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Has Benitez won title for Liverpool?

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Brexit goes to the wire

- Extraordinary day in Westminster sees the Prime Minister blink in her battle with Tory rebels
- EU refuses to reopen talks and still hopes to soften or stop Brexit
- Corbyn U-turn: he agrees to meet the PM after Parliament's symbolic vote against no deal
- May backs down - then wins Commons mandate to renegotiate the UK's divorce deal with Brussels
- Pound slips after MPs fail to delay Brexit, increasing chance of no-deal
- Brussels mesmerised by UK drama... with Tory rebels ready to abandon leader again if she returns empty-handed



Katy Balls May unites her party ... around a deal that doesn't exist

Jailed MP still hasn't quit

Susie Dent A literary feast
Rich history of language and food

Six Nations



Are you ready, Eddie?

Crunch time for England's coach

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ThePage3Profile
SUE TILLEY,
MUSE AND MODEL



Girl power?

Sue Tilley is best known for her stint as Lucian Freud's muse, a role for which the former benefits supervisor was nicknamed 'Big Sue' after she posed nude for a number of the artist's portraits. Now the Benefits Supervisor series model has teamed up with fashion designer turned sculptor Nicole Farhi, for a new exhibition.

I think I recognise her?

You might do. Among others, Ms Tilley featured in Freud's Benefits Supervisor Sleeping, where she is pictured lying naked on a sofa. The portrait was bought by Chelsea FC owner Roman Abramovich for £12m in 2008. Freud died in 2011.

What's this new project about?

Ms Tilley has teamed up with Farhi

for her Folds exhibition, due to go on display tomorrow at Beaux Arts in Mayfair, central London. The exhibition explores the human figure, specifically the shapes and curves formed by folds of flesh on the female body.

Ms Tilley was one of two friends invited by Farhi to sit for the portraits. The women had areas of their bodies cast in plaster to create life-size replicas of their curves. The sculptures were then cast in Jesmonite and bronze for the display models.

Sounds pretty brave

For Farhi, it's all part of a wider exploration of the body - her last exhibition focused on the human hand. 'I wanted to continue looking at parts of the human body, this time exploring the powerful beauty

of flesh, curves and the sexual energy large women have,' she said.

How did it go?

The pair are said to have bonded over the shared relationship with Freud. 'We met, we got on well. I liked her spirit enormously,' Farhi told the Evening Standard. 'I think she liked the portrait I had done of Lucian Freud. We had him in common, not that I had known him as well as she had.'

Farhi explained Ms Tilley agreed to sit with her but showed only one breast. 'It was fine with me,' she went on, 'as the breast has such an important place in human thought. It has been regarded as a sex object or a source of nurturance and I wanted to show it in its glorious primal beauty.'

Florence Snead

PEOPLE
Yachtsman, 73, wins solo global race

A French sailor has won a round-the-world yacht race after 212 days alone at sea without modern navigation instruments. Jean-Luc Van Den Heede, 73, arrived in western France after the 80,000-mile Golden Globe race. Of the 19 sailors who started last July, only five were still in the race yesterday.

CULTURE
Hemingway gets his wish after 61 years

When the 1958 film *The Old Man and The Sea* came out, Ernest Hemingway told his close friend AE Hotchner that he did not like it, and urged the writer to do his own stage adaptation some day. More than 60 years later, Hotchner, 101, will have that play premiered at Pittsburgh Playhouse on Friday.

ISRAEL
Gantz takes opening shot at Netanyahu

Former Israeli military chief, Benjamin Gantz, has launched his campaign to replace Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. Mr Gantz accused the government of dividing the country. Positioning himself as a centrist, he pledged to unite all Israelis. He said he would push for peace, but take a tough line against Middle East foes.

SPORT
Missing Sala noted in Arsenal programme

Emiliano Sala's absence was noted on Arsenal's matchday programme ahead of Cardiff's first fixture since the disappearance of the striker. Arsenal hosted the Bluebirds at the Emirates Stadium last night, observing the missing Sala by using a daffodil flower by his name on the squad list. **PAGES2**

Letter from the Editor
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Unstoppable force, immovable object

The Prime Minister performed a gymnastics display worthy of any teenage Olympic gold medal hope. She won over Brexiteer Tory rebels - for how long we do not yet know - by finally backing down and conceding to their demand: return to Brussels and ask to renegotiate the divorce deal. Theresa May now has two weeks to chisel out a meaningful concession. Fat chance. If you take Europe's leaders at their word (No), this was the shortest renegotiation in history. Yet they had to say that. In truth, they are prepared to consider trade-offs. But they will only give ground on the Ireland backstop if they can be sure that Mrs May has the backing of Parliament.

- She will get little joy from Europe in the next fortnight. There are at least six reasons for this.
- 1 Any change would need to be signed off by all 27 EU leaders.
- 2 European negotiators fear that if they compromise too soon, she will still have time, before 29 March, to return and demand further concessions.
- 3 They believe it will be impossible to satisfy headline Brexiteers.
- 4 The EU always runs negotiations down to the wire.
- 5 Any sense that Brussels is backing down to the Brits will embolden Eurosceptics in power in Hungary, Italy and Poland.
- 6 EU leaders believe that the longer they hold their nerve, the more likely British MPs are to delay Brexit, choose a soft Brexit or no Brexit.

The PM has - surprisingly given her usual intransigence - won a mandate from her party and (narrowly) the Commons to reopen talks. She has little chance of success in a fortnight. Panic will start to trickle through European capitals, and we'll see who really has the nerve for this game of chicken.

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