North Sea platform well is "achievable," inspectors said Friday following a visit to a well head that is spewing a cloud of potentially explosive gas. A team of experts spent four hours Thursday visiting the Elgin platform, which is operated by French energy giant Total. It was the first time the wellhead had been inspected since the platform's 238 crew were evacuated on 25 March when the leak was detected.

"We achieved our goals. Everything went as we would have hoped and the planned well intervention is achievable," Texas-based outside experts Wild Well Control said after visiting the platform alongside staff from the rig who are familiar with its construction. The firm said

there were certainly no surprise obstacles to launching their operation. Specialists will revisit the platform in the coming days to develop detailed plans for pumping the problem G4 well head full of "heavy mud" at high pressure so as to seal it.

In a statement, Total said the team found no gas on the the processing platform and the 90-metre (year) bridge to the well head platform was also free of gas. The structural condition of that platform, G4 and the surrounding rig were unchanged since the evacuation, as were safety situations. "The visual inspection confirmed that the leak is coming from the G4 well head at Well Head Platform deck level. In parallel, a remote operated vehicle survey confirmed no underwater gas leak," Total said. — *Internet*



French energy giant Total's Elgin rig, 150 miles (240 kms) off Aberdeen in the North Sea.

INTERNET

Which country has the most expensive postal charges?

LONDON, 7 April — The price of postage is going up sharply in the UK, but it still won't be the most expensive place in the world to post a letter, or not quite. Which countries earn that dubious honour? The price of a British first-class stamp is going up by about a third at the end of the month, from 46p to 60p, and the price of a second-class stamp will rise almost 40%, from 36p to 50p. But the Royal Mail says its "prices are amongst the best value in Europe". Is this true? It depends how you look at it. The Royal Mail points out the UK will remain the cheapest place in Europe to post a certain type of letter — a heavy letter, weighing between 50g (1.76oz) and 100g (3.53oz), if you post it second class.

And that's if you adjust the price to take into account the fact that money goes further in some countries where



The price of postage is going up sharply in the UK, but it still won't be the most expensive place in the world to post a letter, or not quite. Which countries earn that dubious honour? — *INTERNET*

goods and services are generally cheap, than it does in others. Goods and services are relatively expensive in the UK, so the 50p price tag looks cheaper after the adjustment. But what if you post a standard letter — just one or two sheets of paper — first class? Then UK prices are not among the best value in Europe. In fact, the UK is among the top 10 most expensive countries,

though its precise position in the top 10 depends on how you do the sums. If you convert the local price into dollars, the UK is the fifth most expensive in Europe. The 60p it will soon cost for a first class stamp is \$0.96, behind Finland, Switzerland, Denmark and, in first place, Norway — where a comparable stamp costs \$1.67 (9.5 Kroner).

If you adjust for the

relative purchasing power of the different countries, the UK is in seventh place among European countries. Ahead of it are Denmark in sixth place, Norway in fifth, then Poland, Latvia, Slovakia and, in the top spot, Bulgaria. Posting a letter in Bulgaria only costs 0.85 Lev (\$0.68) but to most Bulgarians, that's a lot. When the Royal Mail does these calculations, using slightly different purchasing power calculations, it places the UK in ninth position. That's Europe's 10 most expensive countries to post a letter. What about the world's? In the BBC's survey of 65 countries around the world, Norway's \$1.67 postage still comes out on top. The post office there, Posten Norge, told the BBC its prices reflect competition from new technology, such as email, and the country's geography.

Internet

Owner gives up California marijuana school after raid

LOS ANGELES, 7 April — The founder of a US centre that offers courses on growing and dispensing marijuana says he will step aside from school days after a police raid. Richard Lee, 49, who runs Oaksterdam University, said he was concerned about facing serious federal drug charges. He has campaigned for the legalisation of marijuana, by supporting ballot measures and raising \$1.5m (£945,000) to back a 2010 state legalisation plan.



Oaksterdam University has been called the "Princeton of Pot" and the "Harvard of Hemp" — *INTERNET*

Authorities have not explained why they raided the centre. Monday's raid saw officers from federal tax and drug agencies confiscated marijuana, computers and files relating to Mr Lee's business.

Mr Lee, a paraplegic who uses a wheelchair, was not arrested. "It was something we've always feared, but we've always known it's a part of the politics of this issue," Mr Lee told the *Los Angeles Times*. Mr Lee has said that now he will only continue with his advocacy work and will stop running the education centre. Mr Lee told the *Los Angeles Times* that even though he will step aside, the centre will continue to run. "I've been doing this for a long time. Over 20 years... I kind of feel like I've done my time. It's time for others to take over." The centre has run some classes since the raid. Mr Lee said his decision to step aside was not part of a deal with the authorities.

Courses at Oaksterdam University include horticulture, business and the legal intricacies of running a marijuana dispensary. The school does not distribute the drug. The use of marijuana for some medical purposes is allowed in California.

Internet



Afghan soil will not be used to launch attacks against any country after foreign troops withdraw, the war-torn nation's foreign minister, pictured here in March 2012, told Al-Jazeera in an interview, excerpts of which were received by AFP on Friday. — *INTERNET*

'No attacks' launched from Afghanistan after 2014

KABUL, 7 April — Afghan soil will not be used to launch attacks against any country after foreign troops withdraw, the war-torn nation's foreign minister told Al-Jazeera in an interview, excerpts of which were received by AFP on Friday. "Afghan soil will not be used against any country in the region," Zalmay Rassoul said, when asked if the United States would be allowed to continue drone attacks on

Pakistan after all foreign combat troops withdraw from Afghanistan by the end of 2014.

"The presence of the remaining forces in Afghanistan is for training, equipping and securing Afghanistan's security. It has been mentioned, it is going to be mentioned, that this force is not for use against any neighbours in the region," Rassoul told the Doha-based television channel. The US drone war on Islamist militants in Pakistan is one of the major sticking points in Washington's relations with Islamabad, which reached their lowest point last year when airstrikes killed 24 Pakistani soldiers in November, six months after a covert US raid killed Osama bin Laden.

Pakistan responded by shutting its Afghan border to NATO supplies and evicting US personnel from an air base reportedly used as a hub by US drones.

Internet

Big lottery winners often prize anonymity

RED BUD, 7 April — The tiny Illinois farm town of Red Bud is the kind of place with few strangers and few secrets. Yet the community of 3,700 has a lingering mystery on its hands: Who bought the winning Mega Millions lottery ticket, and why hasn't the winner of the world record \$656 million jackpot come forward? Though secrecy surrounds the ticket sold at the MotoMart convenience store, lottery officials note it's not unusual for winners to lay

low — and those who advise them say it's just plain smart.

It's exactly what the Kansas winner of the March 30 Mega Millions drawing decided to do.

Kansas Lottery Director Dennis Wilson said the person came to the agency's Topeka head-quarters on Friday morning with an attorney and some financial advisers. Wilson said the person does not want to be identified, even by gender — something Kansas law

allows. "They obviously don't need the publicity," Wilson said. "They're not used to the publicity of where they're from, where they live."

A third winning ticket was sold in Maryland, and questions fester about a woman claiming to have it. For all of its promise, instant riches come with a price, starting with the immediate barrage of calls from relatives and distant friends eager for a handout.

Internet



Nutriphase animal carnival 2012: dance with pet dogs: A woman and her dog attend the Nutriphase animal carnival 2012 in Johannesburg, South Africa, on 6 April, 2012. The 4-day carnival was held to promote responsible pet care and ownership.

News Album



Australian actress Nicole Kidman, is in talks to play the late Grace Kelly, the screen legend who married the prince of Monaco, in a film by French director Olivier Dahan, *Variety* reported on Thursday.
INTERNET

Nicole Kidman in talks on Grace Kelly role

LOS ANGELES, 7 April—Australian actress Nicole Kidman is in talks to play the late Grace Kelly, the screen legend who married the prince of Monaco, in a film by French director Olivier Dahan, *Variety* reported on Thursday.

The report said Kidman, 44, is in negotiations to play Kelly in "Grace of Monaco," which Pierre-Ange Le Pogam is producing with writer Arash Amel.

The entertainment daily said "nearly every top actress in Hollywood" is seeking the role and that no deal has been signed yet.

The screenplay by Amel is not a biopic but centers on the period from December 1961 to November 1962.

At the time Kelly, an Oscar winner and mother of two, had already spent six years as a princess and was called upon to save Monaco from an escalating crisis with France over the tiny monarchy's status as a tax haven.

Kidman won an Academy Award for her portrayal of author Virginia Woolf in "The Hours" (2002).

Internet

Actress Amanda Bynes arrested on suspicion of DUI

LOS ANGELES, 7 April—Authorities say actress Amanda Bynes has been arrested on suspicion of driving under the influence after she grazed a sheriff's patrol car.

The 26-year-old actress was arrested around 3 am Friday in West Hollywood.

The Los Angeles County sheriff's department says that Bynes attempted to pass a patrol car making a right turn when she hit it. Deputies who arrested her

suspect she was drunk at the time.

Bynes is being held on \$5,000 bail. Her publicist, Melissa Raubvogel, did not immediately return a call and an email from *The Associated Press*.

The actress appeared in the 2010 film "Easy A" and the Nickelodeon series "What I Like About You."

Deputies say there was paint damage to both cars, but no one was injured.

Internet

Vet removes golf ball from rat snake

A snake that swallowed a golf ball in Low Country South Carolina has a new lease on life thanks to surgery and a new career in environmental education.

A couple spotted the yellow rat snake trying to cross a road in Beaufort, *The Island Packet* reported. In the snake's first big break, David Gorzynski and Kim Gundler, who operate Beaufort Kayak Tours, are trained master naturalists.

Dr Mark Guilloud, a veterinarian who showed up to return a kayak, agreed to perform the surgery.

The procedure took 10 minutes once the snake was anesthetized and was followed by an anxious period when the patient stopped breathing.

Guilloud said he has removed "golf balls, hard balls, socks, blankets, Bert and Ernie—all the kids' toys" from dogs but the operation was his first on a snake.

The snake is believed to have eaten the ball, a Titleist, while foraging in a chicken coop. The balls are sometimes used to encourage hens.

The Nature Centre at the Lowcountry Institute has given the snake a home. The stitches are scheduled for removal in two weeks, and Tony Mills said the snake will then be used to help educate the public on the benefits provided by rodent-eating rat snakes.

Deputies: Burglars used stolen Yorkie

Authorities in Florida said a family has been reunited with their Yorkshire terrier after he was stolen from their home along with some valuable items.

The Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office said the 4-year-old dog, Max, was taken Thursday from the home of Jim Riger, who lives just west

of Boca Raton, and was reunited with the family later in the day after deputies arrested Rickardo Stephens and a juvenile, the *South Florida Sun Sentinel* reported Friday. Deputies said the suspects were arrested with a carload of property, which included computers, jewelry, iPhones, iPads, an Xbox, DVDs and

video games taken from the Riger home on Thursday and a previous burglary 28 March.

Investigators said the suspects were using the dog to find out if people were home at houses they chose as targets for their burglaries. They said Stephens and the juvenile would knock on the door and tell anyone who answered that they found the dog and were trying to find the owners.



Bloody! African python swallows antelope.

Lost cat found after 16 years

Officials at a German animal shelter said a cat was reunited with his owner after spending 16 years living in the woods.

Bernhard Schoettel said his 19-year-old son, Kilian, found the cat while walking in the woods near Munich and brought it home, the *New York Daily News* reported Friday.

"My son immediately noticed that the animal was quite old," Schoettel said. "He felt sorry for it because it no longer had any front teeth. The tom was very trusting. We fed him for a few days and discovered that he was tattooed, so we took him to the animal sanctuary over the weekend."

Officials at the animal shelter said they were able to trace the cat's identification tattoo to owner Monika Moser, who said the feline went missing 16 years ago. The shelter said the cat's survival was unusual and he is now suffering from liver and thyroid problems.

Moser, who lives about 2 miles from where the cat was found, was reunited with the animal, the shelter said.

Oprah calls her new cable venture a tough climb

NEW YORK, 7 April—Oprah Winfrey says creating her new cable network has turned out to be a steep climb.

"I'm climbing Kilimanjaro," she told advertisers Thursday at a presentation for OWN: The Oprah Winfrey Network. She quickly explained that her Kilimanjaro is at the offices of OWN.

"You know that song, 'The Time of My Life'? I've had the climb of my life," she cracked.

The network has struggled to build an audience since its launch in January 2011. It recently announced severe staff layoffs and a management shakeup with



In this 14 April, 2011 publicity image originally released by OWN, TV personality and media mogul Oprah Winfrey presents at the OWN: Oprah Winfrey Network portion of the Discovery Communications Upfront at Jazz at Lincoln Centre in New York.—INTERNET

Discovery Communications Inc., the company that's bankrolled it with \$300 million-plus.

But Winfrey struck a hopeful note in her brief remarks, even as she allowed she's still nowhere near the channel's summit of success.

"With our restructuring and right-sizing and getting into the sauce of what needs to happen every day, I feel like I can at least now see the summit," she said.—Internet



Jennifer Hudson.

Potential jurors in Hudson case asked about singer

CHICAGO, 7 April—Jennifer Hudson takes centre stage in a questionnaire that potential jurors are being asked to fill out to determine if they will be allowed to decide whether or not a man is guilty in the slayings of the singer's mother, brother and nephew. Nine of the 66 questions released to *The Associated Press* and other media outlets Friday dealt with Hudson's career in movies, television and as an author.

Prospective jurors were asked if they have ever watched "American Idol," the television show that brought Hudson to fame, or if they saw "Dreamgirls," the motion picture for which she won an Academy Award. They also were asked if they'd ever seen her perform or read her book, "I Got This: How I Changed my Ways and Lost What Weighed Me Down."

In what is apparently a reference to Hudson's work as a spokeswoman for Weight Watchers, one question read: "Do you belong to any organization for which Jennifer Hudson is a spokesperson?"—Internet



Jesse James.

Jesse James: I'm in an 'awesome place'

LOS ANGELES, 7 April—US reality television star Jesse James says he thinks he is in an "awesome place" two years after actress Sandra Bullock divorced him for cheating on

her. "Everyone can say whatever they want about me and call me whatever, but guess what? I'm still standing," James told E! News while promoting "Jesse James: Outlaw Garage," his Discovery Channel special premiering on Monday.

James, who lives in Austin, Texas, returned to television by competing on Discovery's "American Chopper: The Build-Off" in December. "Outlaw" follows the former "Monster Garage" and "Celebrity Apprentice" star and his team at the Austin Speed Shop as they rebuild a 1932 Ford Roadster.

He said he hopes it will become a series. "I think I'm in a pretty awesome place in life," James told E! "In light of everything that's happened, I



Amanda Bynes arrives at the MTV Video Music Awards in New York. Bynes was arrested early on 6 April, 2012, on suspicion of drunken driving after allegedly hitting a sheriff's patrol car.
INTERNET



Wayne Routledge and Swansea could not find a way through against Newcastle on Friday.— INTERNET

Swans undone by Cisse strikes

Newcastle forward grabs two more goals to boost club's top-four hopes

LONDON, 7 April — Swansea City 0-2 Newcastle United. Newcastle United's fairytale season continued in the Barclays Premier League as they won at Swansea to move to within two points of Arsenal in third place. The Magpies got off to the perfect start when Yohan Cabaye threaded a pass through for Papiss Cisse to take a touch and roll the ball past Michel

Vom.

Swansea dominated possession but could not find a breakthrough, with Gylfi Sigurdsson stinging the palms of Tim Krul and Joe Allen forcing a save too. But Cisse doubled the lead with a second glorious finish from another clever Cabaye pass and the Magpies held on to collect another crucial three points.— *Internet*



Fred Couples celebrates after finishing the second round the Masters golf tournament on the 18th on 6 April, 2012, in Augusta, Ga.— INTERNET

Couples shares Masters lead; Woods falls 8 behind

AUGUSTA, 7 April — All signs pointed to this being a Masters for the ages. This wasn't what anyone had in mind — 52-year-old Fred Couples, silver hair and still cool as ever, drawing the loudest cheers Friday on his way to becoming the oldest player atop the leaderboard going into the weekend at Augusta National.

"Very shocking, and it was a great day," Couples said after a 5-under 67, which gave him a share of the lead with Jason Dufner.

"There was a lot going on there, and for me to be a part of it, it's really amazing." The buzz going into the Masters was built around all the best players on top of their games, and that element was very much in place. Rory McIlroy charged up the leaderboard. Lee Westwood is right there. So is Sergio Garcia and even Phil Mickelson. Missing from the mix — another surprise — was club-kicking Tiger

Woods.

Just two weeks after Woods won Bay Hill by five shots and became an instant favorite for a fifth green jacket, he couldn't make a putt and then hit only two greens on the back nine. He kept dropping the club out of his hands in disgust, and it reached a boiling point on the par-3 16th when he turned and kicked his 9-iron some 15 yards. Woods didn't make a birdie after the third hole and shot 75, his highest score at Augusta since 2004.

Internet

Spain up 2-0 on Austria in Davis Cup quarters

CASTELLON, 7 April — Defending champion Spain has taken a 2-0 lead over Austria in the Davis Cup quarterfinals lead after easy victories by Nicolas Almagro and David Ferrer. Almagro, ranked No 12, opened the best-of-five series Friday by beating Jurgen Melzer 6-2, 6-2, 6-4 on an outdoor clay

court. Ferrer, ranked No 5, followed by defeating 139th-ranked Andreas Haider-Maurer 6-1, 6-3, 6-1.

Spain, five-time Davis Cup champions, can capture its 23rd straight home victory by winning Saturday's doubles. Marcel Granollers and Marc Lopez will face Alexander Peya and Oliver

Marach. The winner of this series will advance to September's semifinals against France or the United States.— *Internet*

International Sports

Man City manager admits defeat at Arsenal and victory for Man United could decide title

LONDON, 7 April — Manchester City manager Roberto Mancini admits that defeat at Arsenal on Sunday could end his side's hopes of winning the Barclays Premier League title. Defeat for City at the Emirates Stadium and victory for Manchester United at home to Queens Park Rangers would leave United eight points clear at the top of the table. Asked if the title race would be over if that happened, Mancini said: "If we lose against Arsenal and if they beat QPR, yes."

Mancini, however, is still hopeful that his side can mount a fightback in the final seven matches of the season despite seeing their

commanding lead over United slip away. "Why not? It's possible. If they win all their games, congratulations, they deserve to win the title. "But seven games to the end, I think that everything can happen," said Mancini, whose side will host Manchester United at the Etihad Stadium on Monday 30th April. "It's important that we win our games and after we will see what happens. Also because we will play a derby, which will be three points. I think that in six games they can lose other points."

City could welcome back striker Sergio Aguero from injury for the trip to Arsenal, who have won seven of their



David Silva scored the winner when Manchester City beat Arsenal in December.— INTERNET

last eight League matches. The Gunners saw their winning run come to an end last Saturday when they lost 2-1 at Queens Park Rangers. They have already suffered

two 1-0 defeats to City so far this season—in the Carling Cup quarter-final at the Emirates in November and the League match at the Etihad in December.— *Internet*

Aussie Stosur sinks Venus at WTA Charleston tennis

CHARLESTON, 7 April — Australia's Samantha Stosur booked her semi-final spot at the WTA Charleston clay court event with a pair of three-set wins, ruining the prospect of an all-Williams clash. Stosur, who turned 28 last Friday, ousted world number 87 Venus Williams with a 6-3, 4-6, 6-3 win in the quarter-finals to set up a semi-final showdown against Serena Williams.

Stosur, of the Gold Coast, was leading Galina Voskoboeva 4-2 in the first set Thursday when the match was halted because of rain. First up Friday on center court, No 2 seed Stosur finished off Voskoboeva with a 6-3, 4-6, 6-2 third-round win. She was back on court less than two hours later to face Venus.

"I don't think it was the

end of the world to get out there and play this morning," Stosur said. "Today was very different than what we've been playing in, so it was good to get used to the conditions. I would have preferred not to play two three set matches, but nevertheless, I'm happy to be through."

Serena reached the semifinals on Friday when injury-cursed Sabine Lisicki quit their last-eight clash in floods of tears. The American fifth seed was 5-1 ahead in the first set when Lisicki—whose career went into a tailspin in 2010 when an injury left her barely able to walk—retired after falling and hurting her ankle. Stosur posted her first career win over Venus after losing four straight—all in straight sets, including three on clay.— *Internet*



Australia's Samantha Stosur, booked her semi-final spot at the WTA Charleston clay court event with a pair of three-set wins, ruining the prospect of an all-Williams clash.— INTERNET



Augsburg's goalkeeper Simon Jentsch (R) saves the ball during their German first division Bundesliga match vs Borussia Dortmund, in Augsburg, southern Germany, on 10 March. Augsburg play Bayern Munich next, at Allianz Arena.— INTERNET

Mueller calls for calm as Bayern hunt Borussia in Bundesliga

AUGSBURG, 7 April — Having reached the Champions League semifinals, Bayern Munich turn their attention back to the German league and resurgent Augsburg as they look to attack Borussia Dortmund's three-point lead. After beating Olympic Marseille 2-0 in Tuesday's Champions League quarter-final for a 4-0 aggregate score, Bayern are chasing a historic treble of European, German Cup and Bundesliga titles and have won all of their last eight games.

After trimming Dortmund's lead from five to three points last weekend, the German league could well be decided by next Wednesday's showdown at Borussia's Signal Iduna Park between Bayern and Dortmund. But midfielder Thomas Mueller says the

focus must be on Augsburg under the old adage 'one game at a time' and the German star says only big performances will carry Munich through with Bayern second in the table.

"We have to keep our feet on the ground," warned Mueller. "We've fought our way back into the title race and we can be pleased about that. "It's good we have wins behind us, but trends don't make you champions. "It's easy to work out what we have to do in the run-in, but as we know ourselves, doing it isn't easy at all."

While Bayern are playing down any treble talk — understandable with champions Barcelona in the other Champions League semi-final — Bayern's chairman says the Bavarians are serious in their bid to claim all three titles.— *Internet*

Several Arsenal players perform ballet for a car ad

LONDON, 7 April — Arsenal have a reputation for their graceful and classy style of play and that apparently translates rather well to ballet. In an ad for French (and thus Arsene Wenger approved) car maker Citroen, Wojciech Szczesny, Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain, Alex Song and Bacary Sagna were paired off with ballerinas from the English National Ballet and put through their paces. Some highlights: Alex Song's "What am I doing right now?" look at 30 seconds in, Oxlade-Chamberlain taking a peek under a tutu at 41 seconds and Szczesny's jump at 1:10. It would've been so much better if it involved Andrei Arshavin, though.— *Internet*

Focus Myanmar TV Programme

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(8-4-12 09:30 am ~
9-4-12 09:30 am) MST

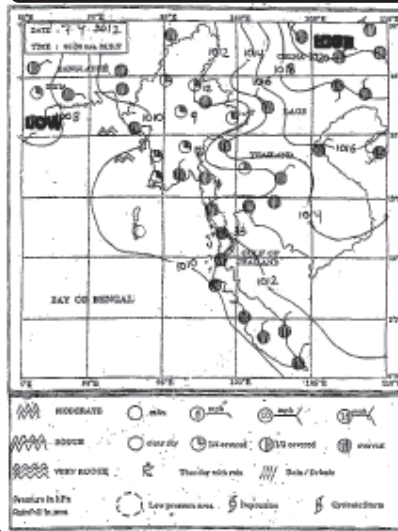
- News
- Auspicious and Traditional Thingyan
- News
- The more you see, the more you learn (Episode-1)
- News
- Hand Down Arts Heritage
- News
- MI People's Celebrities "Myanmar Style or Western Style"
- News
- Yangon Expo & Car Show
- News
- Music Gallery
- News
- fortune of Human Correlated with Astro Science
- Myanmar Movie "Servant of Love"

MYANMAR TV

(8-4-2012) (Sunday)

- 7:00 am
1. Metta Bhavana By Mingun Sayadaw -Uppatasanti Paritta
- 7:50 am
2. Nice and Sweet Song
- 8:20 am
3. Dance of Thingyan Festival
- 11:00 am
4. Martial Song
- 11:35 am
5. How it's Works
- 12:00 pm
6. Myanmar Video
- 2:10 pm
7. International News
- 4:25 pm
8. Dance Of National Races
- 4:35 pm
9. Dance of Thingyan Festival
- 5:00 pm
10. Songs For Upholding National Spirit
- 5:05 pm
11. Dance of Thingyan Festival
- 6:20 pm
12. Cartoon Series
- 7:00 pm
13. TV Drama Series
- 8:00 pm
14. News
15. Cartoon Series
16. New Melody

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



Weather forecast for 8th April, 2012

Sr. No.	Regions/States	Temperature (C/F)		For Tomorrow	
		Maximum	Minimum	Likelihood of scattered rain or thunderstorms	Percent
1	Kachin	26/79	18/64	Fairly widespread rain or thunderstorms	(80%)
2	Kayah	31/88	16/61	Isolated to scattered rain or thunderstorms	(80%)
3	Kayah	35/95	22/72	Isolated to scattered rain or thunderstorms	(80%)
4	Chin	24/75	18/59	Isolated to scattered rain or thunderstorms	(80%)
5	Upper Sagoing	28/82	17/63	Fairly widespread rain or thunderstorms	(80%)
6	Lower Sagoing	32/90	19/66	Isolated to scattered rain or thunderstorms	(80%)
7	Tanintharyi	35/95	22/72	Isolated to scattered rain or thunderstorms	(80%)
8	Bago	36/97	24/75	Isolated to scattered rain or thunderstorms	(80%)
9	Magway	39/102	22/72	Isolated to scattered rain or thunderstorms	(80%)
10	Mandalay	39/102	21/70	Isolated to scattered rain or thunderstorms	(80%)
11	Man	35/95	24/75	Isolated to scattered rain or thunderstorms	(80%)
12	Yangon	36/97	24/75	Isolated to scattered rain or thunderstorms	(80%)
13	Rakhine	33/91	25/77	Isolated to scattered rain or thunderstorms	(80%)
14	Southern Shan	26/79	14/57	Isolated to scattered rain or thunderstorms	(80%)
15	Northern Shan	31/88	15/59	Isolated to scattered rain or thunderstorms	(80%)
16	Eastern Shan	34/93	17/63	Isolated to scattered rain or thunderstorms	(80%)
17	Ayeyarwady	36/97	26/77	Isolated to scattered rain or thunderstorms	(80%)
18	Neighbouring Nay Pyi Taw	37/99	28/80	Isolated to scattered rain or thunderstorms	(80%)
19	Neighbouring Yangon	36/97	24/75	Isolated rain or thunderstorms	(80%)
20	Neighbouring Mandalay	37/102	21/70	Isolated rain or thunderstorms	(80%)

During the past (24) hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Ayeyarwady Region and Rakhine State, rain or thunderstorms has been isolated in Yangon Region, Chin and Kayah States, scattered in Lower Sagoing, Mandalay, Magway, Bago and Tanintharyi Regions, Shan, Kayah and Mon States and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with isolated heavy falls in Lower Sagoing Region. Day temperatures were (5°C) above April average temperatures Chin States, (5°C) below April average temperatures in Kachin State and about April average temperatures in the remaining Regions and States. The significant day temperatures were Chauk and Minkun (41°C) each. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Nay Pyi Taw (Bhammar) and Nay Pyi Taw (Law) (8.09) inch each, Pyaw (1.53) inches, Katha and Saitthar (1.77) inches each, Minkun (1.75) inches, Mawlaik (1.42) inches, Myittha (1.36) inches, Kyauksemyar (1.41) inches, Katha and Bawlaik (1.06) inches each and Kalay (0.79) inches.

Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy in the Andaman Sea and Southeast Bay and partly cloudy elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Bay Inference
Squall with moderate to rough seas is likely at time off and along Myanmar Coast. Surface wind speed in squall may reach (30) to (35). Seas will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters.

State of the Sea
Outlook for subsequent two days
Scattered rain or thunderstorms in the Upper Myanmar areas.



CSC ISSUED: Head of Tamway Township Immigration and National Registration Department U Sein Win and staff, ByaingyeOhsin Ward administrator U Soe Myint and party supervise issuance of citizenship scrutiny cards to eligible citizens in the ward on 28 March in line with Moe Pwint-2 Plan.—MYANMA ALIN

Correct data, sown acreage inspected in Mawlamyinegyun

MAWLAMYINEGYUN, 7 April—With a view to ensuring correct data for land plots and sown acreage, Assistant Director U Thein Zaw of Labutta District Settlement and Land Records Department and party met with Head of Township SLRDU Han Myo Win and staff at the township office in Mawlamyinegyun Township on 21 March

morning.

The assistant director inspected progress of works.

The assistant director and party went to Techaung Village-tract of the township and inspected undertakings of correct data and sown acreage. Head of Township SLRDU Han Myo Win reported on work process and its progress.

Myanma Alin

Answer for Yesterday's Crossword Puzzle



NLM-ner Joke

Dear Father,
School i\$ really great. I am making lot\$ of friend\$ and studying very hard. With all my stuff, I simply can't think of anything I need. So if you would like, you can ju\$t \$end me a card, a\$ I would love to hear from you.

Love,
Your Son.

I Could Use a Little Money

After receiving his son's letter, the father immediately replies by sending a letter back.

Dear Son,

I kNOW that astroNomy, ecoNomics, and oceanOgraphy are eNough to keep even an hoNOr student busy. Do NOT forget that the pursuit of kNOWLEDge is a Noble task, and you can never study eNough.

Love,
Dad



Spurs held to goalless draw at Sunderland

LONDON, 7 April—Tottenham Hotspur suffered a potential blip in their pursuit of third spot in the Premier League after a dire 0-0 draw at Sunderland on Saturday. The point put Spurs into the last automatic Champions League spot but Arsenal can move back into third with a draw at home to second-placed Manchester City on Sunday.

Both sides struggled to create any clearcut opportunities but

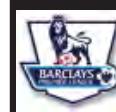
Tottenham felt aggrieved that Phil Bardsley and Michael Turner got away with handballs in the box, the first from a goalbound Emmanuel Adebayor header.

Rafael van der Vaart had two half chances for the visitors, who have lost some of their verve since manager Harry Redknapp was made the bookmakers' favourite for the vacant England job.

In-form Newcastle United, who won 2-0 at Swansea City on Friday to go fifth, are three points behind Spurs while Chelsea are also pushing for third and host Wigan Athletic later.

Eighth-placed Sunderland, flying since manager Martin O'Neill took over in December, had their own penalty shout when the ball clipped Scott Parker on the arm but the referee was again unmoved.—Internet

Other Results



Bolton	0 - 3	Fulham
Chelsea	2 - 1	Wigan
Liverpool	1 - 1	A Villa
Norwich	2 - 2	Everton
WBA	3 - 0	Blackburn
Stoke	2 - 1	Wolves

Record setting swimming contests 24-26 April

YANGON, 7 April—With the aim of choosing tentatively selected players and nurturing new generation swimmers for the XXVII SEA Games, the Myanmar Swimming Federation will hold the record setting swimming contests at the National Swimming Pool on U Wisara Road, here, on 24, 25 and 26 April.

The contests will include the U-13 junior new generation, U 13-24 senior men's and women's contests.

The contests will include 50, 100, 200, 400, 800 and 1500 metres age-wise free style event, 50, 100 and 200 metres backstroke, breaststroke and butterfly events and 200 and 400 metres singles' four-style event.

Those wishing to take part in the contest may enlist the federation (National Swimming Pool), not later than 12 noon on 23 April. For further information, dial 378550, 09-73054044 and 09-43114947.

MNA

Basic summer bowling sport course concludes

YANGON, 7 April—The basic summer bowling sport course 2012 concluded at the hall of Right Track Bowling on U Ba Kyaw Road in Tamway Township, here, yesterday morning.

At first, the trainees demonstrated their skills.

Officials presented completion certificates to the trainees.—MNA

Noteworthy amounts of rainfall (7-4-2012)

Nay Pyi Taw (Pyinmana)	(0.59) inch
Nay Pyi Taw (Lewe)	(0.59) inch
Pyay	(1.93) inches
Katha	(1.77) inches
Seiktha	(1.77) inches
Mingin	(1.73) inches
Monghsat	(1.42) inches
Myeik	(1.30) inches
Kyaikmaraw	(1.14) inches
Kanbalu	(1.06) inches
Bawlake	(1.06) inches
Kalay	(0.79) inch

Use of common pesticide, imidacloprid, linked to bee colony collapse

WASHINGTON, 7 April—The likely culprit in sharp worldwide declines in honeybee colonies since 2006 is imidacloprid, one of the most widely used pesticides, according to a new study from Harvard School of Public Health (HSPH). The authors, led by



Honeybee on knapweed. The likely culprit in sharp worldwide declines in honeybee colonies since 2006 is imidacloprid, one of the most widely used pesticides.

Alex Lu write that the new research provides "convincing evidence" of the link between imidacloprid and the phenomenon known as Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD), in which adult bees abandon their hives.

"The significance of bees to agriculture cannot be underestimated," says Lu. "And it apparently doesn't take much of the pesticide to affect the bees. Our experiment included pesticide amounts

below what is normally present in the environment." Pinpointing the cause of the problem is crucial because bees—beyond producing honey—are prime pollinators of roughly one-third of the crop species in the US, including fruits, vegetables, nuts, and livestock feed such as alfalfa and clover. Massive loss of honeybees could result in billions of dollars in agricultural losses, experts estimate. Lu and his co-authors hypothesized that the uptick in CCD resulted from the presence of imidacloprid, a neonicotinoid introduced in the early 1990s. Bees can be exposed in two ways: through nectar from plants or through high-fructose corn syrup beekeepers use to feed their bees. Over a 23-week period, they monitored bees in four different bee yards; each yard had four hives treated with different levels of imidacloprid and one control hive. After 12 weeks of imidacloprid dosing, all the bees were alive. But after 23 weeks, 15 out of 16 of the imidacloprid-treated hives—94%—had died. Those exposed to the highest levels of the pesticide died first.

Internet

Man who handed over his antiques rewarded

NAY PYI TAW, 7 April—U Myint Aung living in Inyagyi Village, Taungdwingyi Township, Magway Region, handed over a bronze lion scale and 31 pieces of colourful jewellery to the Archaeology, National Museum and Library Department (Nay Pyi Taw).

According to the study of the objects by an ancient object assessment board, it

has been found that the bronze lion scale is the work of Hanthawady Period while the 31 pieces of colourful jewellery are the works of Pyu Period. So, owner U Myint Aung was rewarded K87300 on 20 March.

The department is collecting ancient cultural objects and rewarding those who hand over those objects with handsome cash awards

MNA



Bronze lion scale and 31 pieces of colourful jewellery handed over to Archaeology, National Museum and Library Department (Nay Pyi Taw).—MNA

Dramatic late Mata winner keeps Blues in Champions League hunt after controversial Ivanovic opener



LONDON, 7 April—Juan Mata scored a stoppage-time winner to sink struggling Wigan and strengthen Chelsea's hopes of a top-four finish.

Branislav Ivanovic was in an offside position when he put Chelsea ahead in controversial circumstances after a floated pass by Raul Meireles.

Mohamed Diame appeared to have earned the visitors a priceless point when he netted from the edge of the area.

But Chelsea secured victory through Mata after fellow Spaniard Fernando Torres hit the post.

It was tough on the Latics, who remain anchored in the relegation zone, but

manager Roberto Martinez will be confident his side can still escape the drop if they can produce this level of performance in their remaining six games.

While Wigan proved they were no pushovers during a battling first-half performance, Chelsea appeared to be suffering a Champions League hangover

Juan Mata (10) grabs an injury time winner for Chelsea at home to Wigan.

INTERNET

following their quarter-final victory over Benfica.

They were sluggish before Maynor Figueroa's 38th-minute clearance off the line frustrated Didier Drogba on his return, one of seven changes to the side that played in midweek.

Michael Essien was booked for a cynical foul on Victor Moses before Drogba went close with a low shot from the edge of the area which flashed narrowly wide of the Wigan post.

Then in the dying moments of the first half, Al-Habsi clawed away Drogba's goal-bound header from close range after the Ivory Coast striker had connected with Florent Malouda's teasing cross.

Internet



Dams supplying irrigation water, drinking water, enhancing agricultural sector in Bago Region

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