Winning of international events and emergence of sports internationals victory of whole nation

Secretary-1 meets Myanmar Sports Contingent

YANGON, 29 Nov — Chairman of Myanmar National Olympic Council Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thura Tha Tha Tin Aung Myint Oo met members of the Myanmar Sports Contingent that will take part in the XXIV SEA Games in Thailand from 6 to 15 December 2007, at the National Indoor Stadium-1 in Thingangyun Township yesterday morning.

Speaking on the occasion, the Secretary-1 said that at a time when all the entire national people are encouraging the development of Myanmar sports standards, it is an honour for the Myanmar sports contingent to participate in such an international event representing the nation. All the athletes are to know the importance of winning every event by regarding it as a national duty since the winning of individuals can bring dignity to the State and the people.

Therefore, all the participants are to compete steadfastly to be able to have the State Flag flown in every event because the flag represents the dignity of the entire nation as well as the national duty.

It can be seen that all the nations are striving their utmost to improve the sports standards with nationalistic spirit as they view that winning the international sports and games brings honour and glory to their nations. That is why the State is taking steps to improve the national sports standards as the winning of the international sports events and emergence of sports internationals is the victory of the whole nation. The Myanmar people have a fine tradition of having high sporting spirit and sports abilities. History has it that the ancient Myanmar kings had promoted sports with defence outlook and as a result, the Myanmar people were able to safeguard the nation thorough their defence capabilities coupled with their sports abilities.

Nowadays, the government is encouraging the improvement of national sports standards as a social development. In addition, measures are being taken to realize one of the social objectives ‘uplift of health (See page 8)’.

It can be seen that all the nations are striving their utmost to improve the sports standards with nationalistic spirit as they view that winning the international sports and games brings honour and glory to their nations.

Emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar Naing-Ngan.
**PERSPECTIVES**

Friday, 30 November, 2007

Greater role of Myanmar traditional medicine through standard medicines

The Eighth Myanmar Traditional Medicine Practitioners Conference was held at Yangon University of Nursing on 28 and 29 November. Representatives of traditional medicine practitioners across the nation held discussions on measures for raising the standard of Myanmar traditional medicine, improving the traditional medical science, enhancing the prestige of traditional medicine practitioners, and winning greater trust and reliance of the people.

At the conference, resource persons submitted papers on systematic utilization of herbal plants, therapies of traditional medicine hospitals, treatments to cure toothache, doses, treatment methods, innovations, and longevity for further improving Myanmar traditional medicine.

Myanmar traditional medicine is endowed with various branches of medical science, different treatises, and a diverse array of therapies. Sustained efforts are to be made for Myanmar traditional medicine to become a scientific traditional medical science without sacrificing delicacy and potency of Myanmar traditional medicines and for innovating effective traditional medicines and therapies to cure the diseases that are incurable with western medicines.

Traditional medicine practitioners and producers have to work hard for resurgence of vanishing medicines formerly used by the court and effective medicines that have been used by successive practitioners for promotion and propagation of the Myanmar traditional medical science. In this regard, it is required to record potency, benefits and therapies of these effective traditional medicines.

Now, the government is giving effective encouragement for improving the Myanmar traditional medical science. So, traditional medicine practitioners are to strive with the knowledge and experiences they have gained from the conference for improving traditional medical science and providing better health care for the people with standard traditional medicines.

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Minister receives Singaporean guests

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Nov
— Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan received Mr Jason Leong, General Manager of Ntegrator Private Limited, and party of Republic of Singapore at the ministry here today.

Also present at the call were the director-general of Myanma Radio and Television and officials concerned. MNA

Information Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan receives Mr Jason Leong, General Manager of Ntegrator Private Ltd of Singapore.—MNA

Inter-Ministry Men’s Volleyball Tournament continues

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Nov
— The First Inter-Ministry Men’s Volleyball Tournament-2007 organized by Ministry of Sports continued for the third day at Nay Pyi Taw Volleyball Ground today.

Ministry of Industry-1 beat Ministry of Energy 3-0. Ministry of Mines beat Ministry of Foreign Affairs 3-0.

Ministry of Defence won to 3-0 win over Ministry of Culture. Likewise, Ministry of Information beat Ministry of Health 3-0. Among the spectators were Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint, Deputy Minister Dr Mya Oo and departmental officials. MNA

MPPA meeting on 1 Dec

YANGON, 28 Nov — The first annual meeting of the Myanmar Paddy Producers Association will be held on 1 December afternoon at Office Tower of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry at No 29, Minye Kyaw Swa Street, Lanmadaw Township. All members are invited to attend the meeting. — MNA

Ministry of Defence Team plays against Ministry of Culture Team. —MNA
PM says Malaysia may use harsh security law on protests

KUALA LUMPUR, 29 Nov—Malaysia threatened on Tuesday to use a tough colonial-era security law, which allows for years of detention without trial, to stop a wave of street protests that have rocked the nation in recent weeks. More than 10,000 ethnic Indians staged the minority community’s biggest anti-government protest at the weekend to complain of racial discrimination.

Two weeks earlier, another crowd of about 10,000 people rallied in the capital to demand electoral reform ahead of possible early elections in the next few months. They were the biggest street demonstrations in a decade.

“The ISA (Internal Security Act) is a preventive measure to spare the nation from untoward incidents that can harm the prevailing peace and harmony and create all sorts of adverse things,” the official Bernama news agency quoted Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi as saying.

“The ISA will be there. When it is appropriate to use it, it will be used,” said Abdullah, who is also Internal Security Minister overseeing the police.

UK Labour General Secretary quits over donations

LONDON, 28 Nov—Labour Party General Secretary Peter Watt resigned on Tuesday following the revelation that a property developer gave hundreds of thousands of pounds in donations without revealing his identity.

Wait, in charge of party finances, said he had been aware of David Abrahams’ arrangement to give almost 400,000 pounds in donations to Labour via “gifts” to friends and associates.

Under electoral law, people making donations on behalf of others must give full details of the person providing the money. “I was aware of arrangements whereby David Abrahams gave gifts to business associates and a solicitor who were permissible donors and who in turn passed them on to the Labour Party and I believed at the time my reporting obligations had been appropriately complied with,” Watt said in a statement. Watt said he had now been informed there were “additional reporting requirements”.

Brown faces MPs over illegal funding scandal

LONDON, 29 Nov—Gordon Brown faces a grilling in Parliament on Wednesday over the funding row that has engulfed the Labour Party, the latest in a series of setbacks to rock his government.

Despite condemning the donations as illegal and pledging to return them, Brown will face more calls to explain what he knew about the 600,000 pounds that property developer David Abrahams donated through intermediaries. Conservative MPs say the affair is “getting murkier by the minute” and will attempt to pile on the pressure at Prime Minister’s Questions at midday.—MNA/Reuters

Two killed in car bomb attack on foreign convoy in Kabul

KABUL, 28 Nov—A suicide car bomb targeting a foreign military convoy in the Afghan capital Kabul killed two civilians on Tuesday, a senior police official said. Several people were also wounded by the blast in central Kabul outside a Defence Ministry building close to the British, Canadian and Pakistani embassies.

Three white armoured Toyota Land Cruisers of the type used by foreign forces and diplomatic staff were damaged by the blast which shattered windows across a wide area.

Wreckage burned in a metre-wide crater in the road. Little remained of the attacker’s car except the smouldering engine some 10 metres (yards) away. The blackened body of an Afghan civilian lay nearby covered with a prayer rug.

Another Afghan, a security guard, was also killed by the explosion, a senior police official said.

US military officers at the site said foreign troops suffered minor injuries, but none had been killed.

Brown faces MPs over illegal funding scandal

LONDON, 28 Nov—US troops opened fire on a minibus carrying government employees in northeastern Baghdad early Tuesday, killing four of them and wounding two others, a well-informed police source said.

“A US patrol opened fire on a minibus carrying employees working for the Iraqi Financial Ministry in the Adan intersection of the al-Shaab neighbourhood, killing three women and a man and wounding two others,” the source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

The US forces did not confirm the incident yet. Separately, the Iraqi police picked up four unidentified bodies from different parts of the capital during the past 24 hours, the source said.

The bodies were handcuffed, blindfolded and showing signs of torture with bullet holes in different parts of their bodies, he added.

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Top State Dept lawyer seeks US clarity on torture

Geneva, 28 Nov—The United States, accused of using torture on terrorism suspects, should make clearer what it permits during interrogation and what it does not, the State Department’s top lawyer said on Tuesday.

John Bellinger, legal adviser at the US State Department, said he was making confidential recommendations to Attorney-General Michael Mukasey and putting forth what he called his own “strong views on a number of these practices”.

“As legal adviser for the State Department, I think it is a concern that the United States cannot be clearer on issues like these that are raised.

“It makes it more difficult for the United States to reaffirm our commitment to international law in the world.” Bellinger told a news conference on the sidelines of the International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent. This was because the United States, like other countries including Britain, does not comment on intelligence matters, according to the senior US official. “I think there is a growing recognition about the need for greater clarity about what is permitted and what is prohibited,” he said.

Human rights groups have accused the United States of torturing suspects. Torture is illegal under the US criminal code as well as under a international treaty that prohibits it under all circumstances, which the United States has ratified.

Achim Steiner said in a statement on plantings by governments, companies and individuals. “It is a further signal of the breathtaking momentum witnessed this year on the challenge for this generation — climate change.”

Trees soak up carbon dioxide, the main gas blamed for stoking global warming, as they grow.

UNEP said Ethiopia appeared to be the runaway leader with 700 million trees planted in a national reforestation drive. Only 3 per cent of Ethiopia is now forested, down from 40 per cent centuries ago.

Other top planters were Mexico with 217 million trees, Turkey 150 million, Kenya 100 million, Cuba 96.5 million, Rwanda 50 million, South Korea 43 million, Tunisia 21 million, Morocco 20 million, Myanmar 20 million and Brazil 16 million, it said.

The billion-tree target was set in Nairobi in November despite criticism that it would be impossible to verify.

It was declared passed less than a week before the start of a December 3-14 meeting of the world’s environment ministers in Bali, Indonesia.

Mexico bus skids off cliff, kills nine

MEXICO CITY, 29 Nov — A bus fell down a 328-feet (100-metre)-high cliff in western Mexico, killing nine passengers and injuring 25, emergency workers said on Tuesday. The accident occurred on Monday evening in the Pacific coast state of Nayarit, when the bus was hit by a van and knocked off the road, a local Red Cross official said.

Emergency workers worked until dawn and survivors were taken to nearby hospitals.

Suicide bomber kills six in N-E Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 28 Nov — A suicide bomber blew himself up at a police checkpoint near the city of Baquba, the capital of the volatile Diyala Province on Tuesday, killing six people and wounding seven others, a provincial police source said. “A suicide bomber wearing an explosive belt blew himself up at a police checkpoint on the main road between the town of Buhruz and the city of Baquba, some 65 kilo-metres northeast of Baghdad,” the source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

The attack, which occurred at about 11:20 am (0820 GMT), killed three policemen and three civilians at the check-point, the source said.

Seven people, including three policemen, were also wounded during the blast, which damaged several civilian cars while passing the checkpoint at the time of the attack, he said. Diyala has long been a hotbed of insurgency led by al-Qaeda in Iraq network and sectarian violence between Sunni and Shiite communities. —MNA/Xinhua
ECONOMIC NEWS

China steel forges strong growth in Gulf countries

BEIJING, 28 Nov— China experienced a drastic jump in demand for its steel products in Iran, the United Arab Emirates and Syria as the Gulf countries spent “petrol dollars” on infrastructure construction, said UBS analyst Tang Xiaobo in a report on the country’s steel industry.

In the first seven months, steel exports to Iran rocketed 22 fold to 2.3 million tons compared to the same period a year previous.

The UAE increased 2.96 times to 1.3 million tons, and Syria by 6.59 times to five million tons, the UBS report said quoting Chinese Customs data.

The surge in tonnage correlated with a drop in prices for steel exports to Gulf countries, as demand from the crude exporters was mainly for cheaper steel used in construction, such as reinforced steel bars, long steel and steel wire rods.

The new export trend has benefited China’s private and smaller steel producers as larger domestic firms have turned away from products with low-added value.

The European Union, the Republic of Korea and the United States remained the three top foreign buyers of Chinese steel.

The country’s economic planner, the National Development and Reform Commission, expressed its confidence in the development of the Chinese steel industry on Monday, saying the output growth was supported by rigid demand.

Chinese steel exports increased 73.2 per cent to 49.52 million tons in the first nine months, according to a China Iron and Steel Association report.

Nepal faces LPG shortage in winter season

KATHMANDU, 28 Nov— Nepali consumers will feel the pinch of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) shortage even more in the coming months as the demand for it goes up by nearly 25 per cent during the winter season, The Himalayan Times daily reported on Wednesday.

The Nepalese steel product industry will face severe problems from December to February, said the Inter Steel Association of Nepal.

The Nepalese steel product industry will face severe problems from December to February, according to a Steel Association report.

Nepal is currently importing 7.500 metric tons of LPG every month, it never met the target due to recurring losses partly from the subsidy in LPG.

The NOC agreed again in July 2007 to increase the import to about 8,500 metric tons a month, the import is much below the target, insiders in the LPG trade said.

Though the NOC raised petroleum prices on 24 October this year to smoothen the supply by reducing the losses attributed to subsidy, it said it is still providing 70 Nepalese rupees (1.1 US dollars) subsidy per cylinder on LPG.

Singapre, Philippines ink media cooperation deal

SINGAPORE, 29 Nov— Singapore and the Philippines on Tuesday reached a media cooperation agreement in the fields of media policy and information exchange, training and human resource development, co-production and mutual exchanges.

The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) took place on the sidelines of this year’s Asia Media Festival, hosted by Singapore’s Media Development Authority (MDA).

A joint statement said that the media cooperation deal came at a time when the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) countries are forging closer economic, political and community ties.

Earlier this month, the region witnessed the launch of the ASEAN Media Portal, an online platform that showcases and facilitates the exchange of cultural information and media content among member states.

Other than the Philippines, Singapore has also sealed media cooperation MoUs with three other ASEAN countries, including Brunei, Indonesia and Thailand.

Thailand’s PTTEPP to co-invest with foreign firms

BANGKOK, 29 Nov— Thailand’s state-controlled energy enterprise PTT Exploration and Production Plc (PTTEPP) has agreed to co-invest with US and Australian companies to explore natural gas resources in offshore Australia.

PTTEPP president Maroot Mangadat said the company had entered into a joint venture with US-based Murphy Oil Corporation and Australia’s Finder Exploration Co to explore for natural gas in the Browse Basin area.

Many natural gas deposits have been found in the area.

The AC/P36 Block covers an area of 4,000 square kilometres where drilling for natural gas had been carried out earlier.

In such a joint venture, he said, PTTEPP would have an opportunity to work together and exchange knowledge and technology with international oil companies with a diverse experience.

The joint venture will be owned 20 per cent by PTTEPP, 40 per cent by Murphy Oil Corp, and 40 per cent by Finder Exploration.

The joint venture agreement will become effective upon approval by the Australian Government.
**Book marks 50 years of Malaysian-German ties**

KUALA LUMPUR, 28 Nov — The German Embassy in Malaysia has launched a coffee-table book in celebration of five decades of productive Malaysian-German relations here, local media reported on Tuesday.

The 256-page hardcover book in full colour traces Malaysian-German history, he said. “But the thing that strikes me as most important is Malaysia’s and Malaysians’ ability to make the best of opportunities for international exchange and cooperation,” the *New Straits Times* quoted Joss as saying. — MNA/Xinhua

**Norway gives World Bank $105m for health care**

WASHINGTON, 28 Nov — Norway on Tuesday announced 105 million US dollars in grant funding for the World Bank to explore innovative ways to improve health-care systems in developing countries, especially for women and babies.

The money is the first disbursement of one billion US dollars pledged by Norwegian Prime Minister Jens Stoltenberg in September. Millions of mothers and their infants die each year from preventable causes.

The 105 million US dollars will support World Bank pilot programmes in impoverished countries, focusing on effective ways of delivering health care to the poor. “Norway is investing a significant amount of money in the World Bank to help poor countries strengthen their health systems so that mothers can survive their pregnancies and safely deliver babies who live beyond their first weeks of life,” Stoltenberg said in a statement distributed by the World Bank.

“We look to the Bank to champion greater use of financial incentives to improve care for women and children. We know, for example, that mothers are more likely to have successful births for their babies if they take place in health facilities where help, advice and equipment is on-hand, rather than at home,” he said.

The World Bank said governments can also fix underlying problems in their health systems by focusing on results. — MNA/Reuters

**Study finds teens take bullying to Internet**

WASHINGTON, 29 Nov — Hateful text messages, abusive e-mails and cyber-gossip are giving bullies new power over their victims — even in the supposed safety of their own homes, US researchers reported Tuesday.

And most of the victims are themselves new, with two-thirds of children who report such harassment saying they had not been bullied before in other ways.

Schools and parents must work together to find ways to stop such behaviour, without robbing children and teens of a series of reports published in the Journal of Adolescent Health.

The reports, from researchers organized by the US Centres for Disease Control and Prevention, show a 50-per-cent increase in the number of kids aged 10 to 17 who said they were harassed online — from 6 per cent in 2000 to 9 per cent in 2005. — MNA/Reuters

**Vietnam’s pricer petrol leads to pricer purchases**

HANOI, 28 Nov — The prices of many products and services in Vietnam are predicted to rise, in some cases over 10 per cent, following recent hikes in petrol prices, local newspaper Vietnam News reported Tuesday.

The ministries of finance, and industry and trade agreed last week to allow petrol prices to climb from 11,300 Vietnamese dong (VND) (70.6 US cents) to 13,000 VND (81.3 cents), as oil prices on the world market have shot to record heights, nearing 100 dollars per barrel.

The price of coal, steel and cement, meanwhile, are expected to rise 1.7-3.6 per cent due to a heavy dependency on transport costs.

“The cost to produce steel will increase by $9,000 per ton with the price of petrol at this level,” said Nguyen Tien ngh, vice chairman of the Vietnam Steel Association.

Taxi and other transport companies are also under strong pressure, with petrol costs accounting for 50 per cent of their rates. Supermarkets nationwide said they were receiving 5-10 notices a day from distributors intending to increase prices.

The petrol price hike comes when inflationary pressures are already expected to build with the approaching season of the Tet (lunar new year) festival which falls in February 2008.

In Vietnam, offshore fishing and heavy industry are likely to feel the strongest impact. The price of seafood was expected to increase by an average of 10.8 per cent, according to the ministries’ analysts.

Vietnam is estimated to spend some $15 million US dollars covering the payload’s royalty, and manpower and infrastructure expenses.

Vietnam will focus on constructing a 7,500-seat stage, upgrading the Cam Ranh Airport and some hotels in Khanh Hoa, and beautifying the sea city.

The event’s final round will be organized at the Diamond Bay Resort in the coastal city.

US billionaire Donald Trump, owner of Miss Universe contests, will attend the final of Miss Universe 2008.

To host the event, Vietnam is estimated to spend $15 million US dollars covering the payload’s royalty, and manpower and infrastructure expenses.

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**Vietnam officially chosen to host Miss Universe 2008**

HANOI, 29 Nov — Vietnam has been officially chosen to host the 57th Miss Universe incen-
Provisions for two monasteries

YANGON, 29 Nov — Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi donated robes and provisions to Sayadaw Bhaddanta Cittasara of Shwehtigon-Taungtaw Monastery in Pinlebu Township in Katha District of Sagaing Division on 25 November.

While in Katha, the minister also donated robes and provisions to Presiding Sayadaw Bhaddanta Eindavamsa of Hmankyaung Monastery in Wuntho Township on 27 November. — MNA

Myanmar, China sign MoU on science and technological cooperation

YANGON, 29 Nov — The ceremony to sign Memorandum of Understanding on science and technological cooperation between the Ministry of Science and Technology of the Union of Myanmar and Association for Science and Technology of the People’s Republic of China was held at Dagon Hall of Sedona Hotel, here, this evening.

It was attended by Minister for Science and Technology U Thaung, Deputy Minister U Kyaw Soe, departmental heads of the ministry, Executive Vice-President and Secretary-General Madam Deng Nan and senior officials of the China Association for Science and Technology, Chinese Ambassador to the Union of Myanmar Mr Guan Mu, embassy staff and guests.

First, Minister U Thaung and Madam Deng Nan signed MoU and exchanged the notes.

The MoU covers technological assistance, science and technological exchange and mutual cooperation on improvement of quality control between the two nations.

After the signing ceremony, Minister for Science and Technology U Thaung hosted a dinner in honour of China Association for Science and Technology at the hotel. — MNA

Myanmar men’s and women’s football teams leave for XXIV SEA Games

YANGON, 29 Nov — Myanmar men’s and women’s football teams left for Thailand by air this morning to participate in football event of the XXIV SEA Games to be held in Nakhon Ratchasima, Thailand.

Myanmar U-23 men’s team comprises manager U Aye Maung Gyi, Brazilian head coach Mr Marcos Antonio, assistant coaches U Nyan Win, U Zaw Win Tun and U Myo Chit (Goal), two medical staff and 20 footballers.

Myanmar faces host Thailand, Indonesia and Cambodia in the group-A, Vietnam, Malaysia, Singapore and Laos are included in the group-B. Myanmar will take on the debut against host Thailand on 2 December.

Myanmar women’s team comprises manager Daw Myat Myat Oo, head coach U Aye Kyu Gyi, assistant coaches U Chit Naing and U Kyaw Tint, two medical staff and 20 footballers.

Vietnam, Laos and the Philippines are included in the group-A, and Myanmar and Malaysia in the group-B. Myanmar will take on the debut against Malaysia on 4 December.

The final match of the men’s football event will be held on 14 December and that of the women’s on 13 December.

Minister U Thaung and Madam Deng Nan of China Association for Science and Technology sign MoU between Ministry of Science and Technology and CAST in Yangon. — MNA

Minister U Thaung and Madam Deng Nan of China Association for Science and Technology sign MoU between Ministry of Science and Technology and CAST in Yangon. — MNA

Myanmar men’s football team poses for a group photo at Yangon International Airport. — NLM

Myanmar women’s football team poses for a group photo at Yangon International Airport. — NLM

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Myanmar men’s football team poses for a group photo at Yangon International Airport. — NLM
Winning of international events...
(from page 1)

and fitness of the entire nation through the nation’s sports standard.

To keep abreast of the international community, the Union of Myanmar is striving in all aspects. Again, plans are being carried out systematically to ensure that the international level sports standards by regarding the sports sector as one of the most important sectors.

Winning the international sports events can only reflect the nation’s endeavours for improvement of the sports standards. That is why all the members of Myanmar sports contingent who would participate in the XXIV SEA Games are to know the importance of winning every event so as to meet the expectations of the State and the people.

All the members of Myanmar sports contingent who would participate in the XXIV SEA Games are to know the importance of winning every event so as to meet the expectations of the State and the people.

It is heartening to note that nowadays, the government, the sports federations, businessmen, donors, social organizations and the sports fans are contributing to the improvement of Myanmar sports standards.

Thanks to the all-round contributions, the selected Myanmar athletes have enjoyed such sound conditions as fitness, good training, sophisticated sports equipment and good-experiences in international events.

I believe that all our selected athletes have been systematically trained, are well-versed in their respective sports techniques and well-prepared for the competitions.

Therefore, I would like to urge you all to keep yourselves in training, be disciplined, have sense of fair play and equip yourselves with a view to uplifting national prestige and integrity.

While you are abroad, it is necessary to keep yourselves in good health and in constant practice and behave with team spirit and help each other with family spirit. Moreover, I want you to behave according to Myanmar culture, customs and traditions, following the guidance and instructions of the management.

I want you to bear in mind that the entire nation has high hopes for you all and will be expecting your victorious return. Therefore, it is up to you to participate with unyielding spirit in the competitions to improve the national image.

On behalf of the entire nation, I would like to avail myself of this occasion to express my heartfelt thanks to national entrepreneurs, well-wishers and sports fans who have given encouragement and help in every way possible to the athletes participating in the XXIV SEA Games. And I believe that the athletes will be deserving of honour when they emerge victorious.

In conclusion, I trust that all our Myanmar athletes will compete to the best of their ability with determination to improve the image of their nation and their people and will be able to wear the crown of success and fly the flag of victory high on their return.

The Secretary-1 entrusted the State Flag to the leader of the Myanmar Sports Contingent General Secretary of Myanmar Olympic Committee Director-General U Thaung Htaik of Sports and Physical Education Department. Director-General U Thaung Htaik pledged that the Myanmar Sports Contingent will make all-out efforts for achieving success in the games.

After the ceremony, the Secretary-1 cordially greeted the athletes.

Next, the Secretary-1 inspected sports equipment for respective sports events.

Also present on the occasion were Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win, ministers, the Yangon Mayor, deputy ministers, members of MOC, members of the Committee for Ensuring Success of Myanmar Sports, patrons of Myanmar Women’s Sports Federation, officials of the SPDC Office, departmental heads, presidents of sports federations and officials, members of the Myanmar Sports Contingent and guests.

A total of 44 sports events will be organized at the XXIV SEA Games. Of them, Myanmar Sports Contingent will compete in 29 sports events—archery, track & field, boxing, traditional boxing (Muay Thai), baseball, billiards, body-building, cycling, football (men’s and women’s), Futsal, golf, gymnastics, hockey, Takraw, Taekwondo, tennis, table tennis, volleyball (men’s), Wushu and shooting. — MNA

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thiba Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo hands over State Flag to Director-General of Sports and Physical Education Department U Thaung Htaik. — MNA

Veterinary Science University holds convocation

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Nov — The 22nd Convocation of University of Veterinary Science under the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries was held at the Convocation Hall of the university on 24 November.

Rector Dr Myint Thein conferred certificates on PhD, MVSc and BVSc graduates and diploma holders.

After presenting prizes to outstanding staff and students, Minister Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein delivered an address.

The minister and Chairman of Myanmar Veterinarians Association Dr Than Tun opened the exhibition of feedstuff, veterinary medicines and equipment.

Next, the golden jubilee hall of the university was opened and visited by the Minister and the rector.

In the afternoon, President of Myanmar Veterinary Council Dr Mya Nyunt presented veterinary identities to 94 veterinarians. — MNA

Talks on Human Capital Management to be held

YANGON, 29 Nov — Talks on Human Capital Management, organized by the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry and the Work Committee for Promoting Information and Technology along with the assistance of Myanmar Htut Khaung Company will be held at UMFCCCI Office Tower on Min Ye Kyaw Swa Street in Lammaw Township, here, on 2 December.

Managing Director U Aye Kyaw of Myanmar Human Resource Co will give talks on Human Capital Management. Any interested person may attend the talks. — MNA
Lt-Gen Ye Myint looks into water …

(from page 16)

acres of farmland in Daingkaunggon area, efforts being made for completion of the diversion dam and civil work in time and arrangements for power supply.

Then, the commander gave a supplementary report.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint stressed the need for Irrigation Department and Water Resources Utilization Department to make concerted efforts to get the project finished earlier than scheduled, and the need for Development Affairs Department and Public Works to see to roads in the region to enhance easier access for the local people all the year round.

Later, Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspected progress of Daingkaung River Water Pumping Station. Lt-Gen Ye Myint looked into the site chosen for construction of the water tanks and viewed dredging of the main canal, construction of dam buildings and thriving crops along the main canal. Meiktila Plain Greening Task. Hence, water can be supplied to 28,158 acres of farmlands in 2006-07 financial year.

Later, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party viewed the conditions of Thalyewa-Thantau Townships, dredging of the main canal, and cultivating crops mentioned above.

Eighty Myanmar Traditional Medicine Practitioners Conference and paper reading session held

YANGON, 29 Nov — The Eighty Myanmar Traditional Medicine Practitioners Conference and a paper reading session were held at the University of Nursing on Bogyoke Aung San Street in Lanmadaw Township, this morning. Director-General Dr Daw Khin Pyone Kyi of Medical Research Department (Lower Myanmar) presided over the paper reading session (1).

Resource persons U Zaw Naing, Daw Thida Sway and group, U Myint Thein and U Min Tun Maung read out their papers at the paper reading session.

Resource persons Dr Daw May Than Aye and group, Daw May Myat Kyi and group, Daw Aye Aye Thein and U Aung Kyaw Min and group read their papers at the paper reading session (2), and Dr Daw Than Nwe, Mandalay Division traditional medicine practitioner association and U Kyaw Thint Hlay at the paper reading session (3).

Those present also participated in the discussions. — MNA

Special sales of Industry-1 opens

YANGON, 29 Nov — An opening ceremony of the special sales of Industry-1 was held in the compound of the staff quarters of the Ministry of Industry-1 in Bahan Township, here, at 8 am today.

An opening ceremony of the special sales of Industry-1 was held in the compound of the staff quarters of the Ministry of Industry-1 in Bahan Township, here, at 8 am today.

Myanmar Textile Industries, Myanmar Foodstuff Industries, Myanmar Pharmaceuticals Industries, Myanmar Ceramics Industries, Myanmar Paper and Chemical Industries and Myanmar General and Maintenance Industries will sell 344 items of their products at special prices. The special sales will be held from 8 am to 8 pm up to 8 December. — MNA

KNU terrorists shoot at passenger bus

NAY PYI TOW, 29 Nov — Three KNU terrorists fired a vehicle on its way back to Thantauunggyi, Township leaving a monk wounded and killing another monk and a woman on 25 November.

Thantauunggyi Township Aung Myin monastery presiding Sayadaw Bhuddanta Vimala died of wounds at the hospital and Thantauunggyi Township MyoU monastery presiding Sayadaw Bhuddanta Nameindha was wounded in the KNU terrorist attack. The 45-year-old woman who was also killed in the attack was Daw Naw Lai Lai, daughter of U Ma Le Le of No 4 Thantaungthit Ward.

The injured were rushed to Toungoo Township People’s Hospital. The rest in the vehicle were provided necessary assistance. The local military columns are in hot pursuit of KNU terrorists.

U Kyaw Swa and Daw Myint Myint Mar of Maha Myintu Road, Bahan Township, donated K 100,000 to Hninzigon Home for the Aged recently to mark birthday of two-year-old daughter Ei Kyi Pua Os. Joint Secretary U Tin Maung Win of the Home accepts cash donated by the wellwishers. — MNA

Government of Union of Myanmar

Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries

Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department

Warning about current bird flu outbreak in border areas

1. Occurrence of bird flu in Kengtung:

According to the information that there were some unusual deaths of chickens and ducks of local species at Naungnin Village on Kengtung-Mongla Road in Kengtung Township, Shan State (East) on 18 November 2007, a survey was made at the village. And laboratory tests showed “H5N1 virus found”. Under the bird flu prevention and control measures, from 20 and 25 November, 14,889 chickens, ducks, geese and Muscovy ducks were culled, bio-security measures were taken and educative talks were given in the affected area and nearby villages.

2. Source of infection:

It is learnt that a duck dealer bought 900 four-month-old female ducks in Mongla region on 3 November 2007 and sold them in the villages around Kengtung. Due to the deaths of some ducks, the breeders returned the remaining 870 ducks to him. He then bred the ducks in Naunggin Village. Since 8 November, some chickens and ducks near his farm in the village died. The deaths were considered to be owing to infection of the virus from the ducks he bought from Mongla.

3. The disease under control:

Now, there have been no more unusual deaths of fowls in the affected areas. The sooner-than-expected result is deemed largely due to the measures local authorities, the Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department, the Department of Health, relevant organizations and the Committee for Prevention and Control of Bird Flu took collaboratively.

4. Warning:

(a) To prevent transport and distribution of live fowls and fowl products (including chicks) in border areas,
(b) To take systematic measures in breeding local species chicken and ducks in accordance with the bio-safety programmes,
(c) Not to breed chicken in combination with other animals such as ducks, quails, Muscovy ducks and pigs,
(d) To report to the Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department, the Livestock Breeding Federation, and local administrative bodies if there is an abnormal death of chicken, ducks, quails and Muscovy ducks,
(e) To wash hands thoroughly with soap every time after holding chickens, ducks and related materials,
(f) To cook chicken and ducks thoroughly for human consumption.

— LBVD
Sub-committee for holding State Flag Hoisting and Saluting Ceremony
to mark 60th Anniversary Independence Day for 2008 meets

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Nov — The work coordination meeting of the Sub-committee for holding State Flag Hoisting and Saluting Ceremony to mark the 60th Anniversary Independence Day for 2008 was held at Paunglaung Yeiktha of Nay Pyi Taw Command, here, this afternoon with an address by Chairman of the Sub-committee Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai Lwin.

The commander said the State Flag Hoisting and Saluting Ceremony to mark the 60th Anniversary Independence Day for 2008 will be held on a grand scale in concert for successful implementation of the Seven-Step Road Map. Starting from the previous year, the ceremony was launched at Nay Pyi Taw and will continue tomorrow at the same venue.

And the working groups have been formed and assigned duties. For cementing unification of all national races, local residents of villages in the vicinity of Nay Pyi Taw and the working groups are to submit the reports on progress, he added.

Secretary of the Sub-committee Lt-Col Ye Nyunt of the Nay Pyi Taw Command reported on the tasks for holding the ceremony. The chairman and the officials of the working groups submitted reports on tasks to be carried out. Later, round table discussions followed.

The meeting ended with the concluding remarks by Commander Maj-Gen Wai Lwin. Also present on the occasion were Deputy Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Tin Ngwe, senior military officers of Nay Pyi Taw Command, departmental heads and other invited persons.

FC

Pearl sales in full swing

YANGON, 29 Nov — A total of 102 local traders gathered at the second day of the pearl sales at Myanmar Gems Enterprise under the Ministry of Mines will continue tomorrow at the same venue.

Matt here and purchased 173 pearl lots through tender system. The 23rd sales of pearl lots of Myanmar Pearl Enterprise under the Ministry of Mines will continue tomorrow at the same venue.

Minister for Electric Power No 1 receives President of YMEC

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Nov — Minister for Electric Power No 1 Col Zaw Min received President Mr Feng Ke and party of Yunnan Machinery & Equipment Import & Export Co Ltd (YMEC) of the People’s Republic of China at his office, here, this morning.

Also present at the call were Deputy Minister U Myo Myint, directors-general of departments under the ministry. They discussed mutual cooperation in generating hydropower.

Afterwards, the ceremony to sign the contract for purchasing the needed materials for implementation of Zawgyi-1, Dattaungyi and Wetwun hydropower projects was held at the ministry.

Director-General U Aung Koe Shwe of Hydropower Implementation Department and President Mr Feng Ke signed the contract in the presence of Minister Col Zaw Min, Deputy Minister U Myo Myint and officials.

Next, they exchanged the contract notes. The contract is to purchase necessary equipment for implementation of the abovementioned projects in time.

Defence Services (Army, Navy and Air) C-in-C’s Shield Football Tournament continues

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Nov — The first round football matches of the 46th Defence Services (Army, Navy and Air) Commander-in-Chief’s Shield 2007 continued at the designated zones today.

South-East Command narrowly won over Western Command with 1-0 in the group-A in South-East Command Zone (Mawlamyine); Camp Commandant’s Office crashed No 55 LID with 6-2 in the group-B in South-West Command Zone (Pathein); North-West Command hammered Nay Pyi Taw Command with 4-0 in the group-C in North-West Command Zone (Monywa); Central Command trounced Coastal Region Command with 8-2 in the group-D in Central Command Zone (Toungoo).

Fugitive charged

YANGON, 29 Nov — Members of the anti-drug squad of Yangon East District, acting on information, lay in wait for Mine Maing (a) Hsan Shay, who is linked with a drug case, to arrest him after making an appointment by telephone at the back of Hotel Nikko on Phoe Sein Street, Bo Cho No 2 Ward in Bahan Township around 7.30 pm on 26 November.

The culprit came there by car and when the police tried to arrest him he ran over police constable Zaw Win who was in front of his car. The policeman was rushed to the hospital where he is receiving medical treatment.

In connection with the case, Bahan Police Station has opened a case against the culprit in accord with the criminal act.
Images of the Day

In this artist’s rendition, the Phoenix Mars Lander is shown on the arctic plains of Mars just as it has begun to dig a trench through the upper soil layer. The polar water ice cap is shown in the far distance. This rendition of the Lander was created by artist Corby Waste of the Jet Propulsion Laboratory.—INTERNET

A child sits in a model of a lunar rover displayed at the Beijing Planetarium on 29 Nov, 2007.—INTERNET

Members of the Beijing Xueming Art Group train to perform on stilts at a theatre in Beijing, on 29 Nov, 2007. Walking and performing on stilts is one of the most famous traditional Chinese arts and this group which members are between 13 and 26 years old.—INTERNET

A statue is covered with snow in Avon, Colo., on 28 Nov, 2007. A snowstorm brought much needed snow to Colorado on Tuesday dumping as much as eight inches of snow.—INTERNET

People view china of ancient China’s Ming and Qing dynasties during the Chinese culture relic exposition in Manila, capital of the Philippines, on 28 Nov, 2007. Around 80 precious culture relics from China were on display here. The exposition will last to next February.—XINHUA

Sandstone is seen at the Wadi Hitan, or Whale Valley, protected area and UNESCO World Heritage site located about 150 km (93 miles) outside of Cairo, on 28 Nov, 2007.—XINHUA
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR
MINISTRY OF RAIL TRANSPORTATION
MYANMA RAILWAYS

INVI TATION TO SEALED TENDER

Sr.No No. Tender Description Quantity
1. 15/11/2/MR(E) 75lb Fish Bolts & Nuts with (200-00) two spring washers (Brand New) 165000 Sets
Closing Date/Time: 15-12-2007 (Tuesday) (12:00) Hours
Tender documents are available at the office of the Deputy General Manager (Supply), Myanmar Railways, Corner of 51st Street and Merchant Street, Botataung, Yangon starting from 30.11.2007 during the office hours.
For further details please call: 291982, 291985 (201555 Ext 601-605)

Deputy General Manager
Supply Department, Myanmar Railways, Botataung, Yangon

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV BANGKAJA VOY NO (37)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BANGKAJA VOY NO (37) are hereby notified that the vessel has arrived on 29.11.2007 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.
No claims against this vessel will be entertained after the Claims Day.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S WONGSAMUT OCEAN SHIPPING CO., LTD
Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

Ho Chi Minh city to encounter biggest flood tide in 48 years

HANOI, 28 Nov—Vietnam’s southern Ho Chi Minh City is forecast to face a flood-tide in the next three days, the biggest over the past 48 years, the local newspaper People’s Army reported Tuesday. The flood-tide started to hit some districts, including Thu Duc, Binh Thanh, Hoch Mon, Cu Chi and Binh Chanh on November 25, breaking some sections of dykes and inundating several districts in the localities. A number of roads and facilities have been submerged around one meter in water.

Local residents said they suffer from flood-tide twice a month, but the ongoing flood-tide has affected their daily life too much. Besides natural conditions, poor planning and construction of dykes in Ho Chi Minh City are attributed to the situation, the residents said.

MNA/Xinhua

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV KOTA TABAH VOY NO (TBH-195)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA TABAH VOY NO (TBH-195) are hereby notified that the vessel has arrived on 30.11.2007 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.
No claims against this vessel will be entertained after the Claims Day.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S ADVANCE CONTAINER LINES PTE LTD
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

Nearly 40,000 Chinese AIDS patients receive free therapy

BEIJING, 28 Nov—China provided free anti-retroviral therapy to 37,497 AIDS patients between September 2003 and September 2007, the Ministry of Health said here Tuesday. Also, 771 HIV positive children received free treatment, the ministry said on its official website.
In September 2003, the government announced that it would provide free anti-retroviral treatment to AIDS patients in rural areas and low-income city dwellers. The government also promised free HIV consulting and screening, free therapy to interrupt mother-to-child transmission, free inpatient HIV testing and financial assistance to orphans whose parents died of AIDS.

MNA/Xinhua
CT scans raise cancer risk

BEIJING, 29 Nov — Millions of Americans, especially children, are needlessly getting dangerous radiation from “super X-rays” that raise the risk of cancer and are increasingly used to diagnose medical problems, a new report warns.

In a few decades, as many as 2 percent of all cancers in the United States might be due to radiation from CT scans given now, according to the authors of the report.

The risk from a single CT, or computed tomography, scan to an individual is small. But “we are very concerned about the built-up public health risk over a long period of time,” said Eric Hall, who wrote the report with fellow Columbia University medical physicist David J. Brenner.

A previous study by the same scientists in 2001 led the Federal Food and Drug Administration to recommend ways to limit scans and risks in children. But CT use continued to soar. About 62 million scans were done in the US last year, up from 3 million in 1980. More than 4 million were in children.

Since previous studies suggest that a third of all diagnostic tests are unnecessary, that means that 20 million adults and more than 1 million children getting CT scans are needlessly being put at risk. Brenner and Hall write.

CT scans became popular because they offer a quick, relatively cheap and painless way to get 3D pictures so detailed they give an almost surgical view into the body. Doctors use them to evaluate trauma, belly pain, seizures, chronic headaches, kidney stones and other woes, especially in busy emergency rooms.

In kids, they are used to evaluate trauma, bellies, tubes, headaches, kidney stones and other woes, especially in busy emergency rooms.

But they put out a lot of radiation. A CT scan of the chest involves 10 to 15 millisieverts (a measure of dose) versus 0.01 to 0.15 for a regular chest X-ray, 3 for a mammo-

Earthquake hits Metro Manila

MANILA, 28 Nov — A magnitude-4.2 earthquake rocked Metro Manila at around 12:30 pm Tuesday but there is no immediate reports of casualties.

The local television network GMA News quoted officials with Philippine Institute for Volcanology and Seismology as saying that the tremor was measured 4.2 on the Richter Scale and the epicentre was 77 kilometres from Pangasinan area.

The report said the quake was tectonic in origin and had a depth of 32 kilometres. Its possible source was the Manila trench.

A morning fog covers the small Swiss town of Constance, on 28 Nov, 2007. THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Venezuela recalls Colombia envoy over hostage spat

CARACAS, 28 Nov — Venezuela on Tuesday recalled its ambassador from Colombia for consultations after a heated dispute over Colombia’s decision to suspend President Hugo Chavez’ mediation in hostage talks with Marxist guerrillas.

The recall heightens tensions between the neighbours after the Venezuelan and his counterpart President Alvaro Uribe exchanged barbs over Bogota’s abrupt ending of Chavez efforts to free captives held by the guerrillas, including three Americans.

“arrepent of the government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, due to recent events and in order to carry out an exhaustive evaluation of bilateral relations, has recalled its ambassador from Bogota,” the Foreign Ministry said in a statement.

The diplomatic spat is the worst since Chavez recalled his then-ambassador to Colombia in 2005 after bounty hunters snatched a Colombian rebel commander from a Caracas street and whisked him across the border to be arrested. Colombian presidential and Foreign Ministry officials could not immediately be reached for comment.

Chavez said during the weekend that he had “frozen” relations with Colombia and accused Uribe of lying in the dispute, which the anti-US leader said could affect the six billion US dollars in annual trade between the two Andean countries.

A Chinese archaeological staff works at Gu’an ancient cemetery in Anyang, a city in central China’s Henan Province, on 27 Nov, 2007. The cemetery contains more than 430 tombs, lining up in order, where lots of rare funeral objects have been unearthed. The cemetery was found in a project to divert water from the south to the north of China. —INTERNET

Four metres long ribbon fish captured in Zhejiang

BEIJING, 29 Nov — A four meter long ribbon fish, or oarfish, was captured Tuesday in Wenling, east China’s Zhejiang Province.

A four metre long ribbon fish, or oarfish was captured on Tuesday in Wenling, east China’s Zhejiang Province. —INTERNET

Even though the oarfish is known to be elongated, the four meter long version is rarely seen.

The fish weighs at 18.5 kilograms and has a 0.7 meter long tentacles.

The longest oarfish ever known was 15 meters long and at a weight of 45 kilogram. Because they live deep under the water, it is hard to catch a glimpse let alone capture the fish.

A previous study by the US leader said could affect the six billion US dollars in annual trade between the two Andean countries.

The recall heightens tensions between the neighbours after the Venezuelan and his counterpart President Alvaro Uribe exchanged barbs over Bogota’s abrupt ending of Chavez’ efforts to free captives held by the guerrillas, including three Americans.

Venezuela contains acute diarrhoea outbreaks

HANOI, 28 Nov — Vietnam has basically contained an acute diarrhoea after it has hit the country for over one month, local newspaper Labour on Tuesday quoted Vietnamese Deputy Health Minister Trinh Quan Huan as saying.

The number of new infection cases admitted to hospitals sharply decreased last weekend. Only 12 as saying.

Vietnamese Deputy Health Minister Trinh Quan Huan an acute diarrhoea after it has hit the country for over one month, local newspaper Labour on Tuesday quoted Vietnamese Deputy Health Minister Trinh Quan Huan as saying.

The number of new infection cases admitted to hospitals sharply decreased last weekend. Only 12...
**SPORTS**

Slavia hold Steaua to earn UEFA Cup place

BUCAREST, 28 Nov — Zdenek Senkerk’s second-half goal secured Slavia Prague a 1-1 draw in their Champions League tie against Steaua Bucharest on Tuesday and guaranteed the Czech side a place in the knockout stage of the UEFA Cup.

Senkerk struck with a header on 79 minutes to cancel out Valentin Badea’s 11th-minute opener.

Slavia, who have five points with a game to play, will finish third in Group H while Steaua picked up their first point in this season’s competition. Arsenal and Sevilla have already qualified from the group.

“We suffered indeed but our patience was rewarded,” Slavia coach Karel Jarolim said. “We knew Steaua would be the better team at home but my players were clever enough not to lose their heads in the difficult moments of the game.”

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Ronaldo seals top spot for Manchester United

MANCHESTER (England), 28 Nov — Cristiano Ronaldo scored a stunning injury-time goal against his former club to give Manchester United a 2-1 win over Sporting and a guarantee of top spot in Champions League Group F on Tuesday.

The Portugal winger, who had scored United’s winner in Lisbon in September, repeated the feat with a perfectly-struck free kick from 25 metres into the topcorner. The goal secured United’s fifth win from five in the competition.

Sporting, who are assured of a UEFA Cup slot, had led through a 21st-minute goal from Abel and threatened tohand United only a second defeat in 33 home European games.

But United dominated the second half and substitute Carlos Tevez equalized in the 61st minute, before Ronaldo scored a goal he had promised to deliver all night. United are top on 15 points, five clear of AS Roma who beat Dynamo Kiev 4-1, with one game left to play.

Ronaldo returned to the United side after the 22-year-old had been rested for last Saturday’s shock Premier League defeat by Bolton Wanderers.

His selection was one of six changes made by manager Alex Ferguson but right from the start the outcome appeared to revert around Ronaldo. Though he had been apologetic about celebrating his decisive goal in Lisbon, it did not stop him turning on the style on a night when many of his teammates were below par.

United had started in near exhibition mode as Ronaldo went through his full repertoire of tricks. Not all of them came off and at times he would have been better to do the simple things right, although one clever flick did create a chance for French forward Louis Saha, who dragged his shot wide on a rare starting appearance.

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Platini says England should have English coach

LONDON, 29 Nov — UEFA president Michel Platini believes an Englishman should be the new coach of England and that Premier League clubs should have more home-grown talent.

Debate about the state of English football has raged since a 3-2 defeat by Croatia last week knocked England out of Euro 2008 and cost coach Steve McClaren his job.

The Football Association has said nationality will not be an issue in recruiting a new coach.

“England is such a strong country that they have to take an Englishman.” Platini was quoted as saying in British newspapers on Tuesday. “It’s your national team and an English coach is better. English coaches need to be given more chances.”

“I am looking for the manager of England, I try to find a good English guy who everybody trusts to make a good team.”

Mourinho willing to talk to FA about England job

MANCHESTER (England), 28 Nov — Former Chelsea coach Jose Mourinho has invited the Football Association (FA) to approach him about the vacant England manager’s job, British media reported.

The Portuguese parted company with Chelsea in September after three successful years at Stamford Bridge.

“You will have to speak to the FA to see if they are interested in offering me the job,” Mourinho was quoted as saying in Wednesday’s Sun newspaper.

“I cannot say what I think until they say they are interested.”

Tell the FA to come and get me. We will have to wait and see, but I rule nothing out.”

Mourinho won two Premier League titles, two League Cups and the FA Cup after joining Chelsea in 2004, shortly after steering Porto to the Champions League title.

England are without a manager after Steve McClaren was sacked last week following the 3-2 defeat by Croatia which cost them a place at next year’s European Championship.

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Zhu Weilun of China competes during the men’s singles against Lee Tsuen Seng of Malaysia at the Hong Kong Open Badminton Super Series 2007 in Hong Kong, south China, Nov. 28, 2007. Lee won the match 2-0 and advanced into the next round.

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Wenger unrepentant after Arsenal lose unbeaten record

MADRID, 29 Nov — Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger did not regret his decision to field a new look team after they slipped to their first defeat of the season in a 3-1 loss at Sevilla in the Champions League on Tuesday.

However, the Frenchman strongly criticized the fourth official after being sent off 10 minutes from the end of the match for complaining about what he felt was time wasting by Sevilla captain Daniel Alves.

“The fourth official was very busy tonight. I’ve been involved in over 100 games in the Champions League and his behaviour was absolutely shocking,” Wenger told a news conference after the match at the Sanchez Pizjuan.

“Alves was down wasting time and when the guy (team physio) came on the pitch he stood up and two minutes later he was sprinting. “I asked the referee why he sent me off and he said he would explain after the game but he couldn’t give me another reason.”

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Switzerland’s skier Nadia Styger makes a turn as she trains for the first Women’s World Cup Downhill of the season in Lake Louise, Alberta Nov 28, 2007. —INTERNET
Texas oilman sentenced to year in prison

NEW YORK, 29 Nov — Texas oilman Oscar Wyatt, 83, was sentenced to one year and one day in prison on Tuesday for conspiracy to buy oil from Saddam Hussein’s Iraq.

The outspoken self-made oil tycoon was sentenced in Manhattan federal court after he pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit wire fraud in October, four weeks into his criminal trial and just before prosecutors were to rest their case.

Under his plea agreement, prosecutors dropped four other counts against him, cutting short a trial in which they made a case that he paid secret kickbacks to Saddam’s government to win oil contracts from Iraq.

The UN programme was established to help Iraq sell oil to buy humanitarian supplies while it was otherwise under UN sanctions due to its 1990 invasion of Kuwait.

But a UN commissioned inquiry headed by former US Federal Reserve Chairman Paul Volcker found the programme was corrupted by 2,200 companies in 66 countries that paid 1.8 billion US dollars in kickbacks to Iraqi officials to win supply deals.

At trial, prosecutors said Wyatt was at the forefront of the scheme and presented bank transactions, UN records and Iraq Government documents to back their claim that Wyatt paid kickbacks to secure Iraq oil contracts.

YouTube stops account of Egypt anti-torture activist

CAIRO, 29 Nov— The video-sharing website YouTube has suspended the account of a prominent Egyptian anti-torture activist who posted videos of what he said was brutal torture.

Wael Abbas said close to 100 images he had sent to YouTube were no longer accessible, including clips depicting purported police brutality, voting irregularities and anti-government demonstrations.

YouTube, owned by searchengine giant Google Inc. did not respond to a written request for comment. A message on Abbas’s YouTube user page, http://youtube.com/user/waelabbas, read: “This account is suspended.”

“They closed it (the account) and they sent me an e-mail saying that it will be suspended because there were lots of complaints about the content, especially the content of torture,” Abbas told The Associated Press in a telephone interview.

Abbas, who won an international journalism award for his work this year, said that of the images he had posted to YouTube, 12 or 13 depicted violence in Egyptian police stations.

Abbas was a key player last year in distributing a clip of an Egyptian bus driver, his hands bound, being sodomised with a stick by a police officer — imagery that sparked an uproar in a country where rights groups say torture is commonplace.

That tape prompted an investigation that led to a rare conviction of two policemen, who were sentenced to three years in prison for torture. Egypt says it opposes torture and prosecutes police against whom it has evidence of misconduct.

WEATHER

Thursday, 29 November, 2007

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours
MST: During the past 24 hours, light rain or thunder-showers have been isolated in Sagaing and Mandalay Divisions, weather has been generally fair in the remaining States and Divisions. Night temperatures were (3ºC) to (4ºC) below November average temperatures in Kayin, Chin, Shan and Kayin States, lower Sagaing and Mandalay Divisions, (5ºC) to (6ºC) below November average temperatures in Kayah State, upper Sagaing, Bago, Magway, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions and about November average temperatures in the remaining States and Divisions. The significant night temperature were Haki (0ºC), Namhsam (5ºC) and Mogyok (6ºC).

Maximum temperature on 28-11-2007 was 88ºF. Minimum temperature on 29-11-2007 was 61ºF. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 29-11-2007 was 82%. Total sun shine hours on 28-11-2007 was (5.9) hours approx.

Rainfall on 29-11-2007 was (nil) at Mingaladon, Kabay and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2007 was (136.57) inches at Mingaladon, (141.38) inches at Kabay and (144.29) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (5) mph from Northeast at (10:30) hours MST on 28-11-2007.

Bay influence: Weather is generally fair in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 30-11-2007: Weather will be partly cloudy in Kayin and Chin States, Sagaing, Mandalay and Yangon Divisions and generally fair in the remaining States and Divisions.

State of the sea: Seas will be moderate in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of slight decrease of night temperatures in the Northern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 30-11-2007: Generally fair weather.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 30-11-2007: Partly cloudy.
People’s Desire

☆ We favour stability.
☆ We favour peace.
☆ We oppose unrest and violence.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint looks into water supply projects for greening Meiktila Plain

The government is giving effective encouragement for improving the Myanmar traditional medical science. So, traditional medicine practitioners are to strive with the knowledge and experiences they have gained from the conference for improving traditional medical science and providing better health care for the people with potent traditional medicines.

RFA, VOA and BBC airing skyful of lies
☆ RFA, VOA and BBC saboteurs, watch your step!
☆ The public be warned of killers in the air waves — RFA, VOA and BBC