



### Tent-Pegging Cavaliers Hoping to Revive this Ancient Sport

KABUL - At least 15 cavaliers from different provinces participated in a tent-pegging competition in Khost province on Friday.

The game, also known in Afghanistan as Naiza Bazi, is a mounted cavalry sport of ancient origin, and is one of only ten equestrian disciplines officially recognized by the International Equestrian Federation.

The sport has been a popular fixture for generations in Afghanistan - particularly in the eastern provinces and across the Durand Line in north Waziristan.

Tent-pegging refers to a specific mounted game with ground targets as well as to an entire class of mounted cavalry games involving edged weapons on horseback, for which the term "equestrian skill-at-arms" is also used. The International Tent Pegging Federation (ITPF) has 28 member countries including Afghanistan, Pakistan, Yemen, India, Germany, Britain, Australia, South Africa, UAE, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Norway, Sudan, Qatar, Netherlands, Namibia, Lebanon, Kazakhstan, Jordan, Iraq, Egypt, Iran, Canada, Bahrain, USA, Egypt, Russia and Denmark.

In Afghanistan, tent-pegging games are held every Friday and cavaliers from north Waziristan also participate.

"We should be provided good grounds for the sport so that we revive the history of our ancestors," said Bahadur Khan, one tent-pegging cavalier.

Tent-pegging has a long history in Afghanistan and the game has many fans, said Shanak, another cavalier, who is from Logar.

"We are very interested in this game. People also like this game. All who have ... (More on P4)... (12)

# Nimroz Public Health Department Bans Venesection



ZARANJ - The Public Health Department in southeastern Nimroz province has banned phlebotomy -- a traditional way of preventing the spread of chronic diseases.

Public Health Director Dr. Khesro Yousufzai told Pajhwok Afghan News the step had to be taken as venesection was not

conducted professionally. Unsterilised tools were used in the process, he said. He explained one set of tools was used to venesect several people during phlebotomy, which might cause the spread of chronic diseases. Given medical advances, he urged people to visit hospitals for safe venesection. Mohammad Ismail, a resident of Zaranj, told Pa-

jhwok Afghan News public health official should have promoted awareness regarding the injurious effects of the traditional process before banning the practice. But Hamdullah, a local man who conducts phlebotomy, said the practice had long been common and people were willing to undergo it to get rid of a variety of ailments. (Pajhwok)



### Heavy Snowfall Closes Azra, Kharwar Districts Roads for Traffic

PUL-I-ALAM - Roads linking the Kharwar and Azra districts with Pul-i-Alam, the capital of central Logar province have been closed as a result of heavy snowfall, official and local residents said on Sunday.

Mohammad Nasir, a tribal elder of the Kharwar district, told Pajhwok Afghan News the road to Pul-i-Alam had been closed in Khwaja Angor Kotal area after a heavy snowfall which continued unspotted since Saturday evening.

He said, "Prices of the food items have increased and a number of patients were in critical condition need to be shifted to central Civil Hospital."

Meanwhile, Mohammad Ibrahim, another resident of the Azra district, said the transport connectivity with provincial capital cut off from the past one week.

He said the residents were worried as humanitarian crisis are looming and no step had been taken to clear the roads.

Meanwhile, Abdul Wali Wakil, deputy head of the provincial council, said the Public Works Department was ... (More on P4)... (11)

### Child Among 3 Killed in Kandahar Rickshaw Blast



KANDAHAR CITY - Three people were killed including a child as a result of a bomb blast in the Daman district of southern Kandahar province on Saturday evening, officials said.

The incident happened near the provincial airport in Kandahar City, a security official, who wished to go unnamed, told Pajhwok Afghan News.

He said the explosives had been planted on a three-wheeler that went off in Mandesar locality, killing two men and a child.

Meanwhile, Aziz Ahmad Azizi, the governor's spokesman, said he was unaware about the incident. However foreign forces based in the airport also confirmed the incident. (Pajhwok)

### Hajj Director Survives Gun Attack in Herat City



HERAT CITY - The Hajj and religious affairs director for western Herat province has survived a gun attack, an official said on Sunday. Police chief Aminullah Amarkhel told Pajhwok Afghan News unidentified gunmen stormed the

house of Syed Mohammad Sherzad at 8pm on Saturday night.

He said Sherzad was slightly wounded by shards of windowpanes. Police have launched an investigation into the incident. (Pajhwok)

## Outlook Horoscope

#### Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)



Career developments could look promising now, Aries, and you might be in a hurry to finish whatever needs to be done. But responsibilities to home and family might interfere. For some reason, you might have to stay home. Perhaps you experienced some intense dreams that you feel are significant but you can't remember them.

#### Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)



Some rather depressing information could come to you today from far away, Taurus. This is less likely to be about your immediate situation or circle of friends than it is about something social or political in nature. It's probably the subject of a lot of talk around you. You might need to run some errands in your community, but for some reason you can't.

#### Gemini (May 21-June 20)



You've been working hard to improve your financial situation, Gemini. You might be on the verge of attaining what you want, but temporary obstacles could get in your way. You could be in a bit of a panic, wondering if this means you will never get where you want to be. Don't worry. That isn't the case. You just need to assess the situation and figure out what to do to get over this hurdle.

#### Cancer (June 21-July 20)



A partner might be feeling rather down and need you to cheer him or her up, Cancer. Too many social invitations could come your way today. You may have to turn one of them down. You may not be in the mood for socializing and need to be alone to organize your thoughts. One of the events could be business related and you may feel obligated to go.

#### Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)



Today you might enjoy planning to have some visitors stay with you for a while, Leo. Worry about developments on the job or unfinished chores of your own might have you feeling a bit stressed and under the weather. You need to look at your situation objectively. It isn't all that bad, just something that needs to be done. Get it handled and then reward yourself somehow.

#### Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)



A friend could be depressed and need your advice, Virgo. Some long-held, cherished goals that you've been working toward could be temporarily blocked, causing you to wonder if they will ever come to fruition. Don't waste any time lapsing into negative thoughts. Assess what needs doing and do it. This is only a temporary situation. You will get through it, but it's up to you how quickly.

#### Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)



Some professional colleagues might be coming to visit, Libra, and you may not be looking forward to it. You could be worried. How will it go? Will you make a good impression? Don't drive yourself crazy. It will be fine. Family members should be doing well regarding their responsibilities, although you might be a bit worried about them today.

#### Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)



Today you might need to run some errands, Scorpio, but they might prove difficult for a number of reasons. The errands could be personal or business related. Communication may be temporarily blocked. Messages may not be delivered or you could be playing phone tag. On days like this, you need to make a special effort to keep cool. Nothing is so important that you have to drive yourself crazy.

#### Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)



You might reflect on recent successes in business and money and suddenly feel a strong sense of gloom, wondering if it's going to continue. Don't panic, Sagittarius. It isn't a vision of the future. It's only a temporary feeling. Work it off through exercise or throw yourself into a task. Meditation could also help. Get the endorphins going and your optimism and enthusiasm should return.

#### Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)



Work that could advance you professionally could take you away from loved ones, Capricorn, and cause some emotional tension. You might feel down because you'd rather be with your loved ones but feel it's important to move ahead now. Try to make up for it with some quality time. It's crucial to make the most of the current planetary positions.

#### Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)

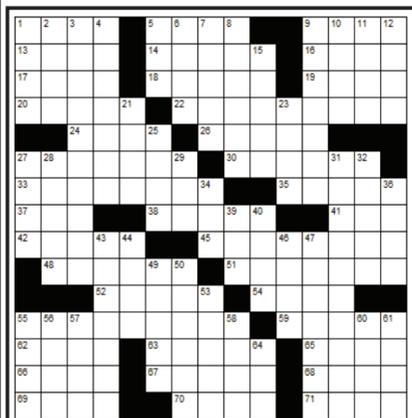


A task, perhaps job related or perhaps one of your own, might prove weightier than you expected. You're working too hard and you could be feeling tired and dejected, Aquarius. Exactly how crucial is it to get this done right now? If it isn't vital, get as much done as you can without compromising your well-being. Do the rest tomorrow. The world won't end if you take another day.

#### Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)



Someone, perhaps a person involved with a group you're in, may ask you to help in some way today. You probably don't want to do it, Pisces, possibly because you have plans. Don't be afraid to say no. Your creative energy should be high and your imagination working overtime, but other responsibilities interfere with your doing anything about it now. Note your ideas and come back to them later.



#### Across

- Does something, 5. Brother of Jacob, 9. Not we, 13. Herbaceous plant, 14. Marriage announcement, 16. Achy, 17. Smell, 18. Diacritical mark, 19. Atop 20. On the up and up
- Clumsiness, 24. Bum around, 26. Crown, 27. Body suit 30. Andean animals, 33. In the ocean, 35. Mimeograph, 37. Cheery, 38. Beginners, 41. Large, 42. Toward the outside
- Suicide bomber, 48. Incumbency, 51. Anticipate, 52. Gorillalike, 54. G G G G
- Luxuries, 59. Arguments, 62. Game on horseback, 63. Sunrises, 65. Bucolic
- Chinese mafia, 67. Talk, 68. No, 69. Neuter, 70. Jittery, 71. Get bigger,

#### Down

- Absent Without Leave, 2. Cypher, 3. Cave dweller, 4. Streaked, 5. Diminish, 6. Indian dress
- About, 8. Reveal, 9. Killer wave, 10. Expect and wish, 11. God of love 12. Cravings
- Flower part 21. Russian emperor, 23. Streetcar, 25. At one time (archaic) 27. Olympic sled, 28. Make into law, 29. Former North African ruler, 31. Emissary, 32. Take by force
- Biblical boat, 36. Curved molding, 39. Buffoon, 40. Dirty air, 43. Likeness 44. Hood-wink, 46. Angers, 47. Retaining, 49. Peels 50. Break out, 53. Carved, 55. Chooses
- Defecate, 57. Forearm bone, 58. Catch, 60. Misprint, 61. Killed, 64. Wild blue yonder,,

#### Yesterday's Solution



moment, music , queue, rind, , seep, shadow share, snake, sons squalid, still tide toad, tomato, tombstone uncle, vibrant, wander wrong,

