

Playing cricket in open yards legal: Municipality



Defiant Turkey extends police powers, shuts schools after coup



Russian balloonist sets world record for circumnavigation



Bolt eases to victory, Harrison hurdles to glory



KUWAIT BEING SWEEPED BY 'ABNORMAL' HEAT WAVE

MITRIBAH RECORDS HOTTEST EVER TEMPERATURE OF 54 C



Min 35°
Max 47°
High Tide 03:05 & 14:13
Low Tide 08:44 & 20:23



40 PAGES

AMIR COMMENDS OFFICIALS OVER HUGE DRUG BUST

KUWAIT: HH the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah on Friday sent a cable to acting Prime Minister and Interior Minister Sheikh Mohammad Al-Khaled Al-Sabah, congratulating him and ministry officials on thwarting an attempt to smuggle a huge amount of Captagon pills into the country. The Amir praised Sheikh Mohammad, the ministry undersecretary and officials at the Drugs Control General Department for the diligent and sincere efforts that led to a successful operation.



HH the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah

The Amir also sent a cable to Deputy Prime Minister, Finance Minister and acting Oil Minister Anas Al-Saleh, congratulating him and finance ministry officials on contributing to thwart the smuggling attempt. He also praised Saleh and officials at the General Administration of Customs for their diligent and sincere efforts.

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KUWAIT: Pedestrians brave the blazing sun amid a heat wave that has raised temperatures to unprecedented levels. A recent international report identified Kuwait as one of the hottest spots on earth this year. — Photo by Yasser Al-Zayyat

KUWAIT: The northwestern part of the Arabian Peninsula was swept by an abnormal heat wave during the past two days, particularly in Kuwait and Iraq, with temperatures soaring over 50 degrees Celsius, a senior meteorologist said yesterday. These unprecedented temperature levels are most likely caused by the El Nino phenomenon's recent impact on air masses in the atmosphere, Essa Ramadan, meteorologist and consultant at the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), told KUNA.

Temperatures in Kuwait reached 54 degrees Celsius last week, making Thursday the hottest day ever recorded. The blistering temperature was recorded in Mitribah in Kuwait. Weather historian Christopher C Burt, with the private Weather Underground, said the temperature is the hottest "ever reliably measured air temperatures on Earth". Kuwait's reading ties Death Valley's 54 degrees Celsius (129.2 Fahrenheit) one, which was measured on June 30, 2013 as the hottest reliably measured on Earth, Burt added. Many other higher temperatures have been reported in the past but none are credible, he said.

El Nino has affected the region significantly in the past, Ramadan noted yesterday, pointing out the heavy rains in 1997 and the abnormal heat wave in 1998 with 51.4 C recorded at Kuwait International Airport at that time.



Essa Ramadan

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MUNICH: People take shelter as armed police officers are on the hunt for possible fugitives after a shooting in a shopping mall on Friday. — AP

MUNICH GUNMAN 'OBSESSED' WITH MASS KILLINGS: POLICE

GERMAN-IRANIAN HAD NO IS TIES

MUNICH: The teenager who shot dead nine people in a gun rampage in Munich was "obsessed" with mass killers like Norwegian rightwing fanatic Anders Behring Breivik and had no links to the Islamic State group, police said yesterday. Europe reacted in shock to the third attack on the continent in just over a week, after 18-year-old David Ali Sonboly went on a shooting spree at a shopping center on Friday in what appears to have been a premeditated attack, before turning the gun on himself.

Iranian student, had a history of mental illness. Interior Minister Thomas de Maiziere said the teenager had likely hacked a girl's Facebook account and used it to lure victims to the McDonald's outlet where he began his rampage. "There is absolutely no link to the Islamic State," Munich police chief Hubertus Andrae said, with prosecutors describing the assault as a "classic act by a deranged person". Investigators see an "obvious link" between Friday's killings and Breivik's massacre of 77 people

Officials said Sonboly, a German-

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TWIN IS BLASTS KILL 80 IN KABUL

ERDOGAN'S MASS APPEAL SAVED HIM ON NIGHT OF COUP

ISTANBUL: More than his security forces, what saved Turkey's President Recep Tayyip Erdogan on the night of the coup attempt was the extraordinary devotion the charismatic strongman inspires among his followers. In the tense hours when rebel troops attacked with fighter jets and tanks, and commandos were closing in on him, Erdogan called directly on the Turkish people to resist the mutineers. Using the social media he previously despised, and sometimes blocked, he mobilized the citizens who confronted and stopped the plotters.

"What makes Erdogan different is that he knew the people would move when he asked them to," said Can Acun, a researcher with Turkish think-tank SETA. "He was aware of the strong linkage between him and the people that he had strengthened through long years." Having risen from working-class roots, Erdogan served as Istanbul mayor and went on to lead the nation, as premier and then president, in a success story celebrated by his loyal Muslim conservative base.

The surreal turning point of the coup for millions of stunned TV viewers therefore came when the strongman appeared pale-faced on CNN television, from the seaside resort of Marmaris where he was holidaying with his family. Speaking via the FaceTime app on a smartphone held up to the TV camera by star presenter Hande Firat, he implored the Turkish people to "take to the streets" and defend democracy.

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KABUL: Islamic State militants claimed responsibility for twin explosions yesterday that ripped through crowds of Shiite Hazaras in Kabul, killing at least 80 people and wounding 231 others in the deadliest attack in the Afghan capital since 2001. The bombings during a huge protest over a power line mark the first major IS assault on Kabul, apparently aimed at sowing sectarian discord in a country well known for Shiite-Sunni harmony. Charred bodies and dismembered limbs littered the scene of the attack,

with ambulances struggling to reach the site as authorities had overnight blocked key intersections with stacked shipping containers to control movement of the protesters.

"As a result of the attack 80 people were martyred and 231 others were wounded," the interior ministry said. "The attack was carried out by three suicide bombers... The third attacker was gunned down by security forces." The wounded overwhelmed city hospitals,

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KABUL: An Afghan protester screams near the scene of a suicide attack that targeted crowds of Hazaras during a demonstration at the Deh Mazang Circle yesterday. — AFP



MIAMI: Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton and her running mate Sen Tim Kaine arrive at a rally at Florida International University Panther Arena yesterday. — AP

CLINTON PICKS KAINE AS RUNNING MATE

MIAMI: Hillary Clinton and newly-named running mate Tim Kaine hit the campaign trail together yesterday in the first test of the Democratic presidential team as the battle to beat Donald Trump in November enters its final stretch. The former first lady tapped Kaine, 58, late Friday in what was widely seen as a safe but wise choice in a brutal election race: The popular Spanish-speaking senator from the swing state of Virginia is a political veteran and foreign policy hand who ticks a lot of boxes.

Kaine himself jokes that he is "boring" - but the senator could help Clinton lock in two key voting blocs: Hispanics and his battleground home state. With working-class roots and a spotless record both as governor and senator, he is also seen as helping Clinton garner support among reluctant independent male vot-

ers - although at risk of alienating the party's progressive left wing. The two rallied supporters in Miami yesterday afternoon. Fellow Democrats widely applauded Clinton's choice of a man who she said has "devoted his life to fighting for others".

The Democratic Party sent out a fundraising appeal yesterday signed by US President Barack Obama, calling Kaine an "optimist" and "progressive fighter". "He's the son of a teacher and an iron worker who's always got working families on his mind," the letter said. "And when a gunman killed 32 people on the campus of Virginia Tech (in 2007), Tim knew he had a responsibility as governor to offer more than thoughts and prayers to the community he mourned with - and as a gun owner, he stood up to the gun lobby on their behalf."

Kaine also has strong ties to the African-

American community, dating back to his work as a civil rights lawyer. Major labor and pro-Democratic groups also praised the Kaine pick, including Planned Parenthood, AFL-CIO and other big unions, and the Sierra Club. Clinton "understands how important that dynamic is between the vice president and the president, and I don't think she wants to saddle herself with someone who might be helpful for the next four months and unhelpful for the next four or eight years," former Obama advisor David Axelrod told CNN.

"He also is a United States senator who serves on both the Foreign Relations Committee and the Armed Services Committee, and is very fluent in national security issues which is going to be increasingly important apparently in this election."

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