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Battered prof fears for his life: Concerned university lecturer speaks out after he is beaten and jailed

By SOUDHRITI BHABANI

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For Professor Ambikesh Mahapatra, Poila Boishakh, celebrated as Bengali New Year across West Bengal on Saturday, started on a bitter note.

Two days after he was beaten up by a group of Trinamool supporters and jailed on suspicion of forwarding an e-mail of Mamata Banerjee's cartoon, the section head of Jadavpur University's physical chemistry section fears for his life.

'The incident was unexpected to me as I never wanted to defame anyone. I never expected that such an incident can happen in my life.'



Arrest: Professor Ambikesh Mahapatra was arrested for 'insulting' Mamata Banerjee by forwarding a cartoon of her by e-mail

It was unfortunate. Those who lodged the complaint against me were Trinamool Congress supporters,' Mahapatra said.

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'I am frightened now as they had threatened me with dire consequence. I do fear for my life. They had forced me to write an apology mentioning that I was an active CPM activist,' he added.

According to him, about 15 men, most of them active Trinamool Congress activists, beat him up.

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'Insulting': Mamata Banerjee was at the centre of an arrest on a professor who forwarded an e-mail with a cartoon of her in

Mahapatra had lodged an FIR with East Jadavpur police station against four local Trinamool Congress activists on Friday - Amrit Sardar, Arup Mukherjee, Nishikanda Ghorai and Sheikh Mustafa. They all have been arrested the next day.

Two of the arrested, Sardar and Mukherjee, are allegedly Trinamool Congress workers.

Mahapatra and his neighbour, Subrata Sengupta, were arrested on Friday morning from Kolkata's neighbouring Garia on suspicion of spreading cartoons on the Internet that reportedly insulted the chief minister. Sengupta, secretary of Mahapatra's Housing Society, was arrested because Mahapatra had allegedly used the society's registered e-mail id to circulate the cartoon strip.

The cartoon was a caricature of Oscar-winning filmmaker Satyajit Ray's thriller Sonar Kella.

The caricature showed Mamata and her lieutenant Mukul Roy discussing how to get rid of party MP and former railways minister Dinesh Trivedi.

Mahapatra is said to have uploaded the cartoon on his Facebook account, besides sending it to 65 people via e-mail.

The e-mail content, carrying 'derogatory images' of the chief minister, was forwarded to many recipients mocking Trinamool government's policies with a caption that read: 'Enjoy Sonar Kella for Sonar Bangla.'

Mahapatra was manhandled on Thursday night while returning to his new Garia house.

Trinamool workers also raided his house before the police picked him up from there.

Asked whether anyone else had planned the attack on him, Mahapatra said: 'I really don't know. And I don't know why they did this to me. I had no intention to

CARTOON ARREST SPARKS WORRY

The arrest of professor Ambikesh Mahapatra for having forwarded a cartoon about West Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee has legal experts concerned about the use of Internet laws by the government to suppress free speech.

'This is the beginning of a new trend that is likely to see the IT Act and its provisions invoked to achieve different objectives,' cyber law expert Pavan Duggal said.

Mahapatra was charged under a section of the IT Act pertaining to 'causing offence using a computer', among others.

'Technically speaking, we are guaranteed the freedom of speech and expression.

'But the IT Act curtails it by stating one has no right to disparage anyone in general,' Sumit Aggarwal, a partner with legal firm Suri & Company, said.

Experts say the rules - particularly those spelt out in 2011's Information Technology (Intermediaries Guidelines) Rules - are ambiguous enough to allow the government to use them at will.

Duggal said the Act should clearly define what qualifies as 'defamation', 'ill-will', 'hatred' and the other offences it seeks to rein in.

These concerns have prompted a group of citizens to draft a petition - aimed at garnering MPs' support for a motion to annul IT laws that they believe amount to censorship - to be moved in Parliament by P. Rajeev, a Rajya Sabha MP from Kerala.

Nearly 615 people have already signed the petition by the Software Freedom Law Center.

Rajeev's motion calls for the annulment of the 2011 Information Technology (Intermediaries Guidelines) and is set to be

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A real double act



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Mass will be on Friday



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Cleared the air



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Kate, 41, shone bright



► **Knockout Khloe Kardashian rocks bouffant curls and displays her VERY pert posterior in a plunging fuchsia pencil dress as she hits the promo trail**



malign anyone's image,' the battered professor said.

discussed by Parliament in the upcoming session.

He said he shared good relation with many of those Trinamool activists who had turned up to manhandle him.

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Both won Oscars in '13



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Making The Voice debut



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Body-baring posts

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Not represented Ireland



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She appears to have finally seen off her tricky weight issues



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Thespian died aged 69



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They shared the silly poses on Instagram



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Daughter of F1 boss



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Born via surrogate



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Starred in The Leftovers



► **She even stuns in gym clothes! Make-up free Karlie Kloss legs it around New York in playful print workout gear**



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Looks a dead ringer



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Bought flat after divorce from Ronnie in 2009



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Jericho Keys, 26, attacked Robert Major



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The 34-year-old model had a very healthy day



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Daring new look



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► **for using ghostwriters on his autobiography**



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Proved she can still pull off a cool ensemble

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Rocked a 'don't mess' vibe in thigh-high heels



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A mom before momager



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14 years after the series



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Cut a dash in LA



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Pitch perfect



► **'It eased the pain!': Peter Andre admits he once had revenge sex with an ex's sister... 'after his partner slept with Bobby Brown on tour'**



Ex on the Beach's Jemma Lucy struggles

► to contain her bust in tiny crop top while Love Island's Cally Jane Beech flashes her abs during outdoor workout



► Olivia Munn displays her flawless legs in chic mini dress in NYC... after defeating Kevin Hart with performance of Bad Blood on Lip Sync Battle

Another stylish moment

► Flawed hero? I'm your man: With his chequered past, James Nesbitt says it's a piece of cake playing a cop with a broken marriage and super power



► Viewers to see new mother Sam Faiers GIVE BIRTH in 'intimate home video footage' for one-off reality show The Baby Diaries

Welcomed a baby boy



► Scout Willis hides under baggy jeans and knit wrap as she enjoys a quirky lunch date in Los Angeles

Covered despite her 'free the nipple' campaign



► Janet Jackson reschedules European tour as she recovers from mystery illness

The 49-year-old singer denied rumours of throat cancer earlier this month



► What's cookin' good lookin'? Gigi Hadid swaps fashion for an apron as she guest stars on MasterChef Celebrity Showdown

Swapped designer gear



► Revealed: Channing Tatum and Beyonce didn't meet until the moment she joined him on stage during his epic Lip Sync Battle

Danced with Beyonce



► Gigi Hadid and Cindy Crawford's son Presley Gerber pose in new CR Fashion Book

Will feature models dressed only in Kanye West's fashion collection



► Dancing duo! Lionel Richie shows off his moves with daughter Nicole... after launching his Home Collection

Got her irreverent sense of humour from her dad



► **Actor Tom Hardy looks VERY well protected as his toolled-up bodyguard is pictured with a belt full of weapons to scare off even the most determined attacker**



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► **'The White BET Awards!' Host Chris Rock jokes about the Oscars' lack of diversity as he reveals new teaser for the ceremony Taking a BIG bite**



► **Jessica Biel dons colourful floral scarf with maroon dress as she stops by her new restaurant Au Fudge Checking in on her new business venture**



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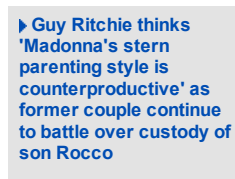


► **Will And Grace star Debra Messing to play Baby's mother in Dirty Dancing remake The 47-year-old Will &**

► Grace actress has signed up for the role



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► Make-up free Lara Stone shows off her enviably long legs in skinny jeans as she enjoys a dinner date with a mystery man
Marriage split last year



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TV boss says show to continue after season 10



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► Because he wants to! Laurence Fox ditches usual clean shaven look as he debuts moustache and darker locks
Actor has gone to the dark side



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► Taylor Swift shows off her long legs in a super-short mini dress as she enjoys date night with boyfriend Calvin Harris
The pair looked loved up



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► **tan as she goofs around with son Sean**
Not so natural

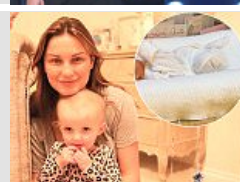


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She's heavily pregnant



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Not shared pic with fans



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Picture of health



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The 27-year-old went with a casual street chic look



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Resumed taking his medication after a week



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Heavily-pregnant Coleen Rooney

► conceals her bump in glamorous fur coat as she carries son Klay across busy street while out with husband Wayne



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Didn't speak to actor



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Usually flashes his abs but chose to wrap up



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Nice to sea hair happy



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Legs be having you



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After Globes victory



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Glamorous day out



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Beloved for his villainous roles



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Daredevil



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Jennifer Garner is the picture of happiness as she wraps up warm in chic winter coat and leather boots

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That's a wrap

► 'You're not you when you're hungry': Megan McKenna's meltdown goes viral as CBB's online following descends into a frenzy of hilarious memes



► Not so happy to be on holidays? Jodi Anasta looks downcast as she arrives alone at Bali resort...looking very slim in casual travel ensemble



► Celebrity Big Brother's Stephanie Davis and Jeremy McConnell's flirtation heats up as they appear to kiss under the bed covers
She has a boyfriend



► 'The ultimate escapist series is back': Prison Break stars Wentworth Miller and Dominic Purcell to return in revival as new teaser is released



► Celine Dion won't perform in Vegas again till February as she mourns the death of husband René Angélil, 72, after 'courageous' battle with cancer



► The Life and Times of Grizzly Adams star Dan Haggerty dies at 74 after battle with cancer
The '70s star passed away at his home in California



► EXCLUSIVE: Chloe Madeley reveals the secrets of her incredible gym-honed physique with three simple steps - and insists you WILL get a six-pack



► Amy Winehouse to compete for Best British Female as she's honoured with posthumous Brit Award nomination five years after death



Duchess of Cambridge to turn Kensington Palace into a newsroom

► **for a day to champion a children's mental health charity**
Raise awareness



► **Peter Phillips says it's 'a little strange' having the Queen as his gran and admits he caused 'quite a bit of mayhem' with William and Harry during his childhood**

► **'NOT a good choice of pic': Brooklyn Beckham sparks controversy by sharing image of gun-toting child on Instagram**
Sparked controversy among Instagram fans



► **Heavily-pregnant Coleen Rooney says Wayne is a more 'confident' father and hopes they'll still have 'weekly date nights' when baby three arrives**



► **Freida Pinto shows off her slim pins in skintight indigo jeans and a chic navy jacket as she attends business lunch**
Dressed to impress at business meeting



► **'Food and drink overload!' Michelle Keegan and Mark Wright tuck into a feast as they enjoy a low-key cinema date before actress jets to South Africa for work**



► **That's a bit cheeky! Bikini-clad Kim Zolciak shares photo of husband Kroy Biermann getting VERY hands on during beach day**
Ample cleavage



► **PICTURED: Nick Carter leaves Monroe County Detention Center after arrest for misdemeanor battery and 'trying to choke a bouncer'**



► **Sofia Vergara puts on an effortlessly chic display as she parades her pert posterior in skinny jeans and staggeringly high heels**
Always looks glamorous



► **Cheryl Fernandez-Versini set to 'be a bridesmaid for her best friend Kimberley Walsh' in spite of own marriage headache**
Supporting her BFF



Curves to kill for! Robyn

► **Lawley flaunts her ample cleavage in lacy lingerie as she encourages fans to 'love your body'**
Advocates confidence



► **Cheryl Fernandez-Versini puts on a brave face in first public appearance since 'filing for divorce from husband' at gym launch**
Newly-single star

► **SPOILER ALERT Date night fright! Corrie's unlucky-in-love Eva Price looks distraught after explosive row with beau Aidan Connor**
Another blow for Eva



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► **'I don't see myself with women': Caitlyn Jenner hints she's ready to date a man in season two promo for I Am Cait**
Insisted she'd 'been there, done that'



► **New York chic! Khloe Kardashian showcases her toned curves in tight black dress hitting promo trail again for new chat show**
Big hair, don't care



► **Kim Kardashian is angelic in a bubblegum pink ribbon and frilly dress as Kris Jenner shares cute flashback of 'My little Kimberly'**
What a difference



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Matthew Perry pulls the plug



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Human rights discussion



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► **Leonardo Di Caprio** smoulders on the cover of GQ Australia as he is tipped for Oscar success with in *The Revenant*
Man of the moment



► **Oscar-nominated duo** Leonardo DiCaprio and Tom Hardy lead the way at *The Revenant's* European première
At the Empire Theatre in Leicester Square



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No nudity nerves



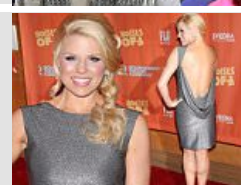
► **Real Housewives** star **Teresa Giudice** makes her carpet debut after leaving prison... as she's joined by daughter **Gia** at store opening
Back in the spotlight



► **Olivier Giroud**, **Eden Hazard** and **Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain** among Premier League stars to flock to O2 Arena for **NBA London 2016**



► **It's a Smash!** **Megan Hilty** turns heads in a backless shimmering number at opening party for her Broadway play **Noises Off**
Sensational in silver



► **SoulCycling** with the stars! **Hilary Duff** leads the way as fellow celebrity **Lea Michele** also hones her body in New York
Dressed up for the gym



► **Riding in style:** **Kendall Jenner** sizzles in snakeskin jacket while driving her classic 1956 **Corvette convertible** in Beverly Hills
Just chilling



► **'We'll solve that problem':** **Caitlyn Jenner** responds to **Ricky Gervais'** jokes at Golden Globes by offering to host next year
Not taking it lying down



Kourtney Kardashian steps out in leather jacket and skinny jeans with son **Reign...** as ex

► **Scott Disick films scenes**
Outing in Beverly Hills



► **Chloe Moretz shows off fashion-forward style**
in intricate blue and red number at special fan screening of *The 5th Wave*
Sensational style

► **Sean the sheepish!**
Penn remains tight-lipped on night out as he prepares to break his silence on *El Chapo* interview in chat with Charlie Rose



► **She can't help herself!**
Karlie Kloss poses up a storm as she heads to a meeting in a striking black and white look
A model's work is clearly never done



► **They just keep getting cuter!**
Amy Schumer's boyfriend Ben shares a new adorable snap from the Golden Globes
They are head over heels



► **Clasp-ed shut!**
Molly Sims grins as her plunging neckline flashes her bra... then closes her cardigan to preserve modesty
Life's peachy



► **Ever youthful**
Melanie Griffith, 58, shows off her long slender legs in white skinny jeans as she has lunch with mystery man
High spirits



► **Laid back lovebirds!**
Jennie Garth keeps it casual as she steps out in LA with husband Dave Abrams
Married last year in small ceremony



► **Life's always sunny for Goldie!**
Hawn, 70, flashes her blinding smile as she strolls back to her car in a revealing low-cut vest
Looked lovely



► **So demure!**
Adriana Lima wears sheer lace blouse as she shows support for Haiti's St Luke's Hospital in New York City
How transparent



Natural beauty!
Patricia Arquette, 47, goes

► **make-up free keeping it casual as she steps out for some shopping in Beverly Hills**



► **'I could never sleep outside': Jennifer Lopez shares fears over nomadic life leaving herself open to joke by Harry Connick Jr**
Diva at heart

► **Little Mix's Jesy Nelson and Leigh-Anne Pinnock on double date with Jake Roche and Jordan Kiffin at glitzy basketball match**
Enjoyed a double date



► **Sleepy Vicky Pattison dresses down in all-black ensemble as she stifles a LARGE yawn ahead of big night out in Liverpool**
Unleashed a large yawn



► **She's ready to read! Emma Roberts shops at indie bookstore in Los Angeles before meeting up with on-again beau Evan Peters**
Hit the shops



► **'QUEEN!!!' Nicki Minaj gives her stamp of approval of Adele's rendition of Monster during hilarious Carpool Karaoke**
Quickfire rendition



► **Glorious but grisly: It's a bear who deserves the Oscar in Leo's gory epic The Revenant, writes BRIAN VINER**
Almost as grueling to watch as it was to make



► **Fight For This Love: Cheryl Fernandez-Versini kick-boxes away marriage blues as her cheeks look sunken in make-up-free selfie**
Intense kick-boxing



► **'Happy to procreate with this man': Jessica Simpson gushes over husband Eric while dismissing the idea of a third child**
Still lusting after him



► **'Force yourself to be kind': Hilaria Baldwin reveals how she resolves arguments with husband Alec while sharing relationship tips**
Married over three years



► **He's taking a Gamble!**
Justin Bieber is accompanied by sidekick Corey as he goes for post-lunch stroll in Beverly Hills
A walking companion



► **SEBASTIAN SHAKESPEARE:**
Jessica's derriere is so hot she needs ice on it
Jessica Raine really suffered for her art when she had to wear a corset



► **Smooth operator!** Lady Kitty Spencer's rumoured new love James Tobin reveals he shaves his legs... and thinks it's 'sexy' when women are sweaty



► **'My mom's not the puppet master... I am!':** Kim Kardashian reveals she's the brains behind the family empire as she shares swimsuit shoot
Insists she's in charge



► **Ricky Gervais calls out Academy Awards for all-'white nominees'...** as other industry insiders react to lack of diversity
Many are deeply concerned



► **David Walliams' rumoured flame Ashley James flaunts her ample bust and svelte waist in stringy bikini as she strips off for modelling agency**



► **TOWIE's Danielle Armstrong shows off her ample assets in nude bustier and tight skirt as she joins gal pal Jessica Wright**
A pampering session



► **Ruby Rose flaunts her toned physique as she trains for upcoming action-packed blockbusters**
She has two new films to add her portfolio



► **'The secret of a good marriage is two bathrooms':** Sir Michael Caine on why he has stayed happily married to wife for 43 years
Married in 1973



► **'I think society should have a problem with that':** Gillian Anderson blasts critics of her sexually confident character in *The Fall*
Speaks candidly



Boris Becker's wife Lilly shows off her new blonde locks as she flaunts her svelte figure in glam jumpsuit for

► **charity evening**

Showed off her new do

► **Charlotte Rampling, 69, lands her first Oscar nomination: She leads huge British charge for awards**

Finally honoured with a nomination

► **Twitter trolls accuse Emma Watson of exploiting Harry Potter co-star Alan Rickman's death to further her own 'feminist agenda'**

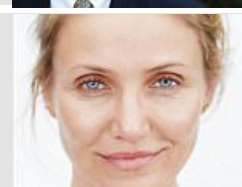
Follows tweet by actress

► **'I have just kissed him goodbye': Emma Thompson reveals she saw Alan Rickman before he died**

Pays tribute to her 'friend and ultimate ally'

► **'I am so excited!' A delighted Cameron Diaz takes to social media to share the cover of her lifestyle book, Longevity, out in April**

Carving a career as an author

► **'Nothing attracts like the scent of No. 2': Ben Stiller and Owen Wilson star in perfume ads for Zoolander sequel**

Posing beside naked female models

► **Lamar Odom emerges for a drive around LA after Khloe's candid interview with Howard Stern about his infidelity**

Khloe Kardashian went into detail his cheating

► **On the go! Reese Witherspoon shows off svelte legs in skintight leggings indulging in retail therapy in LA**

Spotted carrying two bags back to her car

► **She's got a classic Soul! Lily-Rose Depp, 16, looks rocker chic as she buys a vinyl 1968 Aretha Franklin record in Hollywood**

Spotted in record shop

► **'I was really nervous': Kendall Jenner, 20, was 'freaked out' when starting high school because of acne as she posts cheerleading snap**

Posted a sunny photo

**Katherine Jenkins and husband Andrew**

► **Levitas take time off parental duties as they enjoy rare date night at basketball game**
Took some time off



When you didn't win the Powerball & you want your money back for all the tickets you bought from the store



► **Reclusive Rob Kardashian complains about losing Powerball... as Kris Jenner 'schedules gastric bypass consultation'**
Not said much

► **'We went a little crazy with the animal print!' Kourtney Kardashian shares throwback bikini snap of her and Kim BEFORE children**
Frolicking in the surf



► **Roll over Beethoven! Justin Bieber tries his hand at some classical piano in Montage Hotel lobby with passable stab at Für Elise**
The 21-year-old flaunted his musical prowess



► **'I'm not surprised': Ice Cube takes Oscars snub in stride and reveals he's happy with the film's epic success regardless**
High Oscar expectations



► **Abbey Clancy shows off her amazing figure in racy split dress as she joins Britain's Next Top Model judges at glittering party**
Party to launch series



► **Maisie Williams shows off her long legs as she suits up in smart blazer and tiny shorts for the European premiere of The Revenant**
Ignored the cold



► **BRIAN VINER: Rocky's back for round seven - and he's packing a real punch: Creed is nearly a knockout**
Seemed to be on ropes



► **Good nudes! The girls are back in town and it's bracing, brassy and beautifully British, says QUENTIN LETTS**
The Girls is tremendous fun



► **Rocker mom Fergie wears edgy leather and ripped denim as she and Josh Duhamel pick up cute son Axl from school**
Adorable blond son



► **Jimmy Fallon looks serious as he steps out in New York one day after NBC boss forced to deny he has a drinking problem**
In a Manhattan park



► **Make-up free Kaley Cuoco looks downcast in 'Kale' sweatshirt and shorts as she leaves yoga class after losing two of her pet dogs**



► **Earning her fashion stripes! Naomie Harris shimmers in chic sequined dress as she mingles at star-studded charity benefit**



► **Glee star Mark Salling runs errands as he awaits trial after arrest over 'pornographic images of children under the age of 10'**
Images on computer



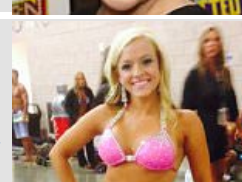
► **Psst, Scorsese! If you're after a new gang film, here's the script: CLAUDIA CONNELL reviews last night's TV**
it was a welcome return for Brian Pern



► **SEBASTIAN SHAKESPEARE - Sheridan Smith: I'm too workaholic to be someone's wifey**
Says he can't settle down to be 'a little wifey'



► **Teen Mom 3 star Mackenzie McKee hospitalized due to 'diabetic complications'... as she diets to be a bodybuilder**
Was building muscles



► **BAZ BAMIGBOYE: Could Winslet and Elba get it together as spy lovers?**
Kate Winslet and Idris Elba are in negotiations about starring together in a spy thriller



► **Pregnant Anne Hathaway goes make-up free as she dresses her baby bump in tight workout gear for a session at the gym**
Hitting the gym



► **Nicky Hilton steps out for first time amid pregnancy rumours... as she hides any sign of a bump in chic fleecy coat**
Flashed a coy smile as she strolled around



Getting ready for baby!
Chrissy Teigen and John Legend move into sprawling \$14.1 million

► **Beverly Hills mansion once owned by Rihanna**
Expanding family



► **Does he really need the money? Prince Jackson wears tank top and medallion as the son of the King Of Pop buys a Powerball ticket**
Caught Powerball fever



► **Bieber's not going to like this! Orlando Bloom snuggles up to Selena Gomez who he was romantically linked to during her Justin days**
Singer's Instagram post

► **EXCLUSIVE: Whitney Port reveals her husband was NOT a fan of her racy Golden Globes dress**
Talks babies, newlywed life and marathons



► **'I will carry the lessons he taught me for the rest of my life': Daniel Radcliffe leads the Harry Potter cast in touching tributes to co-star Alan Rickman**



► **Good enough to eat! Charlotte Crosby slips into scarlet midi dress as she puckers up to life-sized cake shaped like her derriere**
That's a bum deal



► **Her two boys! Alessandra Ambrosio opts for comfort in hoodie and sweatpants as she enjoys relaxed outing with son Noah**
Spotted on relaxed stroll

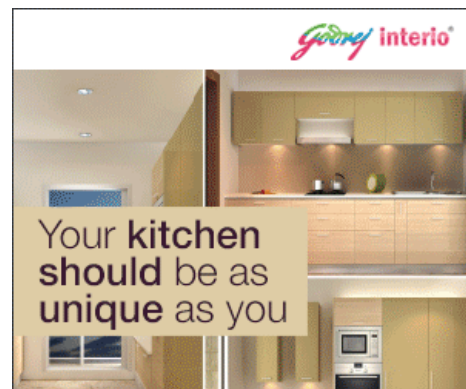
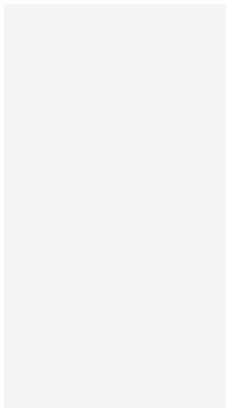


► **He's a chameleon! Boy George is a world away from his outlandish ensembles as he goes make-up free in hoodie and tracksuit bottoms for low-key stroll**



► **BAZ BAMIGBOYE: Why War and Peace siren Lily is 'bewitched' by Juliet**
Lily James will play the bard's tragic heroine in Romeo And Juliet





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