



**CTM TO UPDATE INTERNET SERVICES**  
CTM says it's aiming to make high-speed fiber optic Internet services accessible to every home in Macau this year

P2

**TRAILHIKER 2015 OVER HALF BOOKED**



P3



**ARTS FESTIVAL FINAL SHOW THIS WEEKEND**  
German theatre performance "Trust" will bring the 26th Macau Arts Festival to a close

P4

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"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN' "

**WORLD BRIEFS**



**CHINA** Responding to sharply worded comments from the U.S. defense secretary, China yesterday defended its building of artificial islands in the South China Sea and accused Washington of stirring up trouble in the economically vital region. Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Hua Chunying said no outside actors have the right to dictate to China in an area it claims as its sovereign territory.

**CHINA** Poor construction and lax safety checks are being blamed for China nursing home fire that killed 38. [More on p10](#)

**CHINA-USA** Chinese and American authors gathered Wednesday to protest a major U.S. book fair's focus on China that they say ignores the country's glaring problems of censorship and intimidation. Jonathan Franzen, Xiaolu Guo, Andrew Solomon, Ha Jin and others stood outside the main New York Public Library to demand that China free Nobel peace laureate Liu Xiaobo and professor Ilham Tohti from prison, stop restricting other writers and have the confidence to allow free speech.



**MYANMAR** The Dalai Lama urges Aung San Suu Kyi, Myanmar's pro-democracy icon and a fellow Nobel Peace Prize laureate, to speak out to protect her country's persecuted Rohingya Muslims.

[More on backpage](#)

**Study: Drug use rises among local youth** P2



**BANGKOK CONFERENCE ON BOAT PEOPLE**  
**Rohingya migrant crisis far from over** P12

**times Extra**  
THE REINVENTION OF MACAU  
COTAI 2.0 STARTS ON BROADWAY  
HOPING FOR A HAPPY ENDING

**Extra**  
times  
weekend Guide  
INSIDE



## STUDY

# Number of young people taking drugs on the rise

Catarina Pinto

**T**HE percentage of young people currently taking drugs in Macau has been increasing, according to a 2014 study commissioned by the Social Welfare Bureau (IAS) for the University of Macau (UM). A total of 2.48 percent out of a sample of young people claimed that they have taken drugs, while the 2010 study showed a slightly different ratio, as 1.88 percent of young people said they had taken drugs, UM professor Li De explained at a press conference yesterday.

IAS commissioned a study for UM's Social Service department to learn more about substance abuse among Macau's youth. Researchers interviewed a total of 9,837 young people last year. In 2010, 7,112 people were interviewed.

Professor Li, who also serves as the director of UM's Sociology de-



partment, said that they needed a larger sample as Macau's population has grown significantly since the previous survey was undertaken.

Researchers concluded that the number of young people taking drugs has increased since 2010. They also determined that the most common drugs that young people have allegedly consumed are: marijuana (113 people), ketamine (76), 'ice' (71), pills (66), ecstasy (57), heroin (54) and 'happy water' (47).

When compared to the 2010

study, researchers also found that there has been an increase in the number of students taking marijuana and pills. On the other hand, they have recorded a decrease in the number of people taking ketamine and heroine.

Furthermore, drug abuse among students enrolled in the 5th grade and above has been recorded as having increased. There was also a significant increase in the number of girls taking drugs. The percentage of students using drugs in non-Chinese schools is higher than in Chinese schools.

The deputy head of IAS' department for the prevention and treatment of drug abuse, Hoi Va Pou, hinted that this increase is often linked to the teenagers' family background. She added that the lack of parental guidance could negatively influence young people's decisions. Furthermore, she stressed that IAS is promoting and improving drug risk awareness through activities.

UM's study provided a series of recommendations, including reinforcing discipline and supervision; reducing the time young people spend alone; and conducting awareness raising campaigns targeting specific drugs such as ketamine and marijuana.

At yesterday's press conference, IAS also presented a study it had commissioned for The Sheng Kung Hui Social Services Coordi-

nation Office, this time focusing on drug consumption among after-school drifters. The study focused on teenagers who typically socialise together either in the city's streets or at game arcades.

Researchers interviewed over 260 people but only 251 questionnaires were considered valid. Out of the 251 surveyed, 47 people (18.7 percent) admitted to having taken drugs, representing a slight decrease when compared to a similar study conducted in 2006, in which 20.8 percent conceded that they had taken drugs.

The study shows that ketamine, 'ice' and ecstasy are the most common drugs taken by after-school drifters. The majority of those interviewed (53.2 percent) said that they had taken drugs out of curiosity or to keep friends company (51.1 percent).

## SCHOOLBOY CAUGHT SELLING DRUGS FOR DAILY PAY OF HKD160

**AN 18-YEAR-OLD** middle school student was arrested by the Judiciary Police this week for selling drugs to a local businessman, who was also detained for the act. The suspect was employed by a syndicate from Hong Kong for a daily salary of HKD160. According to the police authorities, an unknown man had approached

the schoolboy at a nightclub and convinced him to take the job, which the man claimed would be "short and lucrative." The student started dealing drugs from then on, and admitted that two deals had been made already. The case has also been forwarded to the Education and Youth Affairs Bureau.

## CTM to update home broadband Internet services

**L**CTM says it's aiming to make high-speed fiber optic Internet services accessible to every home in Macau this year. Moreover, it plans to double the number of Wi-Fi hotspots to 1,000 by year-end, with some to be installed in public buses.

The company elevated its fastest fiber broadband speed from 250Mbps to 1Gbps yesterday with the launch of two new bandwidth services, making "downloading an HD movie within a minute" a reality for Macau's Internet users.

The company's vice president of Commercial, Ms Ebel Cham, told media that there are currently 37,000 homes using the fiber broadband service, which accounted for 27 percent of the entire user base (157,000 homes) in the city.

"We are confident that we can achieve 100 percent 'fiber-to-the-home' penetration within this year," she stated, adding that the company will gradually up-

grade general broadband users' options to the new fiber service without raising tariffs.

"We'll start with the customers now using bandwidth services at a download speed of 15Mbps by offering them free upgrade to a 50Mbps fiber plan, then expand the upgrading plan to the rest - 7Mbps, 4Mbps, etc. gradually," she explained.

In addition, the executive introduced that the operator intends to double the size of its Wi-Fi hotspots over the city from 500 to 1,000 within the year, and to extend hotspot coverage to public buses that are operated by Transmac along with the launching of new 4G services.

In celebration of the city's 20th anniversary of Internet services, the operator also announced the launch of a "Fiber Broadband for Students" charitable program, offering a total of 200 students recommended by welfare organizations basic home fiber service for a period of two years.

"Through this program, we

hope to equip the students with information technology in order to enhance their learning efficiency, ultimately fostering the development of digital campus and IT education," stated CTM's director of Corporate Communications, Ms Eliza Chan.

CTM has been the city's sole service supplier of broadband Internet access. The download speeds of its general home broadband services currently range from 1.5Mbps to 15Mbps, whereas its fiber service pushes up the speeds to a minimum 50Mbps.

"Internet access technology in Macau has evolved from the earliest dial-up introduced in 1995 to fiber broadband nowadays, with download speed jetted up from 14.4Kbps to 1Gbps," said Ms Cham.

"CTM will continue to introduce various leading network technology, bring fiber to all residents of Macau, ultimately achieving the early realization of a digital Macau," she added. **BY**

## Hengqin Youth Entrepreneurship Valley to open in July

**H**ENGQIN'S Youth Entrepreneurship Valley dedicated to Macau entrepreneurs is expected to open in July. The participants will be exempt from paying rent for at least the first year.

The Secretary for Economy and Finance, Lionel Leong, led a delegation of nearly a hundred Macau youths on a visit to the Hengqin facility yesterday where they learnt about its conditions and policies from the Hengqin's administrative committee.

Located opposite the campus of the University of Macau, the valley covers an area of 30,000 square meters in its first section and 180,000 square meters in its second. It mainly attracts young people aged between 18 and 45 who study, live or work in Macau, and offers exemptions on rent for at least one year to stationed enterprises.

Apart from basic administrative and auxiliary facilities, entrepreneurship training and venture capital management programs will also be available. While the first section is scheduled to start accommoda-

ting enterprises in July, the second section is expected to have completed construction and be put into use by year-end.

Leong told media that the visit aimed to facilitate an understanding among Macau youth of the spaces, policies and conditions offered at the different Guangdong Free Trade Zones, as well as of the markets they might offer. He encouraged the young entrepreneurs to think more, ask more, propose ideas, and learn about customers' needs as part of the meeting.

So far, 27 companies from Macau have applied to be stationed in the valley. The Hengqin Financial Investment Company's vice-president, Zhao Guopei, as cited by TDM, said that applications are still open, and there is currently no cap on the total number of applications to be received.

Mr Zhao revealed that the assessment of applicants will be conducted in early June. He hopes there will be more enterprises engaging in creative, Internet and other emerging industries to join the Valley.

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TRAILHIKER 2015

# 256 team slots already filled up



Trailhiker organizers and supporters

**2**56 or over half of the slots available for the sixth edition of Sands China Macau Eco TrailHiker have already been filled. The annual charitable event has received overwhelming support from local communities and enterprises, which had already made their pre-subscriptions earlier.

During a press conference held yesterday afternoon at the Venetian Macao - the event's title sponsor - Robert J. Kirby, the director of Macau TrailHiker revealed that the event's crew has undertaken more training and is prepared for a more "efficient and fun carnival event," which will benefit the city's population in need.

The TrailHiker event attrac-

ted 560 hikers when it was first organized, and the number is expected to swell to 2,000 this year. Mr Kirby said that he was delighted to see the number of teams growing annually as well, which will stand at 500 this year. Half of the total slots have already been reserved.

Over the previous five years, the group has raised a total of MOP1.4 million for different local charitable organizations, with more than 6,200 participants leaving their footprints on the routes.

The Macau Special Olympics (MSO) and Macau Association for the Mentally Handicapped are the two beneficiaries of this year's edition. Athletes with intellectual disabilities from the

latter association will run in the 10-kilometer category for the first time.

Siu Yu Hong, MSO chief executive officer stated: "We want to spread a message of social inclusion to the public. The mentally challenged can do most things normal people do. Two runners in our team are our volunteers while the other two are mentally challenged."

Similar to the previous editions, the fundraising activity seeks to elevate public awareness of the often neglected topic of preserving greenery in Coloane as participants would be greeted with natural scenery along the course.

Aside from the environmental theme of "Exploring the Gree-

ner Side of Macau with You" this year, Mr Kirby also announced in his opening speech that another significant goal of the event was to encourage more locals to engage in physical exercise, citing the figure from the World Health Organization that 1.9 billion out of 7 billion in the world currently suffers from obesity.

"Because the world is becoming increasingly unhealthy, we want to get more people who don't normally exercise to join our event, and to do it not just once a year, but to do it regular-

## ■ The annual charitable event has received overwhelming support from local communities and enterprises

ly, even weekly," said the event's organizer.

Kirby also disclosed that the organizer would possibly introduce a tweak to the course options, which is currently at a 30-kilometer route for corporations and a 10-kilometer route for families or those participating at leisure.

"We don't have the 20-K course right now, and we have requests from people who do the 10-K every year, wanting to step up to a longer distance but feeling the 30-K's too far, so they're looking for something in between. Therefore the introduction of a 20-K course is quite possible for next year," he said, adding that the organizer did not wish to "deviate much from the main concept in the few years to come."

The press conference yesterday also hosted government representatives from the Macau Sport Development Board and Macau Government Tourist Office, Windy Lou and Betty Fok. Mark McWhinnie, senior vice-president of Resort Operations and Development for Sands China Ltd. was also in attendance.

Last year, the charitable event drew a record 450 team entries from around the globe, with overseas runners from mainland China, Portugal, Hong Kong and Malaysia.

Macau Daily Times is the media partner for the event.

Staff reporter

## PJ simulates drug bust



The Judiciary Police (PJ) conducted a simulation drill over the past two days that replicated the aftermath of a shooting, studying the cooperation between different public departments and the standard of on-site inquiry. The exercise took place at a parking lot in Cotai, where the male victim was gunned down after an unsuccessful drug deal. The PJ inspectors searched for evidence and analyzed the leftover drugs, demonstrating the normal procedures for similar cases. The process of remote verification of suspects' fingerprints was also practiced during the drill, which even saw how the investigation vehicles introduced in 2011 operated. A total of 42 officials from six government departments were involved in the hours-long manoeuvre. The authorities wished to strengthen interdepartmental efforts in coping with real cases and optimized their response to them through the exercises.

## UM signs protocol with Chinese Academy



The University of Macau (UM) and the Chinese Academy of Chinese Medical Sciences (CACMS) recently signed a collaboration agreement regarding the joint establishment of a collaborative platform. UM Rector Wei Zhao and CACMS President Zhang Boli signed the agreement on behalf of their respective institutes.

## Alexis Tam holds meetings on smoking ban



On the issue of limiting smoking in casinos, the Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture, Alexis Tam, yesterday met with representatives of three casino workers' unions affiliated to the Macau Federation of Trade Unions (FAOM) as well as representatives from a junkets' association accompanied by lawmaker Zheng Anting. The FAOM urged the government to submit the draft bill with a full smoking ban in casinos, whereas the latter petitioned the government to keep closed smoking rooms within the VIP gambling zones. According to the FAOM delegation, the government's stance on a full smoking ban did not change, and it will soon submit the bill to the Legislative Assembly. In addition, the junkets' association cited Tam as saying that they need to provide more statistics from the sector.

## ONE SHOT NEWS



The New Macau Association is holding a roving photography exhibition about how a controversial top official's compensation bill, proposed by the government, triggered youth-led protests throughout the city in May 2014. The exhibition, here pictured at Senado Square yesterday, is expected to run for two weeks in several locations across the city.

PAULO BARBOSA



## Two arrested in case that led to woman's death

Two men were arrested by the Judiciary Police for alleged involvement in the death of a woman who owed them money. PJ said the two suspects imprisoned the victim after she lost money gambling and failed to pay them back. When she tried to escape out of a window in the place she was being held, the woman fell from the building and died.

## Global forums to take place in Macau

The 6th International Infrastructure Investment and Construction Forum will take place at the Venetian Macao resort between June 4 and 5. Governmental officials from a total of 36 countries and regions will attend the forum, including the vice-president of Costa Rica and the deputy prime minister of the Bahamas. Echoing the oft-promoted national strategy of "Belt and Road" initiatives, the forum this year is based on the theme of "Regional Economic Integration Spurs New Development of International Infrastructure Cooperation." Discussions will thus be focused on opportunities and new models for cooperation in international infrastructure, taking into account integrated regional economic development. The forum has been held in Macau three times previously in collaboration with the China International Contractors Association and the Macao Economic Service. On the same occasion, the inaugural China-CELAC (the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States) Infrastructure Cooperation Forum – organized by China's Ministry of Commerce – will also be held in Macau, and it aims to be a key driver of bilateral infrastructure cooperation.

## MICE sector events record a decrease



The number of MICE sector events in this year's first quarter reached 200, down by 9 year-on-year, according to data released by the Statistics and Census Service (DSEC). The total number of attendees also decreased by 15.8 percent to 249,180. 190 meetings and conferences were held, representing an increase of 6 year-on-year. The number of participants dropped by 40.1 percent to 19,152 due to a decrease in large-scale meetings. 10 exhibitions were held, down by 3 year-on-year, of which 9 were organized by non-government organizations. The number of attendees decreased by 12.8 percent year-on-year to 230,028. Data collected from 350 interviewed exhibitors showed that product sales comprised a predominant share (93 percent) of the profits. Rental fees paid for exhibition booths and construction/decoration services accounted for 64.7 percent and 21.2 of expenditure respectively.

## Design Centre holds Nepal fundraising event

The Macau Design Centre plans to hold a fundraiser activity tomorrow at 7 p.m. for victims of the Nepalese community whose homes have been torn apart by the April 25 quake. Almost a month after the devastating earthquake, the group seeks to continue public support for the small nation. Participants will take part in a jazz and experimental music event, of which all proceeds raised will go to Tents for Nepal, a Hong Kong-based relief group assisting the victims. Under its SEWA program, the charitable organization now seeks to help rebuild homes and schools in several impoverished and far-flung villages in Nepal in cooperation with a number of other local relief groups. Scenes of its relief operations will also be shown in pictures and videos during the event to allow participants to learn more about the current situation in the severely affected regions.

## 'TRUST'

# Dance and theatre come together to bring Arts Festival to a close

Catarina Pinto

**T**RUST," a theatre performance brought to Macau by German Schaubühne am Lehniner Platz Theatre, brings the 26th Macau Arts Festival to a close as the production takes to the stage of the Cultural Center Grand Auditorium today and tomorrow night.

Created by German playwright Falk Richter and Dutch choreographer Anouk van Dijk, "Trust" takes inspiration from the 2008 financial crisis to explore the extent to which it has affected people's trust in each other.

According to Falk Richter, the show investigates how the individual in capitalist western society has struggled with the insecurities and challenges of a turbulent and ever-changing market.

Assistant director Sina Flubacher and dancer Nina Wollny said at a press meeting yesterday that this is the first time "Trust" has come to Asia since it was produced in 2009. Having already been staged across the globe, the ideas and concept of "Trust" actually began its development in this part of



From left to right Nina Wollny (dancer), Falk Richter (text, direction and choreography) and Sina Flubacher (assistant director)

the world.

Anouk and Falk previously collaborated in 1999 and were looking to reconnect. While they were both working on productions in Asia a few years back, they met in Beijing, where they first discussed ideas leading to the production's creation.

"We are really excited to bring the show to the place where its idea was born and are curious about how people will react, because China has a part in it as a global player," explained the assistant director.

"We are also curious because it's really something special, this form of including movement, text, music and performance all together," she added.

Although the 2008 financial crisis affected mostly Europe and North America, China also features heavily in this performance, Falk Richter noted.

"Anouk and I were meeting in China when we were coming up with the ideas for the piece and I think the incredible speed of development and the way this so-

ciety is pushing forward to a kind of high-speed capitalist world power was something that was very fascinating for us at the time," he recalled, adding that the show reflects upon not only this fascination but also a kind of fear and skepticism in terms of the way that Europe perceives China.

"It's a Eurocentric way of looking at it. We don't totally understand it, I would say. It's a fascination, fear and skepticism," he added.

Moreover, Nina Wollny, who has been working with Anouk van Dijk for the past 10 years, recalled that the Dutch choreographer created her own dance technique titled counter technique. "It enables dancers to take a bigger risk and to do very extreme movements. This kind of risk and extreme physicality is also something you will see in this piece," Nina stated.

The 26th Macau Arts Festival kicked off on May 1 with "Lied Ballet." The exhibition "From Lorient to the Orient – Port Cities of China and France on the 18th Maritime Silk Route" will open tomorrow at the Macau Museum, staying on display until August 30.

## Gov't launches internship program for university students

**T**HE Internship Program for Higher Education Students will open 70 vacancies this year, the Tertiary Education Services Office (GAES) revealed in a statement.

The program, which has been established by the government in partnership with the Macau-based China Young Entrepreneurs' Association and the Macao Chamber of Commerce's Youth Committee, comprises of 70 internships running between July and August.

Students will be working under the

supervision of staff members of different companies in areas including education, health, and IT.

Sixty vacancies will be offered by companies in Macau, while 10 are provided by mainland Chinese enterprises. The mainland China internship program will be taking place in Hunan province.

GAES said that the program allows students to attain hands-on experience and to learn more about Macau and mainland China's job market.

In addition to completing an internship, participants will be afforded the

opportunity to engage in cultural exchange activities with other students, namely from Hong Kong, the mainland and Taiwan.

GAES stressed that the four-week internship program will give students access to diverse enterprises, which will in turn allow them to learn more about the daily operations of companies. The government is also hoping that the experience could help students to better plan their careers.

Further information on the internship program can be found at <http://studentblog.gaes.gov.mo>. The initiative is open to Macau residents currently studying full-time in Macau or at overseas higher education institutions. Those interested in registering should submit their applications by June 5.

## New group of construction workers protest

**A**NOTHER group of Chinese migrant workers from the Parisian Hotel's construction site marched their way to the Chinese Liaison Office yesterday afternoon, seeking official intervention after failing to reach an agreement with their contractor over staff welfare and compensation.

According to a statement released by the Labor Affairs Bureau, the mainland

workmen who earlier staged a two-day demonstration have accepted the financial compensation in accordance with the laws following negotiation, without requesting additional payments.

Roughly 200 construction workers hired by the Great Harvest Group to work on the same construction site decided to follow suit after being denied the welfare they perceived as reasonable.

Still, according to the same statement, it said that "after an active follow-up explanation" to the enraged laborers who congregated at the authority department for numerous hours, the contracting firm pledged to pay compensation pursuant to the local labor laws.

Hot on the heels of the marches over the past few days, the government has set up an information kiosk



at the construction site, offering immediate assistance to workers when needed.





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## TIME

08:00 for 30 km Corporate Challenge (Registration time: 07:15am)  
10:00 for 10 km Family & Fun Course (Registration time: 09:00am)

Cut off at 16:00pm

## 時間

30公里挑戰線 於早上八時正開始 (登記時間：早上七時十五分)  
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30 km Corporate Challenge  
10 km Family & Fun Course  
Each entry is for a team of 4 people (Limited to 500 teams only)

## 參賽組別

30公里挑戰線  
10公里樂遊線  
賽事以團隊方式進行，四人為一組 (名額上限 500 隊)

## ENTRY FEE

Corporate Challenge at MOP/HKD 1,800 per team  
Family & Fun Course at MOP/HKD 1,200 per team

Entry fee also includes commemorative TrailHiker T-shirt,  
other Macau TrailHiker gifts and post event buffet

Finisher medal will be granted to the finishing teams

## 費用

30公里挑戰線費用為每隊澳門幣/港幣 1,800 圓  
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# Hong Kong regulator says Hanergy under probe

Jasmine Wang and Frederik Balfour

**H**ONG Kong's markets regulator confirmed it's investigating Hanergy Thin Film Power Group Ltd., brushing aside a denial from the chairman of the solar company that a probe was underway.

"A formal investigation into the affairs of Hanergy Thin Film Power Group Ltd. has been active and is continuing," the Securities & Futures Commission said yesterday in a statement.

It's rare for the SFC to discuss a probe before a formal prosecution is launched. It came hours after Li Hejun, founder and principle shareholder of Hanergy, gave an interview to the Xinhua news agency saying that he wasn't aware of any probe into the stock and that if there was one he should know.

"It's unusual because all SFC investigations are supposed to be confidential and everybody under investigation has a secrecy obligation," said Eric Seto, a partner at Morley, Chow, Seto Solicitors, who works on criminal SFC prosecution cases.

Hanergy is under the spotlight after its shares crashed on May 20, tumbling almost 50 percent in about half an hour before trading was suspended. The company's market value at one point before the plunge exceeded HK\$300 billion (USD39 billion) more than the value of household names such as Sony Corp. and

The SFC has broken its silence



on at least one other occasion, in March 2009 when it announced an ongoing investigation into the trading of HSBC Holdings PLC shares.

Li has drawn criticism for skipping Hanergy's annual general meeting in Hong Kong on the day of the crash in favor of delivering a speech at the opening of a solar exhibition center in Beijing.

Even before Hanergy Thin Film's shares plunged, the solar manufacturer's business model was under scrutiny. Hanergy makes thin-film solar panels using equipment from Hanergy Thin Film. In January, the Financial Times newspaper questioned why the bulk of Hanergy Thin Film's sales were to the Beijing-based parent, Hanergy Holding Group Ltd.

Trading patterns in Hanergy's shares, the company's production levels, borrowings and relationships with lenders have

also been questioned.

Hanergy's shares are currently halted in Hong Kong, and Hanergy Thin Film has yet to officially address the decline.

Even with Hanergy's decline, the company is still valued at HK\$163 billion, more than four times bigger than First Solar Inc., the biggest U.S. solar company using thin-film technology. First Solar and Japan's Solar Frontier K.K. dominate the market for thin-film solar cells.

In an interview in March, Li called the company's investments cautious and said the run-up in the stock was validation of the solar-maker's focus on a new era of mobile energy.

"All of our plants, if reporters can go and see, are putting on extra shifts and are in full production," Li said in the Xinhua interview. "We're in big production. It's very, very, very good. Hanergy is in its best shape since it started." **Bloomberg**

# Etihad Airways profit jumps by over half to USD73 million

Adam Schreck, Dubai

**ETIHAD** Airways, the United Arab Emirates' fast-growing national carrier, said yesterday its profit rose by more than half to USD73 million last year as it carried more passengers and used its stakes in other airlines to drive traffic through its Abu Dhabi hub.

The government-backed airline said its earnings rose 52 percent over the \$48 million it said its stand-alone airline business earned the previous year, marking its fourth year of profitability.

"Our shareholder has set a clear commercial mandate for this business and we continue to deliver against that mandate. Our focus is on sustainable profitability," President and CEO James Hogan said in a statement.

Etihad and rivals Qatar Airways and Dubai-based Emirates are rapidly expanding, funneling mainly long-haul passengers and cargo through their growing Gulf hubs. U.S. airlines have criticized the carriers, saying they are distorting the market by benefiting from unfair state subsidies — a charge the Gulf airlines deny.

Etihad's revenue for the year increased to \$7.6 billion from \$6 billion in 2013.

That increase was helped by a 22-percent jump in passenger numbers to 14.8 million as the airline continued to add capacity with the addition of new planes.

The carrier also grew its route network, launching services to 10 new destinations, including tourist hotspots like Rome and Phuket, Thailand, as well as the American cities of Los Angeles, Dallas and San Francisco.

Etihad credited its sales growth in part on its strategy of partnering with other carriers through minority equity stakes and codeshares outside of longer-standing traditional airline alliances. Those partnerships contributed \$1.1 billion in revenues in 2014, the airline said.

Etihad owns stakes in Air Berlin, Air Seychelles, Ireland's Aer Lingus, India's Jet Airways, Virgin Australia and Swiss regional carrier Darwin Airline. In 2014, it won final approval for a 49-percent investment in Serbia's national carrier, Air Serbia, and completed a deal for a similarly large stake in Italy's Alitalia. **AP**



## corporate bits

### ST. JOHN LAUNCHES NEW STORE IN GALAXY MACAU PHASE 2



St. John, the American luxury fashion house, is launching its new store in Galaxy Macau Phase 2 at the end of the month.

Located in the shopping complex in the shopping and entertainment district, the new

839-square-foot St. John store showcases the Pre-Fall 2015 collection featuring fit and flare knits. Accessories are also available for sale, while comfortable armchairs are placed on the area rug for customers to relax in while shopping.

### CEM AND LABOUR AFFAIRS BUREAU JOINTLY ORGANIZE "SAFETY TRAINING FOR CONTRACTORS"

In order to provide CEM contractors with better understanding of occupational safety and health as well as preventive measures for work-related accidents, CEM and the Macau Labour Affairs Bureau jointly organized a two-day "Safety Training for Contractors" on Wednesday and yesterday, attracting over 100 employees from CEM's contractors to participate.

With the support of the Labour Affairs Bureau, CEM introduced safety training for contractors for the first time in 2014, which received enthusiastic responses. Therefore, the two parties launched the training course again this year. Chui Ka Shing, Lei Seak



Chio, Tam Hoi Keng and Sou Kuok Fai, Occupational Safety & Health Department Senior Technicians of the Labour Affairs Bureau, as well as Eddy Chan, Network Design and Construction Senior Engineer of CEM's Network Planning, Design and Construction Department were the speakers at the training course.

### THE VENETIAN AWARDED TRIPADVISOR CERTIFICATE OF EXCELLENCE FOR FIFTH CONSECUTIVE YEAR

The Venetian Macao has received a TripAdvisor Certificate of Excellence award for the fifth consecutive year, and has been inducted into the 'Hall of Fame' — an honor bestowed on those businesses that have earned a Certificate of Excellence for five years in a row. The award winners include accommodations, eateries and attractions located all over the world that have continually delivered a superior customer experience.

"It is a great honor to be awarded the TripAdvisor Certificate of Excellence five years in a row and inducted into the 'Hall of Fame,'" said Mark McWhinnie, senior vice president of resort operations



and development. "The award is a source of particular pride for us because TripAdvisor is a consumer-driven review website. This proves to us that we are fulfilling one of our key objectives: making sure our customers have the best possible experience when they stay with us."



**REAL ESTATE MATTERS**

**The most important questions to ask when you sell: part 3**

**Juliet Risdon is a Director of JML Property and a property investor. Having established the company in 1994, JML Property offers Investment Property & Homes. It specializes in managing properties for owners and investors, and providing attractive and comfortable homes for tenants.**

www.JMLProperty.com  
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**JULIET RISDON**

In the last three parts of this series we look at the final stage of home ownership or property investment. The part where you sell!

All property transactions are sizeable when compared with most other decisions.

It follows then that we should give these transactions the extra time and attention that they warrant, but this does not always happen.

In many instances it isn't so much an issue of motivation, but rather not knowing the right questions to ask. This series deals with key questions that we can, and sometimes should, ask.

Knowing the answers to these questions can help to avoid misunderstandings and, in many cases, will save time, money or both.

**The 15 questions you MUST ask when you are selling a property**

If you decide to sell for whatever reason, it is natural to be concerned that you are making a good decision and getting the maximum value at the time for your property.

The trouble is you may sell and find yourself without property.

Of course it is important to do your homework about any potential property you are considering to sell, and with so many things going on you may forget to ask your agent the most important questions about selling.

Below are the final five questions in this series:

**What is the sales process?**

Once again, this question is really about clarifying expectations.

We have experienced sellers who thought the process could take place immediately, and were very surprised when they were informed that a normal process will take 60-90 days.

Knowing what lies ahead can help you to make plans, schedule holidays and trips, and keep 'chunks' of time free when you are aware of signing dates.

**How will you communicate with me?**

Establishing the lines of communication and what is expected up front can save hours of time and anguish.

If you let the agent know what you expect in terms of communication, they should be able to work with you on this. For example, you may prefer a weekly e mail update, or you may just want to be told when the property is sold.

**What do you know about property loans?**

Does your agent have a good handle on how property loans work?

There are more cash buyers here than anywhere else, but if the agent counters with 'no-one buys with a bank loan, people just pay cash', then you are losing 50% of the potential market.

Hopefully the agent will recommend banks and contacts at those banks so that potential buyers can contact them and find out what they are offering.

**Which Law Office are the buyers using?**

If you have your own lawyers, it is worth contacting them ahead of time and let them know you are selling your property.

Strictly speaking, the seller does not require a lawyer. Most of the risk is with the buyer since they are the one handing over the money. But it is a good idea to have a lawyer cast their eye over the Provisional Agreement and the Promissory Agreement just to make sure there are no hidden surprises.

**Do you represent both sides of the transaction?**

This question is asked so that you know where you stand.

In some countries it is illegal for one company to represent both sides of a transaction. Frankly, it is not hard to understand why this can be a conflict of interest.

Despite the potential conflict, it has been our experience in Macau that deals are sometimes much better when they are handled by one agency rather than two.

The golden rule in that situation is to let everyone know that the agent is acting as a 'broker', and make sure that they are OK with the concept.

That completes this series of 'the most important questions to ask'.

Some previous clients have found these questions helpful, whilst others have not been so comfortable asking so many questions. Either way we are always happy to help, and you are welcome to send in questions by e-mail to the address above.



**PROJECT POKER**

BY ADRIENNE 'TALONCHICK' ROWSOME

**Mixed martial arts strategy: Not just for the octagon!**

Saturday nights are often simply called "fight night" in our household. Aside from enjoying the mixed martial arts, it is a good excuse to get together with friends, fire up the grill, and enjoy some local foods (and of course beverages).

During one of those nights, a friend of mine mentioned how she is often blown away by the respect the fighters show each other. They nearly always help each other up at the end of the round or hug and offer congratulations after the fight despite how bruised and bloodied they may be. They are able to set aside their emotions and remain professional.

At first, I echoed her sentiments. Thinking back to playing basketball or even slo-pitch, where a loss has stung so badly that I have had to force myself to congratulate and shake hands with the other team at games end. This is the same feeling I saw on the faces of the American women's hockey team after losing the Gold medal to the Canadians during the Olympics.

With a few moments more thought, I realized that poker may be closer to MMA than I had originally considered. So many battles end up in one-on-one situations, whether in tournament or cash game. Managing your emotions in these spots is imperative to be able to stay focused and give yourself the best chance of winning in the long term.

In poker, like MMA, we develop strategies to implement versus different opponents, some are basic strategies for playing unknown players. Some can be quite intricate if we have a history with our opponent. Over

the long term, our aim is to be profitable and make the perfect plays, even though in a particular session we may end up facing a loss.

When MMA fighters get punched in the face they usually react one of two ways. They fill up with rage and charge back in swinging wildly, seeking retribution. This sometimes leads to a spectacular knockout, but more often than not, this type of fighter wakes up staring at the referee wondering where they are and what happened. Others react in a more calculated manner, taking a step back, using half a second to regain composure, and then attempt to continue to apply their game plan.

In poker you are going to get punched in the face often. It's going to come out of nowhere, and it's going to sting. Losses are frustrating. Of this there is no doubt. Thankfully in poker we don't have the physical pain to get past when dealing with these situations. However, you still need to decide whether you want to wildly strike back in anger, or stay calm, cool and collected while maintaining your well thought out game plan.

If this sounds like the type of player you want to be, set a goal over the next few months to make sure you are approaching the game as systematically as possible. Try to keep your emotions in check, even when things are at their toughest. While doing this, watch your regular opponents to see who copes poorly emotionally with losing session and how that impacts their game play. You might be surprised how many extra "knockouts" you score by strategically picking off opponents who come charging at you in a rage.

AD

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**T**HE visit by the Chinese Prime Minister Li Keqiang, to Brazil last week, nearly a year after one by President Xi Jinping, deepened the level of engagement between the two economies as well as with Latin American countries that historically have been closer to the United States of America.

During the visit, with a delegation of 150 businesspeople, Li Keqiang and President Dilma Rousseff signed 35 deals worth USD53 billion, including agreements for export of meat for human consumption, energy and infrastructure involving major companies such as Petrobras, Vale and Embraer.

The main investment announced is a railway between the Midwest region of Brazil and the Pacific, crossing Peru, work on which would facilitate the export of Brazilian products to China, now carried out through ports on the Atlantic Ocean.

A USD50 billion fund will also be created to finance infrastructure projects in Brazil, run by Brazilian bank Caixa Econômica and the Industrial and Commercial Bank of China.

Oliver Stuenkel, a professor of international relations at the Getúlio Vargas Foundation (FGV) in São Paulo, said the visit raises the level of what is currently a commercial rela-

# China deepens level of involvement in Brazil



Brazil's President Dilma Rousseff, left, and China's Premier Li Keqiang pose for a photo at the Planalto presidential palace, in Brasilia, Brazil

tionship, in which the Chinese buy mostly raw materials from Latin American countries and sell industrial products, with a new engagement that supports the development of these economies.

"These are actions that will make China a political and economic player in the region for

many decades and then it will be impossible to cut it out of the equation," said the analyst, cited by BBC Brazil.

Brazil, the largest Latin American economy and China's largest trading partner worldwide, with total trade of nearly US\$78 billion in 2014 in Brazil's favor, was the high point of an eight-

day tour of the region that also took in Colombia, Peru and Chile. In January the Chinese President announced that Beijing would invest USD250 billion in Latin America in the next decade.

The visit comes at a time when, as an alternative to institutions linked to the United States such as the International Monetary Fund, China is expected to increase its supply of credit, especially with the launch of the New Development Bank (NBD), which brings together China and its BRICS (Brazil, India, Russia and South Africa) partners, as well as the newly created Asian Development Bank for Infrastructure and Investment (Baii).

In Central America the construction of the Nicaragua Canal, considered the world's largest engineering project, is already underway funded by a Chinese businessman. This new canal will be an alternative to the Panama Canal in linking the Atlantic and Pacific oceans.

Jason Marczak, of the US Atlantic Council, says it is "important for Latin America to diversify its economy and develop, and Chinese investments can help achieve this goal."

Among Brazilian analysts who welcomed the results of the visit, Marcelo Zero said on Brazilian website 247 it was, "a great goal for Brazil's foreign policy and a concrete and substantial expression of confidence in the country."

With oil company Petrobras alone three cooperation agreements were signed in the amount of at least USD7 billion, involving the China Development Bank and the Export-Import Bank (ExIm) of China.

Other agreements provide for construction of the metallurgical complex of Maranhão, financing for the purchase of 40 aircraft from Embraer by China, cooperation in nuclear technology and creation of the automobile hub of Jacarei, in São Paulo as well as another related to funding for building 14 ships of 400,000 tons each to transport iron ore.

The agreements also extend to science, with the signing of a memorandum of understanding for the development and launch of the sixth Sino-Brazilian satellite, CBERS 4a, in 2018. MDT/Macauhub

AD

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# After complaint letter goes viral, hotelier gets government's ear

Didi Tang, Beijing

IN the wee hours of a March morning, a Chinese hotelier wrote a 5,000-word open letter to his country's premier and posted it on social media. The delicate topic: how local regulators capriciously enforce rules and extort bribes. Within days, officials came knocking.

Wu Hai wasn't admonished, though. Instead, he was invited to the inner sanctum offices of China's leadership in Beijing to offer more of his thoughts after his writing caught the attention of Premier Li Keqiang and other senior leaders.

## Wu posted an open letter to Premier Li Keqiang on social media criticizing government mistreatment of private businesses

"It was so unexpected," Wu said after returning from his first-ever visit to the secluded Zhongnanhai political compound in the Chinese capital.

In a country where ordinary people often say their voices are never heard and where critics of the government routinely get silenced, harassed and even jailed, Wu's experience seems exceptional: It suggests a leadership that, in its efforts to stamp out corruption and



Chinese hotelier Wu Hai poses for a portrait at one of his company's hotels in Beijing

improve government efficiency, is willing to hear unflattering accounts.

"I have come to believe that the Chinese government, like any other government, really cares about what people think and wants to hear different voices," said Wu, who also sits on a political advisory board for a city district in Beijing.

Wu, who owns 65 hotels in more than 20 Chinese cities, was motivated by his desire to fix problems in the country's vast local bureaucracy as the country tries to give private enterprise a more central place in the economy. That aligns him squarely with stated priorities of the central government.

Wu is likely to have been vetted and deemed a friendly critic rather than one who is hos-

tile to the ruling Communist Party, said Willy Lam, an expert on Chinese politics at Chinese University in Hong Kong.

"Unlike other critics, Mr. Wu does not question the ruling party's legitimacy," Lam said of Wu's opinions. "It's also possible this is propaganda warfare to show that the authorities are not intolerant but can tolerate criticism."

"I think Premier Li Keqiang is using this example to press home the case to put more pressure on provincial bureaucrats," Lam said.

State media outlets have picked up on the story as way of expressing support for private businessmen and the need to streamline government bureaucracy.

"As they have created social

wealth, China's entrepreneurs have made great contributions to China's economic development, but some government officials make the entrepreneurs feel like servants before them," the major business newspaper National Business Daily wrote.

Wu's article, which he estimates has been read several million times, also contained criticism, both figurative and explicit.

To vent his frustration, Wu used the metaphor of a family to describe the hierarchy of government officials, state-owned enterprises and private companies. Government officials, he said, are like the legitimate children of the prevailing power. State-owned enterprises are the children of favored concubines, and private com-

panies are bastard children birthed by prostitutes.

The private companies "dare not speak, because we need to live," he said. "If we say something that may make a legitimate child feel uncomfortable, we could be chided, jailed, and other legitimate children will torture us to death."

He lauded Beijing for disciplining the legitimate children but said that, despite the stern anti-corruption campaign, they are still misbehaving.

Wu gave examples of local authorities extorting bribes during holidays, fining local businesses without clear guidelines, retaliating against those who speak up, and using power to force private companies to hire favored companies. He did not name any government offenders but took aim at policies and regulations which he said were so vague as to allow for the abuses of power.

"I think the problems are common, and my suggestions help the government," Wu said. "It just so happens that the government itself is pushing for a streamlined bureaucracy, and those writing up rules happen to be eager to learn more about the issues, and I provided the perspectives they did not know but would very much value."

The experience, Wu said, has allowed him to get into closer contact with rule makers. That firmed up his conviction that Beijing is sincere in soliciting input for its drive to streamline the economy.

"I think every voice has the opportunity to be heard," said the hotelier, who also sits on the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, an advisory body.

Whistle blowers who have turned to social media to expose government corruption often see themselves harassed or jailed for disrupting social order or provoking trouble.

Unlike them, Wu is not considered a threat to the state power, Lam said: "He is not attacking the party rule." AP

A preliminary investigation into a nursing home fire that killed 38 people in central China has blamed poor building construction and lax safety checks, Chinese authorities reported.

The State Administration of Work Safety said in a statement Wednesday that investigators found the bungalows of the Kangle Yuan Rest Home in central Henan province were built with steel sheets stuffed with flammable materials. The government watchdog group also found poorly designed fire exits and insufficient emergency response and electrical

## Poor construction, safety checks blamed for nursing home fire

systems.

Chinese authorities have responded to the tragedy by ordering safety checks at nursing homes, kindergartens and other facilities around the country. They've also pledged to punish those responsible and have detained 12 people so far in connection with the blaze, including the rest home's legal representative. Four county officials have also been suspended from their du-



ties in connection with the fire, the official Xinhua News Agency said.

The fire broke out Monday night in the privately run home for the elderly and prompted calls for investigations from top Chinese officials, including President Xi Jinping.

Pictures of the fire site released by Xinhua showed sections of the facility had completely burned down. The fire engulfed a part of the facility reserved for people completely dependent on caregivers.

Six people were also injured in the blaze, including two in serious condition. AP



Christopher Bodeen, Beijing

# Xi calls for innovation as economic growth slows

**R**APTUROUS crowds. Beaming workers. Pep talks for the troops. The TV coverage yesterday of Chinese President Xi Jinping's recent visit to an eastern province was a tour de force of Communist propaganda, showcasing what's seen as an emerging cult of personality around the country's strongest leader in decades.

While such treatment isn't unusual for Chinese leaders, the high-octane 17-minute report on state broadcaster CCTV was the most extensive in some time. With the economy ailing and morale low among bureaucrats, Xi could use the image boost to show he's concerned with public welfare, political analysts say.

"Xi's in a situation where he's facing dissatisfaction on various levels. His best move is to go straight to the people for support," said Zhang Lifan, a Beijing-based historian and independent political commentator.

The report, which topped CCTV's noon broadcast, showed Xi visiting a shipyard, government planning offices and unusually tidy villages full of rosy-cheeked farmers. On each occasion, he was met and seen off by cheering, clapping crowds who seemed barely able to contain their enthusiasm, in a style reminiscent of Communist China's founder Mao Zedong or current North Korean leader Kim Jong Un.

"As long as we can make the most of talented people

AP PHOTO



In this Tuesday photo released by China's Xinhua News Agency, President Xi Jinping talks with local people in Hangzhou, capital of east China's Zhejiang Province

and give full play to innovation, China's development will have a promising future and the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation will be soon," Xi was quoted as saying by CCTV.

The province Xi was visiting, Zhejiang, is one of China's most economically vibrant, and the visit's imagery coincides with Xi's calls for more sustainable, higher-quality growth as China's overall economy decelerates from the breakneck pace of the past three decades.

Xi spent five years as party secretary of Zhejiang, located just outside Shanghai, and has continued to accord it special attention since moving to Beijing in 2007 — assuring him of an especially enthusiastic reception as he seeks to drum up support among the masses.

The visit comes amid worries that slowing growth could spark mass unemployment, creating social friction and adding to the estimated 150,000 incidents of unrest striking the vast nation each year.

"Xi felt he had to drum up mass support to bolster his base," said Willy Lam, an expert on Chinese politics at Hong Kong's Chinese University, "so in a sense it was a sign of weakness." AP

## Authorities detain artist who posted humorous photo of president

Jack Chang, Beijing

**A**UTHORITIES have detained an obscure Chinese artist after he posted online a humorous portrait of President Xi Jinping, his wife said yesterday.

Judy Zhu said police accused her husband, Dai Jianyong, of "creating a disturbance" after detaining him Tuesday near their Shanghai home.

Dai is known for posting eclectic photos on social media, including some showing himself and others scrunching up their lips and eyes. Dai posted images of Xi with the same expression while wearing a moustache.

Some online com-

mentators have compared the Xi portrait to Adolf Hitler, although Dai's Instagram image has much broader moustache than the small, square-shaped, "toothbrush moustache" associated with Hitler and Charlie Chaplin. Dai faces up to five years in prison if convicted. Shanghai police didn't answer phone calls yesterday.

Chinese artists have long walked a fine line between what they can express without getting into trouble with authorities. Posting politically sensitive work online has become one clear red line, especially under Xi's more hardline rule.

"In general, the space for civil society to make their opinion public has become much harder under Xi Jinping, and that's also true of artists," said Frances Eve, a researcher with the activist group Chinese Human Rights Defenders. "The government's always made it a little unclear, but people who used to work as artists felt like they hadn't crossed the lines. Now, people have been detained and have crossed that line they didn't know was there."

The clampdown has also ensnared citizen activists who have posted eyewitness video and other information deemed embarrass-

ing to authorities, including activist Wu Gan who was formally detained on Wednesday after drawing attention to government land seizures and alleged police brutality.

Zhu said Dai previously created collages of former Chinese President Hu Jintao covered with the heads of random people, but had not received warning that anyone in government was paying attention. She said about a dozen police were waiting for the couple when they returned home Tuesday.

"It was just a playful thing he did," she said. "I don't think there was that much political intent behind it." AP

## Ex-legislator on trial for organizing prostitution

**A** former member of China's national legislature who is accused of running a brothel with 100 prostitutes at a luxury hotel that he ran in southern China has gone on trial on charges of organizing prostitution.

Liang Yaohui was the biggest name to fall in a wide-ranging crackdown on the sex trade in Dongguan, a manufacturing city near Hong Kong famed for its bathhouses, karaoke parlors and seedy nightlife.

Liang allegedly arranged for 100 prostitutes to entertain clients inside sauna rooms at the city's five-star Crown Prince Hotel, of which he was part-owner and chairman.

The scheme was exposed and the hotel closed following a series of raids in February 2014 that resulted in detention of more than 1,000 prostitutes and their clients and the removal of dozens of police officials suspected of protecting illegal activity and tipping off the gangs who ran them.

The Dongguan prosecutors' office said on its microblog that Liang's trial began Wednesday and would continue yesterday. It

wasn't clear when a verdict and sentence would be rendered.

Liang was dismissed from the National People's Congress, China's legislature, following his arrest last year.

The largely ceremonial body, which meets for two weeks only once a year in Beijing, has increasingly become a millionaires' club, with more than 100 members boasting personal wealth of a billion dollars or more.

While requiring little in the way of legislative work, membership in the body accords considerable prestige and facilitates contacts, government connections and other privileges that can be a boon to business.

Members of the roughly 3,000-member body are elected from provincial assemblies, whose members are themselves drawn from city and county legislatures. However, the nominating process is murky, and VIPs such as prominent businessmen and star athletes are often invited to join, while government critics are blocked from doing so. AP



Jocelyn Gecker, Bangkok

ROHINGYA MIGRANT CRISIS

# Boat people talks: Key issues and expectations

**I**N the past month, more than 3,000 desperate, hungry people have landed on the shores of Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand, drawing international attention to a crisis in Southeast Asia. Arrivals of the overcrowded boats — crammed with Rohingya Muslims fleeing persecution in Myanmar and impoverished Bangladeshis hoping to find jobs — have now slowed. But the crisis is far from over, and will be the topic of a conference today in Bangkok to be attended by senior officials from across the Asia-Pacific and beyond.

A look at key issues and challenges:

#### TODAY'S GUEST LIST:

Thailand has invited representatives from 17 countries directly and indirectly affected by "irregular migration in the Indian Ocean." They are Australia, Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Vietnam, Thailand, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Afghanistan and Iran.

Representatives from the United States, Japan and Switzerland will participate as observers, along with officials from international organizations including the U.N. refugee agency, the U.N. Office on Drugs and Crime and the International Organization for Migration.

#### CHALLENGES:

Most countries have made clear they are not keen to take in the Rohingya or the Bangladeshi migrants, fearing that accepting a few will invite many more.

— Australian Prime Minister Tony Abbott: "Nope, nope, nope," when asked if Australia would resettle any of the



School children hand out food to a Rohingya young girl from outside the fence of a temporary shelter in Bayeun, Aceh province, Indonesia

Rohingya or Bangladeshi. "We are not going to do anything that will encourage people to get on boats."

— Bangladesh's Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina said migrants who fled Bangladesh are "mentally sick" to have risked their lives on dangerous boats. She said they have "tainted" the country's image abroad and vowed to punish them.

— Myanmar's government denies the Rohingya citizenship, making them effectively stateless. It views the estimated 1.3 million Rohingya living in dire conditions in western Rakhine state as illegal migrants from Bangladesh. Officials initially said that none of the boat people came from Myanmar, and threatened to boycott the talks if the word "Rohingya" appeared

on the invitation. It was left out.

— Malaysia and Indonesia agreed last week to provide the migrants with one-year shelter. Indonesia says Rohingya can stay for a year while Bangladeshi will be repatriated. It is unclear what happens after a year, and both countries have called on the international community to help with re-

tlement options.

— Thailand has offered "humanitarian help" but not shelter. More than 100,000 refugees, mostly from Myanmar's other ethnic groups, have been living in border camps for decades, and Thailand says it can't afford any more.

— Thailand, Indonesia and Malaysia agree that the key to solving the migrant crisis is addressing "the root cause" — which means the situation in Myanmar. It's not an easy task when Myanmar officials are loath to even utter the word "Rohingya."

— The United States is prepared to take a leading role in resettling the most vulnerable Rohingya refugees, according to State department spokeswoman Marie Harf. She said the U.S. was "taking a careful look" at the Malaysian-Indonesia request to resettle migrants after a year of temporary shelter, but noted that the U.S. took in more than 1,000 Rohingya in the past fiscal year and "obviously can't take this all on ourselves."

#### TODAY'S GOALS:

International human rights groups have urged the countries to prioritize and address the most urgent problems.

Human Rights Watch called on Thailand, Malaysia and Indonesia to find a better, coordinated method of saving the people still stranded at sea — and urged Thailand to allow migrants to disembark on their shores.

It urged the governments to put pressure on Myanmar to end the repressive policies that drive Rohingya to flee. It also called on Thailand, Indonesia and Malaysia to allow the UNHCR and IOM full access to rescued boat people to determine refugee status and other protection needs. **AP**

INDIA

# Heat weary citizens crowd rivers, shady trees as death toll passes 1,400

Omer Farooq, Hyderabad

**E**ATING onions, lying in the shade and splashing into rivers, Indians were doing whatever they could yesterday to stay cool during a brutal heat wave that has killed more than 1,400 in the past month.

Meteorological officials said the heat would likely last several more days — scorching crops, killing wildlife and endangering anyone laboring outdoors.

Officials warned people to stay out of the sun, cover their heads and drink plenty of water, but po-



An Indian coconut seller sleeps on his pushcart under the shade of a tree on a hot summer day in New Delhi

verty forces many Indians to work despite the risks.

"Either we have to work, putting our lives under

threat, or we go without food," farmer Narasimha said in the badly hit Nalgonda district of southern

Andhra Pradesh state. "But we stop work when it becomes unbearable."

In the city of Nizamabad, 150 kilometers north of the state capital of Hyderabad, construction workers were also still on the job.

"If I don't work due to the heat, how will my family survive?" said Mahalakshmi, who earns a daily wage of about \$3.10.

Most of the 1,412 heat-related deaths so far have occurred in Andhra Pradesh and neighboring Telangana, where temperatures have soared up to 47 degrees Celsius,

according to government figures.

Among the most vulnerable were the elderly and the poor, many of whom live in slums or farm huts with no access to air conditioners or sometimes even shade-giving trees.

Those who were able were heeding the government's advice to avoid the outdoors.

"With so many people dying due to the heat, we are locking the children inside," teacher Satyamurthy said in Khammam, which registered its highest temperature in 67 years on Satur-

day when the thermometer hit 48 degrees Celsius.

Cooling monsoon rains were expected to arrive next week in the southern state of Kerala and gradually advance north in coming weeks.

Until then, volunteers were passing out pouches of salted buttermilk or raw onions — both thought to be hydrating. People used handkerchiefs and scarves to block searing winds and stifling air from their faces.

Across the country, teenagers flocked to water basins and rivers to cool off. Many adults took refuge atop woven cots in the shade.

Newspapers devoted full pages to covering the heat wave and its effects, with headlines saying "Homeless bake in tin shelters" and "birds & animals drop dead." **AP**





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Graham Dunbar  
Sports Writer, Zurich

CORRUPTION

# Blatter calls crisis meeting, skips 3rd public appearance

**F**IFA President Sepp Blatter chaired an emergency meeting with continental soccer bodies yesterday while staying out of public view himself.

Blatter called together leaders of FIFA's six regions as world soccer is rocked by an American federal racketeering case.

"There was a meeting today with the president with the representatives from the confederations to discuss the current situation," FIFA spokeswoman Delia Fischer said in a statement.

Blatter is resisting calls from European soccer body UEFA to postpone today's FIFA presidential election by six months.

UEFA has called the dual American and Swiss federal probes a "disaster for FIFA," and is supporting Blatter's election opponent, FIFA vice president Prince Ali bin al-Hussein of Jordan.

Blatter has continued to avoid appearing in public since Swiss federal agencies raided FIFA headquarters and a luxury Zurich hotel early Wednesday. He missed giving a



Swiss FIFA President Joseph (Sepp) Blatter

VISA BECOMES FIRST FIFA SPONSOR TO WARN IT COULD JUMP SHIP

**WORRIED THAT** their reputations will be tarnished by their links to FIFA, major sponsors are demanding that soccer's global governing body clean up its act, with Visa even warning it is prepared to jump ship. Coca-Cola also made it clear it is unhappy with the scandals rocking the organization and others support with millions of dollars a year. Visa provided the most acute criticism, saying it expects the organization to take "swift and immediate steps to address" its issues. "This starts with rebuilding a culture with strong ethical practices in order to restore the reputation of the games for fans everywhere," it said in a statement late Wednesday. "Should FIFA fail to do so, we have informed them that we will reassess our sponsorship."

PUTIN ACCUSES US OF MEDDLING INTO FIFA AFFAIRS

**RUSSIAN PRESIDENT** Vladimir Putin accused the United States of meddling in FIFA's affairs and hinted that it was part of an attempt to take the 2018 World Cup away from his country. Putin said in televised comments yesterday that he found it "odd" that the probe was launched at the request of U.S. officials for crimes which do not

involve its citizens and did not happen in the United States. Corruption charges in the U.S. were announced Wednesday against 14 people, with at least two of them holding American citizenship. In a separate probe, Swiss prosecutors opened criminal proceedings into FIFA's awarding of the 2018 World Cup to Russia and the 2022 tournament to Qatar.

scheduled speech to open a session of FIFA's medical conference in a Zurich hotel — his third skipped public appearance within 24 hours.

FIFA chief medical officer Jiri Dvorak told delegates that Blatter has to "manage the situation."

Two FIFA vice presidents were among seven men arrested at the request of the U.S. Department of Justice. In a separate investigation, Swiss

federal agencies seized evidence at FIFA headquarters for a probe of the 2018-2022 World Cup bidding contests.

Blatter skipped two meetings of continental soccer organizations from Africa and South America on Wednesday. He typically would attend those ahead of today's annual congress of FIFA's 209 member federations.

Late Wednesday, FIFA issued a statement on behalf of

Blatter where the president insisted he was determined to root out misconduct.

The FIFA president would also usually follow protocol and attend yesterday's UEFA meeting. He was scheduled to appear later in the day. **AP**

USA

# Nebraska abolishes death penalty in landmark override vote

Grant Schulte, Lincoln

**NEBRASKA** abolished the death penalty on Wednesday (early yesterday, Macau time) in a landmark veto-override vote backed by an unusual coalition of conservatives who oppose capital punishment.

Senators in the one-house Legislature voted 30-19 to override Gov. Pete Ricketts, a Republican who supports the death penalty. The vote makes Nebraska the first traditionally conservative state to eliminate the punishment since North Dakota in

1973.

"Whenever anything historic occurs, it's never the doing of one person," said independent Sen. Ernie Chambers, an independent who introduced a repeal measure 38 times. "I've been pushing for this for 40 years, but all of this time it's never been done. If it could be done by one man, it would have been done a long time ago."

Nebraska joins 18 other states and the District of Columbia in banning the ultimate punishment.

Some senators said

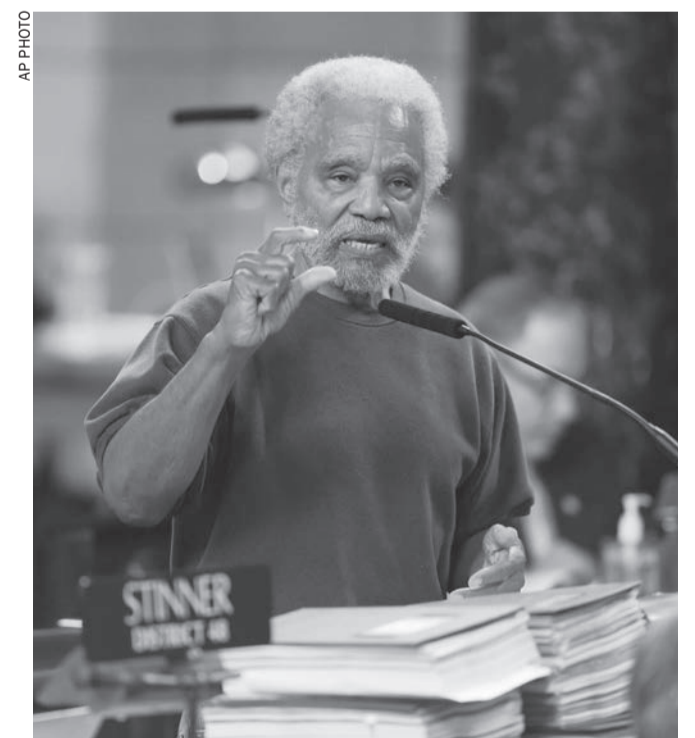
they philosophically support the death penalty, but are convinced the state will never carry out another execution because of legal obstacles. Nebraska hasn't executed an inmate since a 1997 electrocution, and the state has never done so with its current lethal injection protocol.

Nebraska lost its ability to execute inmates in December 2013, when one of the three lethal injection drugs required by state law expired.

Ricketts announced this month that the state has purchased two of the drugs that the state

now lacks, but opponents have said they still aren't convinced Nebraska will be able to resume executions. On Tuesday, Republican Attorney General Doug Peterson implored lawmakers to give state officials more time to prepare.

Nebraska's action to repeal the death penalty is unusual because of its traditionally conservative leanings. Maryland was the last state to end capital punishment, in 2013. Three other moderate-to-liberal states have done so in recent years:



Nebraska state Sen. Ernie Chambers of Omaha speaks in Lincoln, Neb.

New Mexico in 2009, Illinois in 2011 and Connecticut in 2012.

The last time lawmakers passed a death penal-

ty repeal bill was in 1979, but senators at the time didn't have enough votes to override a gubernatorial veto. **AP**



## TV canal macau



## FRIDAY

13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:30	RTPi Live
18:15	Brazil Avenue (Repeated)
19:10	TDM Talkshow (Repeated)
19:45	Soap Opera
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:30	Revenge S2
22:10	Brazil Avenue
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Portuguese Film
00:55	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)

## SATURDAY

10:30	Boonie Bears
11:25	Documentary Serie
12:00	Cooking
13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:30	Soap Opera
18:10	Non-Daily Portuguese News
19:00	Contest
20:00	Miscellaneous
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:10	Drama
22:10	Comedy
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Shorts
00:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)

## SUNDAY

11:00	Sunday Mass
12:00	Miscellaneous
13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:30	Animation
16:10	Miscellaneous
17:50	Non-Daily Portuguese News
18:20	Miscellaneous
19:40	Comedy
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	Non-Daily Portuguese News
22:00	Every Breath we take: Understanding Our Atmosphere
23:00	TDM News
23:30	News
23:45	Documentary Series
00:15	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)

## offbeat

## USA: AEROSMITH'S TYLER NOT REALLY DOING A STRAWBERRY FARM SHOW



Police have alerted residents of a New Jersey township that Aerosmith frontman Steven Tyler will not be performing at a small pick-your-own strawberry farm.

NJ.com reports (bit.ly/1Aymvkv) the rock star and "American Idol" judge was listed on concert websites ReverbNation and Eventful as performing a Saturday morning show at Windsor Farm & Market.

Farm owner Wayne Kalinowski says he was tipped

to the problem when a woman wanted to know more about the venue.

After Kalinowski reported the issue, West Windsor police sent an email alert Wednesday telling residents Tyler wasn't coming.

Lt. Robert Garafolo says there does not seem to be criminal intent.

Tyler's publicist Amanda Ruisi says Tyler was never booked to perform at the farm.

No one from either website can be reached to comment.

## cinema



## CINETEATRO

28 MAY - 03 JUN



## PITCH PERFECT 2

ROOM 2

2.30, 4.30, 7.30, 9.30 pm

Director: Elizabeth Banks

Starring: Anna Kendrick, Skylar Astin, Rebel Wilson

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 141min

## DRAGON BALL Z: RESURRECTION "F"

ROOM 3

2.30, 4.30, 7.30, 9.30 pm

Director: Tadayoshi Yamamuro

Starring: Ji-tae Yu, Yūsuke Iseya, Ye-ryeon Cha

Language: Japanese (Chinese/English)

Duration: 93min



## SAN ANDREAS

ROOM 3

(30 MAY - 03 JUN) 7.30 pm

Director: Brad Peyton

Starring: Dwayne Johnson, Carla Gugino,

Alexandra Daddario

Language: Japanese (Chinese/English)

Duration: 114min

## MACAU TOWER

21 MAY - 10 JUN

## TOMORROWLAND

2.30, 4.30, 7.30, 9.30 pm

Director: Brad Bird

Starring: George Clooney, John Walker Britt Robertson

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 130min



## this day in history



## 1968 MANCHESTER UTD WIN EUROPEAN CUP

Manchester United have become the first English club to win the European Cup beating Portuguese side Benfica by four goals to one.

Ten years after the Munich air crash, which killed eight of Matt Busby's young team, Manchester United have reached the pinnacle of European football.

Celtic became the first Scottish and British club to win the cup the previous year.

United's star player, George Best, was named European Footballer of the Year - just a fortnight after being named the football writers' Footballer of the Year.

Tonight's match at Wembley was watched by a crowd of 100,000 and an estimated 250 million TV viewers. It was the biggest television audience since the World Cup final two years before.

As both teams wear red kit, United opted to play in their blue away strip for the game.

The first half passed in a flurry of fouls before Bobby Charlton headed the opening goal in the second half to make it 1-0.

With only 10 minutes left to go, Benfica scored the equaliser - and very nearly won the match when their feared striker Eusebio broke away from Nobby Stiles, the player tasked with marking him, and blasted the ball towards the net.

But it was saved by keeper Alex Stepney and the game went into extra time.

Two minutes into extra time Best put United ahead again, slipping round the keeper and gently tapping it over the line.

It was followed by two more United goals, from 19-year-old Brian Kidd and captain Bobby Charlton, taking the final score to 4-1.

Manager Matt Busby said: "They've done us proud. They came back with all their hearts to show everyone what Manchester United are made of. This is the most wonderful thing that has happened in my life and I am the proudest man in England tonight."

Busby was seriously injured in the crash which claimed the lives of his so-called Busby Babes and there was speculation at the time that the club had been so badly damaged it would have to fold.

But they struggled on to complete the 1958/59 season and when Busby returned to the manager's role the following season he began the task of rebuilding the side.

The club won the league in 1965 and 1967, but today's win marks the pinnacle of the club's achievements.

Charlton and Bill Foulkes were the only survivors of the crash who played in today's final.

Courtesy BBC News

## IN CONTEXT

The European Cup marked the highlight of Matt Busby's long career at Manchester United and he later received a knighthood. He retired after the following season to become the club's general manager.

For George Best it was the highlight of his footballing career. The same year he was also named European Footballer of the Year.

He was regarded by many as one of the greatest footballing talents in the world, ranked alongside the Brazilian great Pele.

He was the first footballer to gain superstar status - but his fame led him into a life of womanising and alcohol.

By 1972 he had announced his retirement from the game - he returned to United a year later but by early 1974 he had left for good.

In 2002 he had a liver transplant. He died in November 2005.

Bobby Charlton had a distinguished playing career for England and Manchester United. He scored 48 goals for England, a record which still stands. He was knighted in 1994.



**YOUR STARS**

**Aries**  
Mar. 21-Apr. 19  
If there were too many details for you, then you'd be in the wrong line of business. This entire mess is right up your alley. In fact, it's a challenge, so dig in and enjoy.

**Taurus**  
April 20-May 20  
Chucking it all for romance or travel is looking mighty attractive right about now. But face it, you need the cash. So before you throw in the towel, take out the calculator.

**Gemini**  
May 21-Jun. 21  
You can calculate and recalculate, but you'll have a hard time convincing anybody to invest. That shouldn't stop you from running the numbers, as many times as it takes to get a payoff.

**Cancer**  
Jun. 22-Jul. 22  
Put all of your analytical impulses aside. Since you can't connect with the money, then connect with people instead. It's a good day to make plans with friends.

**Leo**  
Jul. 23-Aug. 22  
You're not the only one being more thrifty and conservative than usual. If that means staying home with a DVD, then you might as well invite over a crowd. Just make sure it's BYOB.

**Virgo**  
Aug. 23-Sept. 22  
You can start new financial plans by working on projects around the house. Once you tidy up, you'll be that much more organized come Monday morning, and that translates into more profit.

**Libra**  
Sep.23-Oct. 22  
That nagging voice in your head is telling you the right things. Besides, it's just plain getting in the way. Put down the pencil, turn off the computer and pick up the phone. Profits can wait until Monday.

**Scorpio**  
Oct. 23 - Nov. 21  
Put all thoughts of finance aside. It's a day of friends. Whether you're doing them a favor or sharing secrets, don't waste a second thinking about money.

**Sagittarius**  
Nov. 22-Dec. 21  
You're still working on the numbers, even on a Saturday. But the person in a position of authority doesn't even notice your dedication, so don't go in on Monday asking for a raise.

**Capricorn**  
Dec. 22-Jan. 19  
Making long distance calls, going on line -- even if you're stuck at home, a lot can be achieved. Just don't try to make earning a profit one of them.

**Aquarius**  
Jan. 20-Feb. 18  
If your goal is to conserve money, then be careful who you choose to spend time with. Some have a different agenda, and one slip could mean disaster for your budget. You're better off grounding yourself.

**Pisces**  
Feb.19-Mar. 20  
Someone is asking you for money, and you shouldn't hesitate to help. But you are. If you're not sure if you should open your wallet or keep it shut, just do it.

**THE BORN LOSER** by Chip Sansom



**SUDOKU**

**Easy**

2					1	3		
	8	9	5					
	4	1		5				
8	7						2	
9	8	1	6					
7			4	3				
3		6	4					
		2	7	6				
6	9							1

**Easy+**

1			3	5				
7			5	8				
8	5		1	4				
		3	4	5	7			
9					2			
5	3	7	6					
4	2		9	8				
	9	6					2	
7	1						6	

**Medium**

2		9	6					
4			1	8				7
					8	6		
7			4	9				
6	3		9	2	1			
2	3			5				
5	2							
9		6	3					5
		7	9					3

**Hard**

5	4				7	2		
			3					
3	1				8			
		7	2		4			
9								
2	7	6						
			1	9				

**WEATHER**

	MIN	MAX	CONDITION
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**CHINA**

Beijing	21	27	shower/overcast
Harbin	18	24	thundershower
Tianjin	20	25	overcast/shower
Urumqi	15	26	clear
Xi'an	17	27	moderate rain/cloudy
Lhasa	7	22	cloudy
Chengdu	19	28	shower/overcast
Chongqing	19	24	moderate rain/overcast
Kunming	17	30	clear/cloudy
Nanjing	21	25	overcast/thundershower
Shanghai	21	24	drizzle/shower
Wuhan	22	25	moderate rain/heavy rain
Hangzhou	22	28	shower/moderate rain
Taipei	26	31	drizzle/moderate rain
Guangzhou	27	34	cloudy
Hong Kong	28	33	cloudy

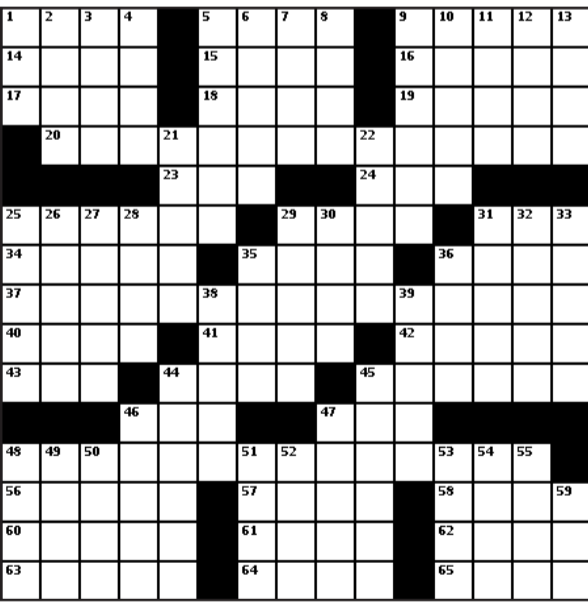
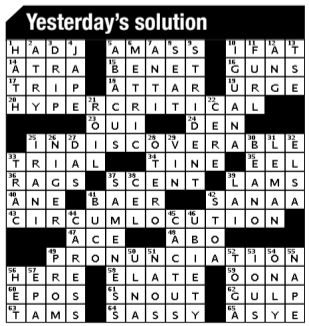
**WORLD**

Moscow	17	26	moderate rain/drizzle
Frankfurt	11	23	drizzle
Paris	10	21	drizzle
London	10	24	drizzle/moderate rain
New York	15	18	clear/cloudy

**CROSSWORDS**

**ACROSS:** 1- Stinging insect; 5- Flaps; 9- Femme fatale; 14- Golfer Aoki; 15- Roman moon goddess; 16- Govt. security; 17- Dabbling duck; 18- Centers of activity; 19- Without \_\_\_ in the world; 20- Forewritten; 23- In the past; 24- Unit of work; 25- Preserve, as fodder; 29- Sea eagles; 31- Shamus; 34- Deceive; 35- Swing around; 36- Inventor Rubik; 37- Empiricism; 40- Rabin's predecessor; 41- Theater section; 42- Worth; 43- Highest mountain in Crete; 44- A hobgoblin; 45- Young salmon; 46- Ich bin \_\_\_ Berliner; 47- First name in advice; 48- Process of capitalizing; 56- Red as \_\_\_; 57- Pro's opposite; 58- Twofold; 60- I swear!; 61- Strip; 62- Exxon, once; 63- Aristotle, to Alexander the Great; 64- Bodybuilder's pride; 65- \_\_\_ all-time high;

**DOWN:** 1- Intelligence; 2- On a cruise; 3- Swedish auto; 4- Game played on horseback; 5- Assert without proof; 6- Cathedral; 7- As soon as; 8- Spahn teammate; 9- Flight of steps; 10- Disguised, briefly; 11- Speckled steed; 12- Versailles verb; 13- Requirement; 21- Boldness; 22- Principle; 25- Fragrant resin; 26- Put the kibosh on; 27- Photographic tone; 28- Anatomical passage; 29- Reflection on death; 30- Ancient letter; 31- Run of bird-song; 32- Follow; 33- Celestial body; 35- Kind of alert; 36- Jack of "Rio Lobo"; 38- Actress Massey; 39- \_\_\_-garde; 44- Acrid taste; 45- Slowpokes; 46- Children's refrain; 47- Nahuatl speaker; 48- Pessimist's word; 49- \_\_\_ Ben Adhem; 50- Animal skin; 51- Scandinavian; 52- Arrow poison; 53- It's a thought; 54- Expel; 55- Cape Canaveral org.; 59- First name in horror



Crossword puzzles provided by BestCrosswords.com

**USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS**

- Emergency calls 999
- Fire department 28 572 222
- PJ (Open line) 993
- PJ (Picket) 28 557 775
- PSP 28 573 333
- Customs 28 559 944
- S. J. Hospital 28 313 731
- Kiang Wu Hospital 28 371 333
- Commission Against Corruption (CCAC) 28326 300
- IACM 28 387 333
- Tourism 28 333 000
- Airport 59 888 88
- Taxi 28 939 939 / 2828 3283
- Water Supply - Report 1990 992
- Telephone - Report 1000
- Electricity - Report 28 339 922
- Macau Daily Times 28 716 081



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HKD 5,602sq ft  
**Quiet Location with Balcony**  
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**Nam Ngon Garden Tower 3**  
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HKD 6,413sq ft  
**Good Size Sitting Room**  
Ref: 14045398

**Manhattan Penthouse Unit**  
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HKD 11,193sq ft  
**Luxury Residence**  
Ref: 15045436

**One Central**  
Macau  
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Ref: 15040491

**Macau Ginxa Plaza**  
Macau  
**Mall Shops**  
Good Location  
HKD 22,000 / 403 sq ft  
Ref: 15010461

**Old Taipa**  
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FOOTBALL | EUROPA LEAGUE FINAL

# Bacca the star as Sevilla beats Dnipro 3-2

SEVILLA won the Europa League for a record fourth time, with two goals from Carlos Bacca steering the Spanish club to a 3-2 win over Ukraine's Dnipro Dnipropetrovsk in yesterday's final.

The final whistle prompted tearful celebrations from Sevilla, which retained the title it won last season and earned a spot in next year's Champions League, a prize offered this season to the Europa League winner by UEFA for the first time.

"We want to be ambitious in terms of moving forward," Sevilla coach Unai Emery said. "Obviously we want more but we now have more because we have the Champions League and we will enjoy that fully."

Sevilla's success means there will be five Spanish teams in the Champions League next season, matching the record set by English clubs in 2005-06.

Sevilla rallied from a goal down early in the first half to lead 2-1 through goals from first Grzegorz Krychowiak then Bacca, before a free-kick from Dnipro's Ruslan Rotan made it 2-2 at the break.

Bacca scored the 73rd-minute winner off a pass from Vitolo when Dnipro's defense struggled to clear the ball.

"(Bacca) has great skills and qualities and he's an extraordinary



Sevilla's Carlos Bacca, right, passes Dnipro's goalkeeper Denys Boyko on his way to score during the final of the soccer Europa League between FC Dnipro Dnipropetrovsk and Sevilla FC at the National Stadium in Warsaw, Poland

rily competitive player. He wants more and more. You can call it hunger. He doesn't want to reach that ceiling," Emery said.

"He wants to be the best player in the Champions League next season, for example. That's his objective."

Dnipro coach Myron Markevych also paid tribute to the forward.

"We knew that Bacca would play as a very aggressive striker. Unfortunately, today we allowed him to do that," he said. "The third goal, well, we earned it ourselves. We should have just kicked the ball away."

Sevilla controlled the tempo of the game throughout and enjoyed most of the possession, but it was always vulnerable on the counter against a Dnipro team boasting the pacy Matheus and Yevhen Konoplyanka on the wings.

Markevych opted to start Nikola Kalinic up front in place of Yevhen Seleznyov, who was the star with goals against Napoli in the semifinals but had sustained an injury. That decision swiftly paid off as Kalinic slipped his marker on seven minutes to score with a downward header off a cross from Matheus.

Sevilla's response came on 28 minutes when Krychowiak equalized with a low right-foot shot after an extended period of Sevilla pressure, the Polish midfielder sparking wild celebrations among the many local fans in the Warsaw's National Stadium.

"It tasted good, very good. This was a moment that I will never forget," he said.

Sevilla made it 2-1 just three minutes later, with Bacca springing the Dnipro offside trap and rounding the keeper before slotting the ball low into the unguarded net.

Rotan's free kick ensured the teams went into the break level. Shooting from the edge of the box, the Dnipro captain seemed to confuse the Sevilla defense by taking his free-kick almost without a run-up, adding a wicked curl to take it past the wall and 21-year-old goalkeeper Sergio Rico.

After a quiet start to the second half, Sevilla's breakthrough came when Jaba Kankava struggled to clear the ball and it fell to Vitolo, who played in Bacca with a smartly-weighted through-ball.

The Colombian lashed it low past Boyko for his seventh Euro-

## DNIPRO PLAYER COLLAPSES FROM 'EXHAUSTION'



DNIPRO DNIPROPETROVSK player Matheus has recovered after collapsing in the closing minutes of the Europa League final.

The Brazilian forward fell to the ground suddenly during a break in play and was stretchered off the field after receiving emergency medical treatment. Dnipro coach Markevych suggested the 32-year-old's collapse may have been a case of exhaustion. "As far as I know, it looks like he is OK," he said

pa League goal of the season, and was booked for a lengthy celebration in which he posed with his country's flag. AP

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opinion

**Kapok**  
Eric Sautédé



**COLLECTIVE EMPOWERMENT**

José Pereira Coutinho's arguments are pretty straightforward: Macao needs a long overdue Trade Union Law for three sets of reasons. First, because this is enshrined in Article 27 of the Macao Basic Law—Macao citizens shall have "the right and freedom to form and join trade unions." Second, because Macao is a signatory to several international conventions that make it mandatory to recognize such a right, namely the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights as well as the Convention concerning Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organize (1948), one of the 36 conventions of the International Labor Organization (ILO) applicable to Macao. On several occasions, the ILO as well as the International Trade Union Confederation have exposed the many legal loopholes that translate into "insufficient protection" for all when it comes to joining a workers' organization or having the right to collective bargaining in Macao. And third, because most of the countries in the area are equipped with such a law: not only Korea, Singapore or Taiwan, but even Hong Kong with the Trade Unions Ordinance or the People's Republic of China that has had its Trade Union Law since 1992.

A trade union law provides a legal framework for unions to be organized, clarifies their process of formation and defines their responsibilities, and this in order to effectively protect the rights of the workers — a key to the protection of human dignity. It is also thanks to unions that employees engage with society at large and more importantly exercise their right to collective bargaining conducive to co-decided — meaning more harmonious — and improved work conditions.

As of now, only the Macao Federation of Trade Unions (FAOM), one of the three main so-called grassroots "traditional associations" along with the General Union of Neighborhood Associations ("Kaifong") and the Women's General Association, has an obvious claim to being a union, although it is somehow in competition with the "Kaifong" when it comes to representing the interests of the working class. However, over the years, and more so since the mid-2000s, its "representative" role has come into question — it has lost a directly elected seat in the 2013 legislative election — and it itself, despite its 56 affiliates and 80,000 members, does not actually operate as a "federation of unions" but rather as a collective of associations, with a somewhat exclusive right to recognition by the government and employers because of its "pro-establishment" status.

Yet, the last time Mr Coutinho submitted a Trade Union Law proposal in April 2014 — for the fifth time! — it got defeated by 14 votes to 9, and among the supporters were the three representatives from the FAOM, the two representatives from the "Kaifong", the two democrats and Mr Coutinho together with his partner Leong Veng Chai. Among the naysayers one finds all the government-appointed lawmakers — the whole seven of them — and mainly pro-business legislators — including Angela Leong. In fact, if we only consider directly-elected MPs — as suggested by *almacau.net* — the law would have been accepted by 7 vs. 3, and this in no small thanks to the abstention of Chan Meng Kam's "group" as well as the rather populist Zheng Aiting.

There is no doubt that this absurd and backward deadlock played a significant role in encouraging some seven groups representing casino workers to meet at the Fisherman's Wharf last week to collectively push for another go at a trade union bill championed by Mr Coutinho. Featuring prominently among these were Power of the Macau Gaming Association, formed in May 2014 by local gaming employees in managerial positions working for Sands and chaired by Stephen Lau Ka Weng, the convener of the meeting, and the Macau Gaming Industry Frontline Workers, headed by leong Man Teng, that became famous after it organized very visible marches around several casino properties last year, ultimately leading to salary hikes. In effect it was the first such gathering of different "independent" associations and a promise was made to meet on a quarterly basis. Clearly, the month of May in Macao has become one of collective empowerment!

THE **EA SPORTS ADDING WOMEN'S GAME TO BUZZ FIFA 2016**

Women's teams have joined EA Sports' popular soccer video game, making their debut this September in FIFA 2016. Twelve women's national teams, including the United States, will be included in the game. "When I started playing soccer I never thought that I'd be on the national team, let alone to be asked and

have the opportunity to be in a video game," said U.S. forward Abby Wambach, who was "imaged" for the game along with some of her teammates. The announcement comes as the United States and most of the other national teams in the game prepare for the Women's World Cup in Canada on June 6.

**Call up for Global Wellness Day**



The Grande Coloane Resort

Brook Yang

**D**RAWING on the unbalanced lifestyle commonly seen among local workers, a group of exercise enthusiasts have decided to celebrate Global Wellness Day with a series of activities to be held on June 13, aiming to motivate citizens to consider and improve their well-being.

With the slogan "One day can change your whole life," Global Wellness Day was initiated in Turkey in 2012 and has since been marked on the second Saturday of June every year as the official international day dedicated to wholesome living.

The initiative will be extended to Macau for the first time this year, as its local ambassador Ms Corinne Mackay is planning an event at the Grande Coloane Resort, which is set to include an outdoor sunrise beach bootcamp, a family fun run, meditation and yoga sessions, as well as nutritional and diet-oriented talks.

The ambassador, an Australian native and fitness trainer, who has been residing in Macau for the past nine years, recognized that wellness in the city has "taken a leap forward"

in responding to the growing trend of healthy living.

From the increase in trainers, improved variety of training facilities and nutritional choices in local markets, to her highly popular training sessions held at sunrise, Ms Mackay believes that the changes over the years "definitely indicate that the Macau people do care about the physical aspect of their lives."

However, many citizens still lack the knowledge or opportunity to make a change, while many lack a work-life balance. "These common lifestyle habits in Macau result in a lack of exercise, poor food choices and no time for rest and recovery," she said.

In order to make a change, Ms Mackay stressed that self-awareness is the first step. "A journey starts with a single step. Global Wellness Day is a day to pause and reflect; pause from our busy schedules and reflect on the value we put on our lives. With 365 days in a year, this one day can be the first step in a journey of self discovery and self awareness to live a healthier and happier life," she expressed.

"There are seven manifestos to follow: walk one hour,

**We need to stress the importance of wellness with the global increase of preventable diseases**

CORINNE MACKAY

drink more water, don't use plastic bottles, eat organic and local produce, do a good deed, eat a family dinner, and go to bed at 10pm," suggested the ambassador, who further explained that the concept of "wellness" is connected to wellbeing in various aspects, namely spiritual, emotional, intellectual, physical, cultural, occupational, social and environmental wellness.

"Global Wellness Day is a non-profit platform about raising awareness, inspiring and motivating others to try and experience health and wellbeing in a way that may not have been experienced before. We need to stress the importance of wellness with the global increase of preventable diseases such as obesity and diabetes especially in the younger generation," she stated.

"Teaching our children to be active, to make healthy choices and to get outdoors where possible is so important with the growing number of children being indoors, using electronic devices, and the Internet," Ms Mackay added, encouraging citizens to step out more often into the greenery maintained on Coloane island.



Corinne Mackay

Station	Air quality
Roadside	10-30 Good
High Density Residential Area	30-50 Good
Ambient	25-45 Good

SOURCE: DSMG

**WORLD BRIEFS**



**MYANMAR** Journalists negotiate with Myanmar officials to restore their access to the Parliament chamber after being pushed out because pictures of snoring lawmakers were published online.

**INDIA** Eating onions, lying in the shade and splashing in rivers, Indians are doing whatever they can to stay cool during a brutal heat wave that has killed more than 1,400 in the past month. [More on p12](#)



**SYRIA** Al-Qaida's branch in Syria has no plans to attack the West but warns that they might retaliate if airstrikes by the U.S.-led coalition continue to target them, the leader of the group says in an interview with an Arab TV station.



**USA** Republican presidential candidate Rand Paul is blaming his own party for the rise of the Islamic State group. The senator from Kentucky said Wednesday that the Republicans' foreign policy hawks "created these people." That assertion led potential 2016 rival Bobby Jindal, Louisiana's governor, to say Paul was unqualified to be president.

**UK-EU** Prime Minister David Cameron has set off on a whirlwind visit to four European capitals, pressing his case that Britain needs to renegotiate its relationship with the 27 other members of the bloc. It will be a tough sell. France's foreign minister signaled resistance to any major concessions on Britain's push for less centralized EU control.