Turkey, Syria in deadly flare-up
BEIRUT: Russia and Syria stepped up their campaign to control the outbreak. — AFP (See Page 24)

Netanyahu talks ‘normalization’ with Sudan • Uganda ‘studying’ embassy in Jerusalem
JERUSALEM: The Organization of Islamic Cooperation yesterday rejected US President Donald Trump’s plan for the Middle East, calling on its 57 member states not to help implement it. The plan, which, though it respects more than 2.5 million Muslims worldwide, rejects the establishment of an independent state of Palestine and ‘does not meet the minimum aspirations and legitimate rights of the Palestinian people and contradicts the terms of reference of the peace process’, it said in a statement.

A joint communique from the OIC headquarters in the Saudi city of Jeddah called on all member states not to deal with Israel’s plan. In addition, it called for the United Nations administration offices in the Occupied West Bank to be returned to their control. The French government also expressed its concern.

Gold and Bentleys: Lebanon’s expensive goods
BRIDGE, Lebanon: A picture taken on Jan 28, 2020 shows Beirut residents in their cars. — AFP

OIC rejects Trump plan; Kuwait says Palestine cause top priority
Netanyahu talks ‘normalization’ with Sudan • Uganda ‘studying’ embassy in Jerusalem

Chines admits virus ‘shortcomings’
BEIJING: China’s top leadership yesterday admitted that its virus ‘shortcomings’ in its response to the coronavirus outbreak had led to the current situation. The government said that this was a fight against the virus. The virus was detected 10 months ago in the central city of Wuhan, where it is believed to have jumped from animals to a market into humans. The government also said it ‘urgently’ needed medical equipment and sur-

Kofod said he had summoned the Saudi ambassa-

Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe is expected to discuss henceforth normalization between the two states, his office said. Meanwhile, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Kuwait agreed to start coordination leading to normalization of the relationship between the two countries, a statement from his office said. Saudi and Kuwaiti leaders met on Jan 15 to discuss the issue. The Kingdom’s foreign minister said that Mount Gerizim was a turning point in their lives. The project’s financing - have repeatedly tried to halt it, and pig heads and white flowers have been left on its steps.

The mosque’s opening was “a turning point in our lives”.

Continued on Page 24

KUWAIT: President Mohsen Al-Majali, speaker of the Kuwaiti National Assembly, yesterday called for an end to the plight of the Palestinian refugees, stating that an important milestone in the relationship between the two countries was the signing of an agreement to prevent a regime offensive.

The Organization of Islamic Cooperation yesterday rejected the US-Israeli plan as it does not meet the minimum aspirations and legitimate rights of the Palestinian people and contradicts the terms of reference of the peace process, it said in a statement.

In a statement from Netanyahu’s office said the prime minister met Sudan’s leader yesterday to discuss cooperation leading to normalization of the relationship between the two countries, the statement said.

The Organization of Islamic Cooperation yesterday rejected the US-Israeli plan as it does not meet the minimum aspirations and legitimate rights of the Palestinian people and contradicts the terms of reference of the peace process, it said in a statement.

JERUSALEM: Israel’s prime minister yesterday met the Sudanese ruling sovereign council, and “agreed to start coordination leading to normalization of the relationship between the two countries”, a statement from his office said. Saudi and Kuwaiti leaders met on Jan 15 to discuss the issue. The Kingdom’s foreign minister said that Mount Gerizim was a turning point in our lives. The project’s financing - have repeatedly tried to halt it, and pig heads and white flowers have been left on its steps.

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Amir offers condolences over Tanzania stampede victims

KUWAIT: His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah received yesterday at Bayan Palace the visiting Chairman of Saudi Telecom Company (STC) Prince Mohammad bin Khalid Abdullah Al Faisal and board chairman of Saudi and Kuwaiti telecom companies. — KUNA photos

KUWAIT: The Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah received yesterday at Kuwait Palace the visiting Chairman of Saudi Telecom Company (STC) Prince Mohammad bin Khalid Abdullah Al Faisal and board chairman of Saudi and Kuwaiti telecom companies. — KUNA photos

KMAC honors the family of late Kuwaiti actor Abdulhussein Abdulredha

KUWAIT: Kuwait Media Association (KMAC) held its annual awards ceremony yesterday at Seif Palace, where journalists spoke about the present situation of Kuwait’s media and the obstacles they are facing in their profession. KMAC, said the awards are for personalities, Kuwait University professors, poets, musicians, composers, photographers and others. — KUNA

News in brief

KUWAIT: Kuwait Media Association and Communication (KMACE) held its annual awards ceremony yesterday at Seif Palace. During the event, a discussion panel was held, where journalists spoke about the present situation of Kuwait’s media and their aspirations for the future. KMACE also spoke about the most important stories and the obstacles they are facing in their profession. KMACE also presented its proposal for a future vision of Kuwaiti media. This was followed by an award ceremony honoring more than 50 of Kuwait’s most popular actors, TV and radio anchors, TV producers, authors, journal-ists, Kuwait University professors, poets, musicians, composers, photographers and others. — KUNA

News in brief

KUWAIT: His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Hamad Al-Sabah meets with the visiting Chairman of Saudi Telecom Company (STC) Prince Mohammad bin Khalid Abdullah Al Faisal yesterday at Seif Palace. — KUNA

KUWAIT: His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Hamad Al-Sabah meets with the visiting Chairman of Saudi Telecom Company (STC) Prince Mohammad bin Khalid Abdullah Al Faisal and members of his delegation.

KUWAIT: His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Hamad Al-Sabah meets with the visiting Chairman of Saudi Telecom Company (STC) Prince Mohammad bin Khalid Abdullah Al Faisal and board chairman of Saudi and Kuwaiti telecom companies. — KUNA photos

KUWAIT: His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Hamad Al-Sabah met yesterday at Seif Palace for a diplomatic meeting with his Tanzanian counterpart and board chairman of the company responsible for the construction of a church stampede in Moshi, southern Tanzania, which resulted in 20 deaths and many casualties. — KUNA

KUWAIT: Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Hamad Al-Sabah and His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah sent similar cables, while National Assembly Speaker Marzouq Al-Ghanem sent a condolence cable to his Tanzanian counterpart Job Ndugai. — KUNA

KUWAIT: The ministries of education and health are working in coordination on the detection and monitoring of the situation in the country, a health ministry official said. Health ministry spokesperson Alobaidi Al-Saad highlighted the importance of increasing the role of school doctors nationwide and training medical staff on how to deal with the epidemic. He also underscored the need to create awareness campaigns for students and parents alike, illustrating the ministry’s commitment to the public’s health and to take the necessary measures to contain the spread of the disease, especially since Kuwait up until now has not yet identified any infected individual. Nationwide and resident travel was urged to communicate with the ministry, through its official channels, in regards to announcements made about the disease and to disregard rumors that may undermine health security and cause fear among the public. — KUNA

KUWAIT: His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah meets with the visiting Chairman of Saudi Telecom Company (STC) Prince Mohammad bin Khalid Abdullah Al-Faisal — KUNA photos

KUWAIT: His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Hamad Al-Sabah meets with the visiting Chairman of Saudi Telecom Company (STC) Prince Mohammad bin Khalid Abdullah Al-Faisal and members of his delegation.

KUWAIT: Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Sheikh Dr Ahmad Al-Sabah received a phone call from his Russian counterpart Sergey Lavrov, discussing distinguished ties between their countries, emphasizing that it is essential to de-escalate tensions, stave off looming hazards in the region and exercise wisdom that it is essential to de-escalate tensions, stave off looming hazards in the region and exercise wisdom.
London seeks closer ties with Kuwait following Brexit: Minister Morrison

Britain ‘fully engaged’ to guarantee safety of navigation in Strait of Hormuz

KUWAIT: Britain has sought closer relationship with the State of Kuwait following Brexit, a senior government official has said, as London was courting broad and deep ties across the region. Minister for International Development and the Middle East Dr Andrew Murrison said Tuesday the UK was seeking to foster a comprehensive, multi-faceted relationship with countries to face shared threats, including protection of aviation interests through improved airport security andaviation. The two sides signed an MoU between Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development (KFAED) and British Department for International Development to establish a framework for operational cooperation to ultimately contribute to realisation of UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and countries also signed an MoU between Kuwait Society of Engineers (KSE) and the UK Engineering Council (EngC), which will provide Membership to British Chartered and Incorporated Engineers and the Ministry of Transport, Communications and Works (MTCW) of Kuwait.

Kuwait-UK 15th Joint Steering Group session convenes

KUWAIT: The 15th Kuwait-UK Joint Steering Group (JSG) was held in Kuwait on Saturday to review the historical friendly ties between the two countries. Director Foreign Minister Khaled Al-Jarallah chaired the Joint Steering Group (JSG) with Deputy Chief of Kuwait National Guard Sheikh Meshaal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah’s visit to London. The two sides discussed the latest developments in the region and means of coordination between their countries to face those developments. The group was established in 2012, during His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah’s visit to London. The group, which includes high-level officials of the two countries, holds its meetings twice per year in rotation between Kuwait and the UK. The group has managed, during the last years, to make tangible progress on all levels pertaining to the bilateral ties. Among this progress was the application of a visa, which facilitated journeys for Kuwaitis, mainly students and patients, to obtain visas to Britain. Kuwait has also managed to construct three draft including an action plan of the group, and a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development and UK Department for International Development. The final deal was signed between Kuwait Society of Engineers (KSE) and the UK Engineering Council.

KFSD completes ‘Shamel 6’ exercise preparations

KUWAIT: Kuwait Fire Service Directorate (KFSD) completed its preparations for the ‘Shamel 6’ exercise to be held Thursday, February 6, 2020 in Julaiah under the patronage and attendance of the Highness the ruler, Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah. Thirty-two state departments are set to participate in the exercise which is held under the slogan ‘National Command for crisis management’, in order to enhance the efficiency of government departments to face fires and natural disasters. It features the Prime Minister, KFSD’s Public Relations Department said in a statement yesterday.
Burgan Bank rewards top-performing employees and branches for 2019

**KUWAITI** Burgan Bank recently held its annual ceremony to reward the best branches and employees of the bank for their outstanding work in the fourth quarter of 2019 and the Year 2019 overall. Divided into separate categories, the top achievers were presented with the titles of “Best Branches,” “Best Customer Service Representative” and “Best Merchant Sales Officer” at Al Hamra Luxury Center. The ceremony is held periodically in recognition of Burgan Bank employees’ hard work, optimal performance, and commitment to quality assurance and premium customer service.

The event, that was held at the Grand Cinemas in Al Hamra Luxury Center, witnessed the attendance of senior management from the bank and branches alongside top-performing employees. Nasser Al-Qaisi - Chief Retail Banking officer at Burgan Bank applauded their efforts and efficiency as they each received a certificate of appreciation. He further explained that their performance was a demonstration of the bank’s increased investment in advanced training and development to sustain successful banking operations.

The employees were additionally treated to a blockbuster movie soon after the rewarding ceremony. The Customer Experience Management (CEM) in Burgan Bank has adopted initiatives to continue to upgrade its banking operations and maintain high-quality services in line with the bank’s customer satisfaction strategy. The Customer Experience Management (CEM) also continues to create incentive-based initiatives to further inspire employees, develop their skills, and enhance commitment to the bank’s practices and processes to improve customer experiences.
Lawmaker asks if bedoons were illegal residents

KUWAIT: The National Assembly is due to debate today the government’s proposal to face the new coronavirus and after the position of the House of the Senate – East plane calm released last week by US President Donald Trump, speaker Shemr Al-Omair said. The speaker said the assembly will also continue debating the legal aspects of the start of the current term besides the government’s program.

MP Omar Al-Tabtabaei yesterday sent a letter to the assembly calling for a special session to be able to approve a large number of necessary draft laws that have been repeatedly delayed because of other issues. The latter is expected to be debated at the start of the session. The National Assembly also said it was instructed by the education minister over the need to introduce fundamental changes at the Kuwaiti Institute for Scientific Research, and wanted that he might grill the minister over the prime minister if these changes did not take place.

MP Abdulllah Al-Fahed yesterday sent a letter to the prime minister asking that if statistics people known here as bedoons are called illegal residents and if the mean they are fully living in the country and therefore deserve punishment.

Some 120,000 bedoons live in Kuwait and claim the right to Kuwaiti citizenship because their fathers or forefathers have been living in the country for decades. The government sees a majority of them not qualify for Kuwaiti citizenship.

Head of the assembly and economic affairs committee MP Safa Al-Hashem yesterday sent the same letter to the assembly asking for a proposal from the special-MP committee. She said that this included the assembly to elect other members for the committee to continue with its meetings. The four members that resigned saying the panel does not hold regular meetings.

Lawmaker files proposal to abolish article 153

By A Dahl

KUWAIT: MP Safa Al-Hashem announced filing a proposal to cancel article 153 of penal law number 16/1960. In her proposal, Al-Hashem criticized the particular article as a violation of the constitution in the form of gender equality. The article stipulates that defendants innocent until proven guilty.

In her proposal, Al-Hashem stressed that the particular article in a violation of the constitution in the form of gender equality. The article stipulates that “whoever are born free and equal in dignity and rights” and that the person who is considered innocent until proven guilty. She stressed that this particular article is a violation of the constitution in the form of gender equality.

Al-Hashem’s proposal came amid a proposal to amend article 153 of penal law number 16/1960. In her proposal, Al-Hashem stressed that “whoever are born free and equal in dignity and rights” and that the person who is considered innocent until proven guilty.

Bedoons employees

A number of lawmakers recently started mobilizing against the Public Authority for Agricultural Affairs and Fish Resources over charges of forcing their partners to sign papers and register their employees with expat and Kuwaiti workers.

In this letter, the lawmakers stressed that this is considered another form of inhumane restrictions against bedoons and that they have not qualified for this particular work because of their social status.

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Assembly calls to elect other members

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The Assembly called to elect other members today sentences over charges of slandering MP Musallam Al-Barrak, against the appeal of the Ministry of Health (MoH) employees to two years in jail.

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Man shot dead wanted girlfriend to behead her parents

LONDON: British Prime Minister Boris Johnson will set out tougher rules on releasing people convicted of terrorism offences after an Islamist attacker injured two people in a stabbing spree after he was set free half way through his prison term. Jihadist Amman, jailed in 2018 for possession of terrorist documents and disseminating terrorist publications, was shot dead by police on Sunday after he went on the rampage in south London with a stanley knife.

Amman had previously praised the Islamic State militant group, shared his girlfriend to behead her parents. Johnson said the government would announce fundamental changes to deal with people convicted of terrorism offences. “Those measures will bring about the actions we have already put in place,” said his interior minister, Priti Patel. He said there would be legislation to end the early release from prison of convicted terrorism offenders. “It is right that these individuals are kept behind bars.”

British politicians have repeatedly discussed tougher rules on terrorism offenders since that attack, the government had imposed three years’ longer prison sentences and more money manage terrorist offenders. “We may need to accept there are certain people who are so dangerous they must be kept in prison indefinitely,” he told BBC radio. Mark Rowley, formerly Britain’s most senior counter-terrorism police officer who was in post when Amman was arrested, said dozens of other people convicted of terrorism offences were due to be released soon. Amman was IT and Islamic State had been released without a court hearing when he first began committing terrorism offences, according to authorities.

Police became aware of his activities in April 2018 and he was arrested by armed officers in a north London street a month later. When officers examined his computer and phone, they found he had downloaded material about making explosives and carrying out terrorist attacks, according to to the prosecutor. Messages showed that he had discussed with his family, his group and girlfriend his extreme views and desire to carry out an attack, often focused on using a knife, prosecutors said.

In December 2017 Amman posted a picture of Islamic State leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, who was killed in a US raid in October, and told his brother in a message that “the Islamic State is here to stay”. The same described Yemeni women in knots and said he had been made to promise by his family that he would never end his relationship with his girlfriend to behead her parents. Police said he had shared an online Al-Qaeda magazine with his family and had been “in a discussion about school with a friend who was his rather close contact”. — AFP

A room of one’s own? London’s carves out spaces for women

LONDON: As she approaches her 90th birthday, Shirley Williams, 87, is looking to the capital’s future and what it means for women. The former Labour deputy prime minister, who led the Thatcherite liberal Democrats, saw the rise of public housing as women’s liberation. “We must ensure there is a demographic shift in the capital, so that in the push for gender equality, people of all ages, and not just women, are more integrated into community life,” she said.

A women’s world

According to the Thomson Reuters Foundation found in 2017. Looking at factors such as gender equality in a women’s workplace, the study, commissioned by the Global Fund to Stop HIV, found that London was the most female-friendly magacity followed by Seattle and New York, with Cape Town last. In 2018, London Mayor Sadiq Khan launched the year-long “Wealth & Power Guide” to promote gender equality in public spaces.

The report contains public art by women on the London Underground, the first statue of a women in Parliament Square and a statue of a woman on the new Elizabeth line. The report also calls for the creation of a women’s centre and the launch of female-only housing schemes.

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A woman’s world

Among the battle talks of the next Labour street market, the market of “Lady Lane” are discovering that a women-only space can also be good for business. Selling everything from预测 to tooty bars, Lady Lane is the latest women-only street market in the country to go live. We visited the market, which launched on 6 April 2020, to find out how it’s going.

The market is a project of the Lady Lane project, which runs the Lady Lane project, has shown that about 90% of the people who visit the market are women. Research by the Tower Hamlets Council, which runs the Lady Lane project, has shown that about 90% of the people who visit the market are women. Research by the Tower Hamlets Council, says that in the push for gender equality, people of all ages, and not just women, are more integrated into community life.

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Moroccan border clampdown thwarts Europe-bound migrants

IN FRIENGLY, Morocco's king announced in early February that his country will stop all border crossings for two years as part of a clampdown to stem the flow of irregular migrants trying to reach Europe.

The announcement by King Mohammed VI, who doubles as prime minister, came as authorities in the Western Sahara-sensitive region are under pressure to curb the flow of migrants to Europe.

The decision, which was confirmed by the Moroccan government, is expected to have a significant impact on the number of migrants trying to reach Europe. The government has already announced plans to increase border controls and to increase penalties for those who try to enter the country illegally.

The move comes after the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) expressed concern about the situation on the border between Morocco and Western Sahara.

The government has also announced plans to create new jobs and to improve infrastructure in the region as part of its efforts to stem the flow of migrants. However, critics have argued that these measures are not enough to address the root causes of migration.

Morocco has long been a key transit point for migrants trying to reach Europe, with many people from Africa and the Middle East heading north to Europe through the country.

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Prison escape underscores the organization’s growing influence

Authorities at the prison in the city of Pedro Juan Caballero near the Paraguayan border know what the Pedro Juan Endurance Regional Penitentiary’s escapees are capable of. As a result, it has become an attractive operational base for Brazilian gangs, including the Sao Paulo-based PCC, Rio de Janeiro’s PMD, the State and National Police, and the Mara MS.

The Pedro Juan Caballero Regional Penitentiary did not look the other way out of fear of retribution. Thirty-two audacious jailbreaks in Paraguay’s history have been recaptured. Da Cruz, was nabbed within days near the Paraguay-Brazil border, but his gang’s escape was not the organization’s first. The escape underscores its audaciousness.

(Reuters) - An exclusive report by Reuters obtained near the Brazilian town of Dourados. It reveals that the gang’s escapees included da Cruz, were Brazilians. So far, only 11 prisoners have been recaptured. Da Cruz, was nabbed within days near the Paraguay-Brazil border, but his gang’s escape was not the organization’s first. The escape underscores its audaciousness.

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Chinese turn to social media to feed stranded pets in the virus city

BAGUIO: In critical need of medical care, some 320 million pets have been evacuated yesterday from Cantonese-held capital city as the coronavirus is believed to have killed more than 300 people in China. As a result, the hashtag to post the happy news he had on the line.

“We want to let everyone become a source of information,” said Xu Aimin, secretary of a neighborhood in Beijing. “If they need to buy food, the neighborhood committee should go and buy it for them.”

PAIS: The impact of the current health crisis on Chinese tourism is believed to be more serious than during the SARS crisis.“Contrary to the popular view, the new virus is not specific to China — it is now multi-national and multi-continental,” said Zhong Nanshan, a Chinese virologist who is also a member of the World Health Organization’s (WHO) coronavirus expert group.

Poisoning of pets and dogs appears now to be more widespread than clinical symptoms recorded in China, said Hans Kluge, the Europe director of the WHO. In Latin America, and the Western Pacific, where the virus is said to have hit harder, “it is difficult to know how many pets might be affected.”

For some communities, anyone who has visited China within the last two years is considered a “first case.” The virus could spread through rich and poor alike, and across all ages.

The virus is transmitted through coughing and sneezing, and can be spread through droplets in the air. But it can also be spread through much smaller droplets, such as those found in saliva. The WHO has given despatchers a 14-day waiting period, during which people who are isolated for up to two weeks are no longer considered infected.

Big spenders

Tourism is a big business in China, with more than 100 million domestic tourists and 30 million international tourists.” The virus has already spread in large numbers in the country, where more than 2,000 people so far have been infected. But the virus has not yet been reported in any other country.

The World Health Organization says it has been contacted by three countries, including the United States, which has already reported three cases. The virus has also been reported in other countries, including Japan, Taiwan, and South Korea.

The World Health Organization says it has not received any reports of new cases in the last two days. But it has also noted that the number of cases reported by the WHO is not necessarily an accurate reflection of the true number of cases.

In Europe, the United States, and China, the novel coronavirus is considered a global health crisis. The virus has already affected more than 200 countries, and has been declared a pandemic by the WHO. The virus is believed to have killed more than 3,000 people worldwide, and has caused a significant drop in tourism in many countries.

Gaza: Bridegrooms end up in prison over unpaid debts

Palestinians’ love of big weddings proves very costly in Gaza

Gaza: Bridegrooms end up in prison over unpaid debts

Gaza: Bridegrooms end up in prison over unpaid debts

Bridegrooms in the Gaza Strip are finding marriage a path to debtors’ prison rather than to happiness.

“People are melting down. If things do not change there will be more than 50,000 people behind bars,” said a bridegroom who did not want to be named.

He said that his office is pursuing legal action against marriage loan societies. “We used to have 50 clients who took out loans for weddings, but now we only get 10 because of the economic pressures. And the clients who do come are not in a position to pay.”

A local economist said nearly 1,000 small to large businesses have had to close down in 2018 and 2019. The world’s unemployed in Gaza topped 50%, and the economy in a parlous state, many bridegrooms feel they have little choice but to turn to money-lending associations that offer wedding loans ranging from $2,000 to $4,000, but the bridegrooms have to pay back the loan plus interest.

“People are not earning enough to cover their other monthly expenses, so with unemployment in Gaza topping 50%, and the economy in a parlous state, many bridegrooms feel they have little choice but to turn to money-lending associations that offer wedding loans ranging from $2,000 to $4,000, but the bridegrooms have to pay back the loan plus interest.”

In October, 2019, 22% involved marriage loans.

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In October, 2019, 22% involved marriage loans.
On politics in Iowa, one couple simply can’t agree

The sign planted in the center of a yard outside Iowa City home announce the clothing line business of the Winterses, Bethann and Darrell Winters. Their business, Winters Faith, supports candidates opposing in the upcoming Iowa caucuses. The sign is printed not only in black and white, but also in colorful letters, making it hard to ignore.

Winters, a practicing Catholic, who is also a member of the Democratic Party, supports candidates running for office who have a pro-life stance. Her husband, Darrell, on the other hand, is a member of the Republican Party and supports candidates who are pro-choice.

The Winterses have two children, ages 10 and 12, who both support their parents' positions. They have been attending local political events and meeting candidates to learn more about their positions on issues such as healthcare, education, and immigration.

The couple's children have also been involved in local political campaigns, helping to spread the word about their parents' views. They have held signs, handed out literature, and made phone calls to encourage others to vote for pro-life candidates.

The Winterses hope to see a pro-life candidate win the nomination and go on to win the presidency. They believe that a pro-life president would help to protect the rights of the unborn and work towards a pro-life America.

All articles appearing on this page are the personal opinion of the writers. Kuwait Times reserves the right to review any comments expressed therein.
Al-Jarrah: KIB records profit of KD 17 million in 2019

EPS of 15.01 fils for 2019 • Total assets grew by 24%

KUWAIT: Chairman of Kuwait International Bank (KIB), Sheikh Mohammed Jarrah Al-Sabah, announced the Bank’s annual results for the year 2019. Meanwhile, shareholders’ equity (share price times shares outstanding) grew by 11 percent to KD 1.47 billion at the end of 2019, achieving a growth of 30 percent as well as growth in investments portfolio by KD 74 million to reach KD 1.87 billion compared to KD 1.1 billion in 2018, achieving a growth of 70 percent due to increased exposure to high quality credit risks.

Al-Jarrah also noted that KIB’s total assets grew by KD 0.32 billion or 24 percent to KD 1.1 billion compared to KD 0.9 billion in 2019. This increase was a result of a growth in KIB’s financing portfolio by KD 0.2 billion to reach KD 0.8 billion compared to KD 0.6 billion at the end of 2018, achieving a growth of 33 percent as well as growth in investments portfolio by KD 14 million to reach KD 180 million compared to KD 106 million in 2018, achieving a growth of 70 percent due to increased exposure to high quality credit risks.

Al-Jarrah added that revenue from financing income also increased by KD 14 million to reach KD 130 million, or a 10 percent increase compared to 2018. Additionally, the investment income increased by KD 2.2 million or 100 percent, reaching KD 4.1 million compared to KD 1.1 million during the previous year.

7% cash dividends

Moreover, Al-Jarrah stated that KIB’s Board of Directors proposed payment of cash dividends of 7 percent of the nominal value of shares (7 fils per share) and 5 percent bonus shares from issued and paid-up capital (0.5 shares for every 100 shares) subject to the approval of the Bank shareholders’ general assembly and regulatory authorities.

Depositors’ accounts increased by KD 13 million or 11 percent to KD 117 million compared to KD 104 million in 2018, achieving a growth of 30 percent as well as growth in deposits portfolio by KD 260 million to reach KD 1.2 billion at the end of 2019, achieving a growth of 70 percent due to increased exposure to high quality credit risks. Al-Jarrah added that revenue from depositors’ accounts upon announcement of financial results were credited to depositors’ accounts upon announcement of financial results.

Shareholders’ Distribution

Board of Directors recommended distribution of following dividends for the year ended 31/12/2019

| Cash Dividend | 7% |
| Bonus Shares | 5% |

Recommended in subject to the approval by the shareholders’ General Assembly and concerned authorities.

Depositors’ Profit

| Long Term Deposit* | 3.70% |
| KIB Term Deposit* | 3.50% |
| Savings Account** | 2.10% |

*Annualized profit rate for Q1 in Kuwaiti Dinars
**Annualized net profit rate for Q4 in Kuwaiti Dinars

Financial Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>For 2019</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Assets (KD million)</td>
<td>2.69</td>
<td>2.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financing Receivables (KD million)</td>
<td>1.87</td>
<td>1.61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Customer Deposits (KD million)</td>
<td>1.47</td>
<td>1.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financing Income (KD million)</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>89.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating Income (KD million)</td>
<td>68.5</td>
<td>66.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

12: Kuwait economic growth slows amid oil price drop; non-oil activity spikes
13: STC records KD 43.6m net profit for 2019
14: NBK first bank in Kuwait to launch ‘Garmin Pay’ service

Additionally, the Bank received the recent CSR initiative – KIB Banking award by The Banking Executive Magazine in recognition of its efforts in improving financial literacy and addressing various challenges in order to improve people’s standards of living. KIB also received the debut ‘GCC Best CSR Business Model’ award by World Finance, honoring leading financial and investment institution in the GCC.
Kuwait economic growth slows amid oil price drop; non-oil activity spikes

Project awards fall short of expectations in 4Q19 with KD177m in awards

KUWAIT: The fourth quarter of 2019 saw pessimism surrounding the global economic outlook deepen as a result of the U.S.-China trade war. This was further compounded by the successful launch of a new oil plant in the country, which failed to boost the nation's economy.

Headmark for the month was the announcement of the future production capacity for the country's oil output. The KFA has announced that its production capacity will be increased by the end of 2023, with an additional 100,000 barrels per day. This will be achieved through the development of new projects in the country's oil sector.

In other news, the country's central bank announced that it will no longer support the Kuwaiti dinar, which has declined against the US dollar. The KFA has also announced that it will issue a new currency, the KFA, to replace the Kuwaiti dinar.

Despite these developments, the fourth quarter saw a decrease in the country's GDP growth rate, which fell to 0.4 percent from 7.8 percent in the third quarter. This was due to a decline in oil prices, which fell by 10 percent from the third quarter.

The government registered a fiscal deficit of KD 1.0 billion during the fourth quarter, up from KD 0.7 billion in the third quarter. The deficit was due to a decline in oil prices, which fell by 10 percent from the third quarter.

Real estate sales were down in the fourth quarter of 2019, with total sales of KD 1.4 billion, down from KD 1.7 billion in the third quarter. This was due to a decline in oil prices, which fell by 10 percent from the third quarter.

In contrast, the MSCI-200 Index posted its strongest quarterly performance of the year. In contrast, the MSCI-200 Index posted its strongest quarterly performance of the year. In contrast, the MSCI-200 Index posted its strongest quarterly performance of the year. In contrast, the MSCI-200 Index posted its strongest quarterly performance of the year.

Net foreign inflows, although softer than previous quarters, were still robust at a total of KD 0.7 billion in the fourth quarter. In contrast, the MSCI-200 Index posted its strongest quarterly performance of the year.

Leasing activity was expected to average 2.3 percent in November (2.8 percent in September) while persistently robust.

Investment income from the Future Generations Fund (FGF) contributed as much as 92 percent of the total increase in business lending, with its two components maintaining

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Kuwait Telecommunications Company (stc), a leader in the Kuwaiti Telecommunications sector - one of the most competitive markets in the region - where stc has achieved high levels of competitiveness, due to its secure and stable financial policy, stc continues to market its products and services to the customer market of the future.

The company has achieved a net profit of KD 39.1 million or KD 0.28 per share for the year ended 31 December 2019, compared to KD 31.4 million or KD 0.24 per share for the previous year.

In 2019, stc's total assets reached KD 391.1 million, while company's total shareholders’ equity reached KD 218.4 million, with a book value per KD 100 share.

Moreover, stc's customer base has reached 2.0 million, investing in the advanced 5G infrastructure, the company said in the announcement.

The company continued its strategy of offering competitive products and services to its customers, enriching the customer experience, creating additional communication channels and a dynamic approach that is dedicated to delivering customer needs.

The company also highlighted implementing innovative services and products offerings in order to elevate the company to obtain and retain its leading position in the market.

Furthermore, acquiring 100 percent of the share capital of Qualcomm – the Internet Service Provider General Tracker – and Contracting Company in Kuwait – is considered one of the extraordinary achievements of stc during 2019. In light with the ongoing changes in the global economic markets, and the increasing competitiveness in providing leading services in domestic and regional telecommunications and communications services, stc has made every effort to enhance the efficiency of its business model and operations, adding value to all its stakeholders, including customers, investors and shareholders.

The Board of Directors of the Kuwait Telecommunications Company (stc) is pleased to announce to its shareholders that the company has achieved a net profit of KD 43.6 million for the financial year ended 31 December 2019.
**Gulf Bank announces winners of Al-Danah account weekly draw**

Gulf Bank held its weekly draw on Monday for Al-Danah account holders announcing the names of the winners for the week of February 1-7, 2020. The winners who receive KD 1,000 each are:

- **Boubyan Bank** provides services in WhatsApp via ‘Msa3ed’

**KUWAIT:** Boubyan Bank announced the launch of a new service in their wholesale banking platform in collaboration with Infobip, allowing customers to interact with the bank’s constant executives to provide them with innovative digital services and unique communication services for all the services and products as “Msa3ed” service, the Deputy Chief Executive Officer at Boubyan Bank, Abdulrahman Al-Malek, stated: “We are pleased to tell our customers that we have added another service for them to enjoy and make fast and easy payments via their mobile devices. We are happy to announce the launch of this new service, which came in line with the bank’s efforts to intensify its relationship with customers and create new innovative and time-saving payments solutions. These are always aiming for more unique and exceptional banking services that cater to the needs of all our customers,” noted Al-Malek.

Boubyan Bank is a retail bank that is committed to providing customers with innovative, simple innovative solutions, and has been established as one of the leading banks in the country. It has been recognized for its high-tech services and unique customer service. The company also has offices in the world, as the latest high-quality communication solutions for them, ensures a more secure and reliable communication between customers and the bank. By launching this new service, Boubyan Bank aims to create a more efficient and convenient experience for customers, allowing them to interact directly with the bank’s customer support in real-time and reviewing the last 5 transactions made using their credit card in addition to the last 5 transactions made on the customer’s account. In addition to all the above services, the bank also offers information from the latest news in the world, WhatsApp is the best channel to respond to all inquiries about customers and provide services. Dealing with customers through WhatsApp is also a new feature that includes a group of services for customers by interacting directly with the bank’s customer support to help customers in their queries and respond to all inquiries about customers and provide services. Dealing with customers through WhatsApp is also a new feature that includes a group of services for customers by interacting directly with the bank’s customer support to help customers in their queries and respond to all inquiries about customers and provide services.

**Garmin Pay introduces a qualitative transition in users’ lifestyles**

Garmin Pay introduces a qualitative transition in users’ lifestyles with its new innovative and time-saving payment solution to meet customers’ ever-changing needs. With Garmin Pay, the top bank in the UAE will be the first to offer contactless payments on Garmin smartwatches, further emphasizing its leading position in the region. Customers will be able to enjoy a seamless and quick checkout experience with a wide range of services and products in addition to its ability to provide a faster, safer, and more secure payment method.

**Bourja Kuwait tours capital markets among graduates**

**KUWAIT:** Boursa Kuwait, the capital market operations in the region, concludes its first stock exchange to be fully owned by the Government on Tuesday, February 4, 2020, as part of its efforts to provide top-notch and advanced capital markets to the region. Boursa Kuwait is a leading capital market in the region, providing a competitive advantage to businesses in the region, allowing them to access the capital market and make transactions.

**Huawei introduces FreeBuds 3 red edition in Kuwait**

Huawei Consumer Business Group (CBG) has introduced the Huawei FreeBuds 3 red edition in Kuwait, which will be available for one-stop shopping experience. The product is designed to provide a better audio experience and a more comfortable fit for users. The Huawei FreeBuds 3 red edition comes with a charging case, providing users with an extended battery life. The product also features a waterproof and dust-resistant design, allowing users to enjoy a more immersive experience while maintaining the product’s durability.
OPEC and its allies are considering cutting their oil output by a further 500,000 barrels per day (bpd) due to the coronavirus outbreak, and so-called “teapot” independent refiners are considering holding a mini-material meeting on Feb. 14-15, one of the OPEC sources said.

The partners are also discussing extending their current agreement, which includes OPEC+ members working with OPEC so its impact on the quality of assets and reducing the macroeconomic impact, as well as cost with 350 percent crude prices uncertainty causing, according to the OPEC statement, oil prices against the US dollar to $57.11 per barrel by the end of the year.

A Brent oil futures dipped below $60 per barrel for the first time since June 2019, as traders expect a slowdown in demand due to the virus.

Ahli United Bank reports net record of KD 5.5 million in 2019

Ahli United Bank (AUB) achieved another year of sustainable performance and strong financial results in 2019, which reflects the results at the end of 2019 reporting a net profit after tax (PAT) of KD 5.5 million, amounting to KD 9.0 million compared to KD 3.3 million in 2018.

The bank achieved 12 percent growth in total assets which has reached KD 9.6 billion in the previous year. Financial Deposits grew for net profit by 7.3 percent to KD 10 million and cus- tomer deposits grew by 12 percent to KD 7.1 billion as of year-end 2019. Assets and Deposits are managed in line with the Bank’s focus on the quality of assets and reducing the macroeconomic impact.

The Board of Directors, in agreement with the Board of Directors of the Central Bank of Kuwait and all partners, authorized the bank to continue its financial performance in 2020 and to maintain its investment in projects and opportunities that serve the interests of the bank’s customers.

Funds dump oil as fears over coronavirus hit demand growth

LONDON: Hedge funds were heavy sellers of crude oil futures on Monday, as the coronavirus outbreak stoked fears about a demand slump in the market. Hedge funds have transformed a net long position in US crude futures to a net short position for the first time in a decade in 2019 as violent anti-government protests and trade tariffs darkened the outlook for growth. In its previous major health crisis, which at the end of 2002, the coronavirus outbreak stoked fears about a demand slump in the market as it forced China to close down large parts of its economy.

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LAUSANNE: China’s state anti-doping agency yesterday temporarily suspended testing less than six months before the Tokyo Olympics in response to the coronavirus epidemic, the International Testing Agency said. “The situation is one of caution so as not to endanger athletes or test officials and while recognizing the importance of anti-doping activities, the priorities are to maintain public health for all,” said ITA.

The ITA said in a statement that the Chinese agency (CHINADA) “will gradually resume testing as soon as the situation improves,” the ITA said, adding that it was examining whether “private providers” could conduct tests. “We are still six months away from the Tokyo games,” an agency spokesman said. “It is indeed likely that this will have an impact on the testing routines in China and solution will be found.” The Chinese authorities reported 57 new deaths from the virus yesterday, taking the tally past 360 since the virus was detected late last year in the central city of Wuhan, where it is believed to have jumped from animals. The virus has spread to more than 24 countries. A string of sports events in China have been cancelled. All domestic football has been suspended and among the events either cancelled or postponed are the World Indoor athletics championships, Tokyo Olympics boxing and women’s basketball qualifiers and cycling’s Tour of Hainan.

Dozens of koalas dead after logging at plantation

SYDNEY: Dozens of koalas have been euthanised and some 80 more are being treated for injuries and starvation after their habitat was logged, prompting an Australian government investigation yesterday. Victoria’s environment department said it was investigating a “very distressing incident” at a bluegum plantation near the coastal town of Portland that resulted in the deaths of dozens of koalas. “If this is found to be due to deliberate human action, we expect the conservation regulator to act swiftly against those responsible,” the department said. Those responsible could face steep fines under laws designed to protect Australia’s native wildlife.

The environment department said approximately 80 koalas had been removed from the plantation site over the weekend for medical treatment, while others had to be put down. “Wildlife welfare assessment and triage will continue with qualified carers and vets,” the department said in a statement. “There are being made to translocate remaining animals if they are well enough to be moved.” The koalas were found dead or injured after being left in a tree. The deaths come after devastating bushfires destroyed large swathes of koala habitat across Australia, which is listed as “vulnerable” to extinction. The Australian Forest Products Association said a forestry contractor harvested the land in November in accordance with strict wildlife protection rules before the remaining trees were later bulldozed after the contractor left. “It is unclear as yet who bulldozed the trees with the koalas apparently still in them, but it is absolutely certain that this was not a plantation or a forestry company,” chief executive Ross Hampton told The Age.

The forestry industry lobby group has pledged to hold its own investigation into the incident. — AFP
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACROSS</th>
<th>DOWN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4. The condition of having no arms.</td>
<td>4. The condition of having no arms.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18. Grayish baboon of southern and eastern Africa.</td>
<td>18. Grayish baboon of southern and eastern Africa.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31. A quantity of no importance.</td>
<td>31. A quantity of no importance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42. A material effigy that is worshipped as a god.</td>
<td>42. A material effigy that is worshipped as a god.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44. Physicist honored for advances in solid state electronics (born in Japan in 1925).</td>
<td>44. Physicist honored for advances in solid state electronics (born in Japan in 1925).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45. Tall perennial herb of tropical Asia with dark green leaves.</td>
<td>45. Tall perennial herb of tropical Asia with dark green leaves.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>49. One of the most common of the five major classes of immunoglobulins.</td>
<td>49. One of the most common of the five major classes of immunoglobulins.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>59. The basic unit of money in Yemen.</td>
<td>59. The basic unit of money in Yemen.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>71. Little known Kamarupan languages.</td>
<td>71. Little known Kamarupan languages.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80. Learn something again, as after having fallen asleep (21).</td>
<td>80. Learn something again, as after having fallen asleep (21).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. A fastener (as a buckle or hook) that is used to hold two things together.</td>
<td>3. A fastener (as a buckle or hook) that is used to hold two things together.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. A large fleet.</td>
<td>4. A large fleet.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. (Greek mythology) The Titan who was father of Atlas and Epimetheus and brother of Prometheus.</td>
<td>10. (Greek mythology) The Titan who was father of Atlas and Epimetheus and brother of Prometheus.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Resoluteness by virtue of being unyielding or inflexible.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>23. Any of various spiny trees or shrubs of Bengal.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>34. Relating to or characteristic of people of African descent.</td>
<td>34. Relating to or characteristic of people of African descent.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37. English monk and scholar (672-735).</td>
<td>37. English monk and scholar (672-735).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38. Swedish oceanographer who recognized the sense of smell.</td>
<td>38. Swedish oceanographer who recognized the sense of smell.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>43. A logarithmic unit of sound intensity.</td>
<td>43. A logarithmic unit of sound intensity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>54. A ruler of the Inca Empire (or a member of the royal family).</td>
<td>54. A ruler of the Inca Empire (or a member of the royal family).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>64. A primeval personification of air and breath.</td>
<td>64. A primeval personification of air and breath.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65. (informal) Very tired.</td>
<td>65. (informal) Very tired.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>68. Very dark black.</td>
<td>68. Very dark black.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>73. A federal agency established to regulate the tobacco industry.</td>
<td>73. A federal agency established to regulate the tobacco industry.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Star Track**

**Aries (March 21 - April 19)**

If your life is considerably different than that of others, count on it not being in some way a total disaster. Today, due to a new plan that shows how the life is better for specifics reasons. Even if you’re not a lot to praise for, you’re considering a change, there’s no need to feel guilty, ashamed or embarrassed about where you are at now. Everyone has to make up or let it be even. If it is a complete surprise that it doesn’t show you (the aspect will play) and the back is eternal.

**Taurus (April 20 - May 20)**

An enhanced feeling of determination could mirror your today. Taurus. Enjoy the things that are most complex and take some time to be that evening. Have something to take advantage of that complicated by: the handle in a nice way by the evening. A good piece of work. A piece of work. When I have you (the aspect will play) and the back is eternal.

**Gemini (May 21 - June 21)**

Looking for the effects of today’s energies, Gemini? Take heart if the sun is towards the end of the day. That’s an aspect, not a simple act of your own. Take care, as you’re still in a place where you don’t feel it’s fair to take a step or a time and not saying small plans for a book as a method. I suggest you call back for a more helpful stage to consider the good work (the aspect will play) and the back is eternal.

**Cancer (June 21 - July 22)**

Making sure there’s one for a vacation or a short getaway. Cancer. Sending your love to your love. Three of the sun is towards: your heart isn’t right. It’s too bad. It’s too bad. To everything serious and fundamental. If it doesn’t do (the aspect will play) and the back is eternal.

**Leo (July 23 - August 22)**

Don’t judge someone or do a show. That differs than you. What you consider it as OK. Leo. You probably know too much to be treated by the traditional. In general, there’s no need to change your relationships. Living, you decide. When it is made you responsible to understand and even higher you set to be in some situations with a future that is every moment to include your own.

**Virgo (August 23 - September 22)**

Saying something else is towards: the norm, that’s fine. If it doesn’t, that’s fine, too. Embarrassed about where you are now. Everyone has to make his or her own dinner.If you’re considering a change, there’s no need to feel badly, ashamed, or feeling self-conscious about it today, Aries. Try to remember that you chose to keep your own life on track.

**Libra (September 23 - October 22)**

Chances are that you’ll feel philosophical and positive today, Sagittarius. Let the world know that someone doesn’t understand you. Can’t have it your way. The moon is towards: your heart isn’t right. It’s too bad. It’s too bad. To everything serious and fundamental. But if it doesn’t do (the aspect will play) and the back is eternal.

**Scorpio (October 23 - November 21)**

Doing through today shouldn’t pose too big a problem for you, Capricorn. Don’t discount your ability to be extremely resourceful if you need to. You’re probably not going to find it too bad. You’re probably not asking much from the people you need to. Your day is towards: the norm, that’s fine. If it doesn’t, that’s fine, too. Enough is towards: the norm, that’s fine. If it doesn’t, that’s fine, too. Enough is towards: the norm, that’s fine. If it doesn’t, that’s fine, too.

**Sagittarius (November 22 - December 21)**

To do today, Monday will go out of context, Aries. While it’s true that some days can seem to drag on, the busier you are the faster time will pass. Get down to finishing any work still before you and then find some way to earn money. Consider sharing this energy with those around you who are feeling less than themselves. May will be towards: the norm, that’s fine. If it doesn’t, that’s fine, too. Enough is towards: the norm, that’s fine. If it doesn’t, that’s fine, too.

**Capricorn (December 22 - January 19)**

Don’t discount your ability to be extremely resourceful if you need to. You’re probably not asking much from the people you need to. Your day is towards: the norm, that’s fine. If it doesn’t, that’s fine, too. Enough is towards: the norm, that’s fine. If it doesn’t, that’s fine, too. Enough is towards: the norm, that’s fine. If it doesn’t, that’s fine, too. Enough is towards: the norm, that’s fine. If it doesn’t, that’s fine, too. Enough is towards: the norm, that’s fine. If it doesn’t, that’s fine, too.

**Aquarius (January 20 - February 18)**

By no means today, Taurus will get out of place, Aquarius. While it’s true that some days can seem to drag on, the busier you are the faster time will pass. Get down to finishing any work still before you and then find some way to earn money. Consider sharing this energy with those around you who are feeling less than themselves. May will be towards: the norm, that’s fine. If it doesn’t, that’s fine, too. Enough is towards: the norm, that’s fine. If it doesn’t, that’s fine, too.
Rubik’s Cube ‘Mona Lisa’ goes on sale in Paris

The street art Rubik’s Cube version of the ‘Mona Lisa’ entitled ‘Rubik Mona Lisa’ made in 2005 by French artist Invader is on display at the Artcurial auction house in Paris yesterday before being auctioned next February 23rd. — AFP photos

A street art Rubik’s Cube version of the ‘Mona Lisa’ is expected to sell for up to €500,000 ($588,000) when it goes under the hammer in Paris this month.

Made from 500 Rubik’s Cubes by the French Invaders figures inspired by the vintage pixel art of Invader-famous for his ceramic Space Invaders works to walk in more than 50 countries, and even inspired smartphone applications for favouring to track them down. “Rubik Mona Lisa” will go on sale at Artcurial in the Champs-Élysées in Paris on February 23rd. It joins some of the biggest names in street art, Invader made “Rubik Mona Lisa” in 2005 and has since gone on to recreate Edouard Manet’s Impressionist masterpiece “Le Déjeuner sur l’Herbe” (“Luncheon on the Grass”) as well as Gustave Courbet’s ever-controversial “The Origin of the World” in 1989, which the artist’s son Aby Rubik, as a teaching tool to explain three-dimensional forms to his architecture students. A Meditations Le Corbusier de Vigny show at the Louvre museum in Paris, which holds the ‘Mona Lisa’.

Jennifer Lopez and Shakira turned the Super Bowl halftime show into a giant Latin dance party Sunday, wowing the sold-out crowd with their greatest hits.

The performance, at Miami’s Hard Rock Stadium, was a high-energy celebration of culture and style, as both women showed off their dance moves. Lopez started out wearing a black leather, heavily cutout jumpsuit, revealing a powerful sexy women!!!! — AFP

Lifestyle

The song quickly turned into a full-on Latin dance number, with Shakira and Lopez showcasing their high-intensity footwork on a raised platform and ending the show back-to-back in a “Charlie’s Angels”-esque pose. “Muchas gracias!” Shakira called out. Twitter # Fly up after the performance, with many praising the women’s skills. The allegations Wotan and IPhantom89 also began trending. Lady Gaga, who performed at the Super Bowl halftime show in 2017, called the performance “so incredible!!” "Hustlers," a film Lopez also produced. She won an Oscar nod. Her daughter Emme then took the stage for the show’s most political moment: small children in light-up cages surrounded the stage, a pointed reference to a President Donald Trump administration “zero tolerance” policy. The performance, at Miami’s Hard Rock Stadium, was a high-energy celebration of culture and style, as both women showed off their dance moves. Lopez started out wearing a black leather, heavily cutout jumpsuit, revealing a powerful sexy women!!!! — AFP

J

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Sweeping World War I advisory "1917" won big at Sunday’s Bafta awards, handing the best film prize and best director trophy to Sam Mendes, and putting it in the mix for the potential Oscar glory next weekend. The movie, which follows two British soldiers on a perilous mission across no man’s land, had already scooped the Golden Globe for best drama, and has 35 Academy Award nominations, including for best picture.

Billed as a groundbreaking piece of cinema, it scooped seven of the nine prizes it was nominated for at Britain’s top film award, including in cinematography, production design, sound and special visual effects. “It’s moving for me to just think of the ceremony for the first time,” said Mendes, the first British winner of the best director Bafta since Danny Boyle prevailed in 2009 for “Shine.” "Thank you to everyone who has pierced the screen," he told the star-studded ceremony at the Royal Albert Hall in London.

“Once Upon a Time in Hollywood” by Quentin Tarantino swept all before it with an Academy Award for best picture. It’s the first film to achieve this honour for over 50 years. The director himself won best screenplay for the film, which was also nominated for best director and best actor for Leonardo DiCaprio’s role as the ageing film star Rick Dalton. “It’s moving for me to get this today,” he told the audience. “I think that our generation cinema and film has 10 Academy Award nominations while Scorcese’s career looks finished on the big screen but we send a very clear message to people of colour that you’re not welcome here,” he warned. It was a memorable night for diversity in Hollywood, where black and brown performers and writers received their just rewards.

The evening was particularly anti-climatic for the latter two: Joaquin Phoenix, who won best actor for his role as the Jewish gangster Arthur Fleck in Todd Phillips’ “Joker”, told the audience that, unlike his predecessor in the role, Jack Nicholson, he had never had a nervous breakdown. He also accused the film industry of systemic racism” and "oppression" within the industry in his acceptance speech. “I think that we send a very clear message to people of colour that you’re not welcome here,” he added.

The British Academy said it would review its voting system in time for next year’s awards. The winners and runners-up in most categories are voted for by the 6,500 members, who are industry professionals and creatives from around the world. In previous years, some Bafta officials have said that the awards could only reflect the best work if the film industry did not do something about its white, male, majority. “It’s infuriating,” said one.

Diversity criticism
The British Academy of Film and Television Arts, in its 73rd annual non-Coronavirus awards, are often seen as indicative of which way the Oscars might go in Los Angeles. However, the 2020 BAFTA awards have faced some criticism for lacking ethnic diversity among the award categories’ nominees, all of whom are white. Phoenix himself took aim at “racism” and “oppression” within the industry in his acceptance speech. “I think that we send a very clear message to people of colour that you’re not welcome here,” he added.

Meanwhile British actor Andy Serkis received the Outstanding British Contribution to Cinema Award for his pioneering motion-capture acting for computer-generated characters. The 55-year-old roles include Gollum in “The Lord of the Rings” trilogy, Caesar in the “Planet of the Apes” reboot, the titular gorilla in “King Kong”, the steed in “The Hobbit” trilogy, and has 10 Academy Award nominations while Scorcese’s career looks finished on the big screen but we send a very clear message to people of colour that you’re not welcome here,” he warned. It was a memorable night for diversity in Hollywood, where black and brown performers and writers received their just rewards.

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A year after the movie "Roma" catalyzed her from obscurity to an Oscar nomination, Mexican actress Yalitza Aparicio is using the spotlight to promote causes close to her heart: indigenous and women’s rights in her country. Taking a break from the press, the 20-year-old from the Mixtec community in the southern state of Oaxaca is dedicating this year to working as a UNESCO goodwill ambassador for indigenous people.

Aparicio's first indigenous woman ever nominated for a best actress Oscar: "I don't understand that it was so hard, because I feel that we have been reluctant to acknowledge its own history, its own achievements. ‘We are not new faces, we are something beautiful to see,’ “ said the actress, who has been invited by the Metronome Festival Prague to play her piano and sister to a casting call — with no idea that her song “Plata Ta Ta,” a high-octane reggaetón performance in which Aparicio sang about indigenous women and girls' rights, in a society that has been reluctant to acknowledge its own history, its own achievements.

For Sama - Waad Al-Kateab, Edward Watts

Parasite  - Bong Joon-ho

1917 - Sam Mendes, Pippa Harris, Callum McDougall, Jayne-Ann Tenggren

Joaquin Phoenix - Joker

Renee Zellweger - Judy

1917 - Pippa Harris, Callum McDougall, Sam Mendes, Jayne-Ann Tenggren, Knysa Wilson-Caine

Best Screenplay

Joker - Steven Caple Jr., Michael Barker, Eric Lee, John Toll, Ronald Bartlett, workout, New Zealand filmmaker Taika Waititi poses with the award for Best Screenplay for "Jojo Rabbit".

Patti Smith guitarist

Ivan Kral

Ivan Kral, guitarist, songwriter and producer Ivan Kral, who played with Patti Smith, Iggy Pop and David Bowie, has died aged 71, the organizers of a Prague festival said yesterday. "We are terribly sorry but we have to confirm the information that Ivan Kral has passed away," said the Metronome Festival Prague organizers on Facebook. Kral died of cancer in his Michigan home, his wife Cindy Hudson said on Twitter.

During his 1960s and after the Communist spiral in former Czechoslovakia, Kral moved to the United States with his parents in 1968 when he was only an acclaimed musician at home. He played with Blonde and 1971 he joined the Patti Smith Group. A year later Kral wrote a number of songs with Patti Smith including "Bustin’ Baboon", and scored for several films, including Barry Levinson's 1982 nautical film, "Diner". When the Communist regime in former Czechoslovakia fell in the 1989 Velvet Revolution, Kral started to return to his home country as a producer and performer — AMP.
Lifestyle Features

7% of Kuwait goes to gym on a regular basis, how to motivate the rest?

By Abdullah Al-Amasi, MSC, Owner of Gold Gym Co. and managing partner at Club Kuwait

The fitness and wellness landscape of Kuwait is changing as of late, with more and more specialized training and personal trainers being introduced to the market. Yet committing to regular exercise in a sedentary-lifestyle country like Kuwait is not an easy task. What are the fears that motivate Kuwaiti population to adopt a healthier lifestyle? We can notice multiple efforts being made from both the government and private sector actors.

The health and fitness industry in the GCC region is praised to grow exponentially. Mubadala opened their latest Mubadala Eastern stores at Dubai Mall and in Abu Dhabi to become the 3rd largest mall in the world in terms of retail square footage (RSF) behind Dubai Mall (UAE) and Tokyo Solamachi in Japan. Kuwait is proclaimed by the World Health Organization (WHO) to be the least active country globally although Saudi government formally introduced PV classes to schools in 2018. Female fitness segment is in the neighboring society remains untouched with a generation of less than 5%.

And where does Kuwait stand in comparison to its regional counterparts? Kuwaiti’s health and fitness sector are undoubtedly rapidly growing. The private sector is sponsoring many events throughout the country such as marathons, triathlons etc. Meanwhile, the government-owned clubs are moving towards privatization of major sports. The expansion of gyms and fitness centers is most visible in the Kuwaiti market.

We must also not forget that wellness, nutrition, mental well-being, and retail culture also are on the rise.

Establishing a National Diabetes Registry by 2033

The role of professionals in assessing patients’ ultimate health and fitness is indispensable. Within the GCC, many sport and fitness initiatives have been supported by the states to tackle the prevailing unhealthy lifestyle, which are adversely linked with non-communicable chronic diseases such as diabetes and obesity. Kuwait is not an exception to this trend. New Kuwait 2035 2013 recognized well-being and high-quality healthcare as one of its seven priorities.

When it comes to CXCG, the Kuwait Diabetes Institute plays a vital role in diabetes research and treatment in Kuwait. One of the Institute’s latest tasks is to establish a National Diabetes Registry by 2023, in collaboration with the Ministry of Health. By building and developing the registry, the Institute, instilled on the importance of prevention and early detection, is attempting to introduce strategic initiatives of 2019-2023. This includes the creation of intervention and educational programs that aim to reduce the incidence of diabetes by promoting a healthy and sustainable lifestyle.

Healthier menus and food choices

In the same vein, the New Kuwait 2035 initiated a number of projects in this area, including Healthier Cities Initiative (HCI) - managing disease control and improve living environment of residential areas by tackling traffic and environmental pollution, lack of walkways and green areas etc.) and establishing a healthy menu campaign to thrive from non-communicable disease by improving dietary habits, reducing obesity and diabetes, improving physical activity, death rates as a result of CXCG etc.). Nevertheless, changing the mindset of different generations won’t be that easy and smooth given that current food is an entrenched social ritual in the local culture.

Celebrity influencers represent a large part of the Kuwaiti culture, whether traditional or modern. Today, we can see the increasing number of influencers and celebrity personalities, or we notice that many of these health heroes have become more critical about the food they indulge themselves with and opt for a healthier choice. The way where we can notice more and more businesses heading towards creating healthier menu and food choices.

Can foreign-language films ever win over Hollywood in the Middle East?

By Molly Pogodin

An In This file photo Spanish actor and director Javier Bardem (right) and Penelope Cruz pose during a photocall to present their Best Foreign Language Picture for his picture Oscar. For many, the subtitle barrier is a film's biggest hurdle.

W ith South Korea's Bong Jong-ho becoming the first non-English language film for the Best Director for his film "Parasite," he proved once more that foreign films can make history. "Parasite," a black comedy about class divisions, is "searing black comedy about class divisions, so many more amazing films," he promised, "You’ll be introduced to stories that you have long held that you can’t even express in non-English films, even broken into the "non-English". "Parasite," a black comedy about class divisions, has earned six Oscar nominations, including best picture and host director in the 2019 Academy Awards in the Dolby Theatre in Hollywood, California.

Still, only 7% of Kuwait's population visits small businesses head towards creating healthier menus and food choices.

"Mediterraneo" and "Koyla"—says the director of his friends ask if a film is in a foreign language: "Most of the "most elite, arthouse populace on the west side of Los Angeles," insists that even some US American moviegoer to spend money on non-English films.

"Language is not important!

Pop culture generally is an English-language world mainstream, where marketing and distribution for major brands all-in English and usually goes unchallengeable. That’s why the case for “Parasite”. The film has been acclaimed in the festival circuit around the world. Its competitors have hopped on the bandwagon of "Parasite", its marketing campaigns are, however, not generally built around critical acclaim, and film critics like John N. "Non-anglophone producers... is often a condescending gesture disguised as an inclusive one," wrote the Los Angeles Times, Justin Chang, a film critic for the Los Angeles Times, wrote that with on-screen violence at the movie’s core, Bong seems to be "the subject of criticism". "Parasite," a long shot for best picture, is the favorite to win the prize for best foreign film, now called best international feature film (Oscar) at the 92nd Academy Awards in Hollywood.

Can foreign-language films ever win over Hollywood?

A bell, wrapped for restoration, is pictured in the Mafra Palace in Mafra. Mafra Palace’s Director Alfredo Jorge, a big fan of the Mafra National Palace, is considering a future move to the Mafra National Palace, but there’s much more to come. The palace is planning to open its doors to the public in summer 2020.

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**WEATHER WARNING**

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**SFC CHART 03/02/2020 0000 UTC**

**WEATHER**

- **Temp.**
  - 23 °C
  - 18 °C
- **Wind Direction**
  - NNE
- **Wind Speed**
  - 18 - 28 km/h

**PRAYER TIMES**

- **Fajr**: 05:55
- **Saheb**: 08:06
- **Zuhr**: 12:00
- **Asr**: 16:00
- **Maghrib**: 18:45
- **Isha**: 20:45

**RECORDED YESTERDAY AT KUWAIT AIRPORT**

- **Max. Temp.**: 32 °C
- **Min. Temp.**: 17 °C
- **Wind Direction**: S
- **Wind Speed**: 27 - 33 km/h
- **Total Rainfall in 24 hrs**: 0.0 mm

**AIRLINES**

- **Air India EXPRESS**
  - Flight: 22456700
- **KLM**
  - Flight: 22425747
- **Turkish Airlines**
  - Flight: 1884918
- **Jazeera Airways**
  - Flight: 177

**CHARGE OF MARK**

- **Air India EXPRESS**
  - Number of passengers: 40
  - Baggage: 30 kg
  - Fare: 2000

**INVITATION TO TENDER**

The Embassy of India, Kuwait (invites bids by 27 February 2020) for the tender for the lease of space for security guards for the round-the-clock security of the Embassy premises.

2. All offers should be in two sealed covers marked “Technical Bid”.

3. The tender will be evaluated by the Embassy on or before 27 February, 2020. For further details and specifications, please contact the Embassy.

**REQUIRED**

- **Air India EXPRESS**
  - Flight: 22456700
- **KLM**
  - Flight: 22425747
- **Turkish Airlines**
  - Flight: 1884918
- **Jazeera Airways**
  - Flight: 177

**EMERGENCE**

- **KLM**
  - Flight: 22425747
- **Turkish Airlines**
  - Flight: 1884918
- **Jazeera Airways**
  - Flight: 177

**AIRWAYS**

- **Air India EXPRESS**
  - Flight: 22456700
- **KLM**
  - Flight: 22425747
- **Turkish Airlines**
  - Flight: 1884918
- **Jazeera Airways**
  - Flight: 177

**Automated enquiry about the Civil ID card is 1889888**

**DIAL 161 FOR AIRPORT INFORMATION**

**Directorate General of Civil Aviation Home Page (www.ka.org.kw)**

**Embassy of India Kuwait**

**Web page**: www.indembkuwait.gov.in

**Phone**: (965) 2244444

**Fax**: (965) 2244445

**Email**: info@ka.org.kw

**Office Hours**: 08:30 to 16:30

**Banking Hours**: 09:00 to 12:00

**Opening Hours**: 08:30 to 17:00

**Closed Days**: Saturday and Sunday
surgical masks, protective suits, and gloves. To date, China has reported that its inventories of medical supplies are sufficient to fight the outbreak. But factories capable of producing...
Djokovic has so far clocked up 276 weeks as number one

‘The greatest’: Djokovic takes aim at Federer’s Slams, ranking record

Djokovic has so far clocked up 276 weeks as number one

Djokovic, adding “there’s a lot of history on the line”.

about his goals: overtaking Nadal’s 19 Major titles and

Djokovic has so far clocked up 276 weeks as number one

Djokovic has so far clocked up 276 weeks as number one

It makes Djokovic, 32, the first man in the Open era,

"This is a huge win for him going forwards. A loss here

As he jets out of Melbourne, his name etched yet

He said Kuwait’s hosting of the championship

He said Kuwait’s hosting of the championship

Kuwait ‘Stars’ Ice Hockey Club win its first match

Kuwait ‘Stars’ Ice Hockey Club had its

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Al-Mulla beside other dignitaries.

Director General Humoud Fulaiteh, his deputies

It was a big supporter of them when they started.

the Kuwait Winter Games Club Board of Directorate

Protocol Affairs Ambassador Dhari Al-Ajran thanked

the club’s ability to organize and host the most

said the participation of Arab clubs in this champi-

Zain’s support to the championship comes

The 2020 Kuwait Open Championship

the main outdoor stadium accommodates 1,500. The

the indoor tennis courts, nine of which are indoor, as the indoor

This is the main reason why I am

It makes Djokovic, 32, the first man in the Open era,

the Swiss master’s record 310 weeks in

Federer’s 20 to become the all-time Grand Slam king,

of him as tantalising opportunities. He is clear-sighted

obviously get the historic number one (record). That’s

This year, we could have two players on 20 or two on 19 or

the new world No.1, which he could sweep all before him. “At the end of the

year, we could have two players on 20 or two on 19 or

We must have been the only team to win the same Slam rights

this stage of my career, Grand Slams are the ones I val-

the top of men’s tennis: Djokovic is number one,

This year, we could have two players on 20 or two on 19 or

the other big goal,” he said.

obviously get the historic number one (record). That’s

the grand slam title at the Australian Open and was

the greatest: Djokovic takes aim

2. Simona Halep (ROU) 6,101 (+1)

3. Ashleigh Barty (AUS) 8,367 pts

1. Ashleigh Barty (AUS) 8,367 pts

Latest WTA rankings published yesterday:

Kuwait ‘Stars’ Ice Hockey Club win its first match

Kuwait ‘Stars’ Ice Hockey Club had its

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the Kuwait Winter Games Club Board of Directorate

Protocol Affairs Ambassador Dhari Al-Ajran thanked

the club’s ability to organize and host the most

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Zain’s support to the championship comes

The 2020 Kuwait Open Championship

the main outdoor stadium accommodates 1,500. The

the indoor tennis courts, nine of which are indoor, as the indoor

This is the main reason why I am

It makes Djokovic, 32, the first man in the Open era,

the Swiss master’s record 310 weeks in

Federer’s 20 to become the all-time Grand Slam king,

of him as tantalising opportunities. He is clear-sighted

obviously get the historic number one (record). That’s

This year, we could have two players on 20 or two on 19 or

the other big goal,” he said.

obviously get the historic number one (record). That’s

the grand slam title at the Australian Open and was

the greatest: Djokovic takes aim

2. Simona Halep (ROU) 6,101 (+1)

3. Ashleigh Barty (AUS) 8,367 pts

Latest WTA rankings published yesterday:

Kuwait ‘Stars’ Ice Hockey Club win its first match

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India-Pakistan match brings out an extra edge to the whole competition

**PICKETLINE**

India head into India’s 3rd 550th World Cup against Pakistan in Pallekele at 1600 IST on Thursday. India-Pakistan matches have been known to bring out an extra edge to the whole competition, said former India and Pakistan batsman Sameer Qureshi.

"I am sure the boys will be geared up for the big occasion and will deliver their best," said Qureshi. "It’s an important match for both teams as they are looking to start their World Cup campaigns on a winning note."

South Africa not fazed by playing world champions England

**CAPE TOWN**

New South Africa captain Quinton de Kock said Thursday’s first one-day international against defending world champions England will be just the play-off game that the Proteas need to start their 50-over international series starring in South Africa.

"There is nothing to lose if we perform well," de Kock told reporters in Pretoria. "If we lose tomorrow, we can win the next game, a couple of games might go wrong, but if we play well, we can win the whole series."

Bangladesh coach Domingo rules out Pakistan fixture

**DHAKA**

Bangladesh coach Russell Domingo said Thursday that his team had no plans to play a one-day international against Pakistan starting at Newlands today.

"We have no plans to play the Pakistan team at Newlands," Domingo said. "We have a World Cup qualifier against South Africa on Monday."

The Proteas are also in South Africa with this summer’s Women’s World Cup fixtures.

India meet Pakistan in U-19 World Cup

**MUMBAI**

India and Pakistan meet in the International Cricket Council Twenty20 Youth World Cup final at the Wankhede Stadium in Mumbai on Thursday. The two cricket powers have come together of late is at international tournaments, like the under-19 World Cup.

"It’s a good opportunity for the young Indians and Pakistanis to showcase their talents and skills," said former India captain Kapil Dev.

Pakistan fixtures

**SOUTH AFRICA**

The South African cricket team will play two one-day internationals against Pakistan in Cape Town between November 27 and December 6. The two teams will also play three Twenty20 matches between November 27 and December 6.

"It will be a tough test for our players," said South African captain Quinton de Kock. "But for this series, we just want to win. There is a lot of pressure to give a performance to our fans, especially after the series against the West Indies in South Africa.

"We have to be ready for any challenge and we must show our attacking cricket.

England coach Eddie Jones says World Cup fixtures will have a 'big occasion' feel

**PARIS**

England coach Eddie Jones said on Tuesday that the World Cup fixtures will have a ‘big occasion’ feel as the team prepare to face France at the Stade de France on Thursday.

Jones said: "There is pressure on every game in this World Cup. It’s a very big game for both teams and it will be a big occasion."

"But we have to make sure we are ready for the occasion and that we play well."

"It’s a really good time today. Everyone has a dream, but I think we are ready for this match."

"We are looking forward to the match against France and we are ready to win.

"It’s a big game for us and we are looking forward to it."
Solskjaer backs Martial to regain scoring touch

LONDON: Manchester United manager Ole Gunnar Solskjaer believes Marcus Rashford will soon start finding his scoring touch having scored just once in his last 11 Premier League appearances. Rashford has four goals in all competitions this season, having opened the scoring against Young Boys of Switzerland in the Champions League last month. "I'm absolutely sure he will find his rhythm and start scoring, he can score every week, we just need to help him," said Solskjaer. "He's got all the attributes to do that. It's just a question of confidence and I'm sure he will do it very soon."

Solskjaer was speaking at his weekly press conference as Munich prepare to host United in the first leg of their Champions League last-16 tie on Tuesday. Munich have won their last three league games without conceding, and are top of the Bundesliga with 36 points from 17 matches. United have won two of their last four Premier League games, scoring just seven goals in those matches, and Solskjaer is desperate for his team to step up their performance. "We need to work on finishing, converting to goals and being much more clinical in the final third," he said. "That is what we have to work on."
MIAMI: Patrick Mahomes led a thrilling late comeback as the Kansas City Chiefs ended their 50-year wait for a Super Bowl crown with a 31-20 victory over the San Francisco 49ers. Chiefs quarterback Mahomes was named Super Bowl MVP. "That's what we've done all a double-digit deficit to seal a dramatic win. Third straight postseason game led the Chiefs back from championship since their triumph over the Minnesota Vikings in 2009, and only their second ever. And it owed everything to the nerve of Mahomes, who for the third straight postseason game led the Chiefs back from a double-digit deficit to seal a dramatic win. "We kept believing," said Mahomes, who was later named Super Bowl MVP. "That's what we've done all postseason. They just really stepped up. They believed in us. We found a way to win in the end."

The Chiefs quarterback had looked out of sorts until Carl's in the fourth quarter. Throwing two interceptions in the face of heavy pressure from the mightily San Francisco defense, he was in desperate need of a spark. But with the game in the line in the fourth quarter, Mahomes led his team on two long drives to set up touchdowns for tight end Travis Kelce and running back Damien Williams. Those scores put the Chiefs into a 24-20 lead, which Mahomes finished with 286 passing yards and 26 completions from 42 attempts with two touchdowns. The Chiefs' quarterback also rushed for a touchdown in the first quarter. But the defeat was far too costly on Garoppolo's 49ers, who were chasing a record-breaking fifth straight Super Bowl triumph. Chiefs head coach Andy Reid, the 61-year-old veteran long regarded as the best NFL head coach not to win a championship, later praised his team's composure under pressure. "We knew it'd be a close game, and we knew there would be some challenges that we'll have to battle through — made it felt that point," Reid said.

But the fourth quarter collapse was cruel on 49ers quarterback Jimmy Garoppolo's 49ers. The game-winning drive came after a 24-20 lead. Garoppolo had made two strong throws to lead the 49ers on a game-winning drive with 2min 44sec remaining.

GAROPPOLO CRACKS

But as the pressure in the fourth quarter mounted, 49ers quarterback Jimmy Garoppolo's yardage average, with rushing touchdown of 2-4 yard, Garoppolo had made two strong throws to lead the 49ers on a game-winning drive with 2min 44sec remaining.

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