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"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN'"

WORLD BRIEFS

CHINA Tourism officials have closed a newly opened glass walkway in a central China tourism spot after cracks appeared in the structure at the height of the weeklong National Day holiday. [More on p11](#)



JAPAN A new study argues thyroid cancer among children in Fukushima, northeastern Japan, is linked to the low-dose radiation that spewed from the nuclear disaster four and half years ago — countering the government position that the 137 cases were found only because of stringent monitoring. [More on macaudailytimes.com](#)

MYANMAR During Myanmar's darkest days of dictatorship, they gained notoriety because of their brazen, sarcastic stabs at the military leaders. But now, with crucial elections right around the corner, the feisty comedic duo has suddenly stopped joking around. It's time to get serious, the Moustache Brothers say. [More on p12](#)

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VENETIAN MACAO OPEN 2015

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days to go

Divorce harder on 'blue card' holder dependents

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INSIDE

Catarina Pinto

A woman finds herself amid a divorce and a fight to maintain custody of her children. If a relationship breakdown can have an enormous impact on one's life, circumstances and uncertainties surrounding the divorce outside of home can be even more excruciating.

Jane (fictitious name, since our source requested to remain anonymous) came to Macau attached to her husband's blue card, and was granted a special stay permit, as many expats in Macau are.

Aside from dealing with the emotional distress triggered by a relationship that ended up falling apart, Jane's been trying to ascertain all the legal aspects surrounding her situation, especially as to how the divorce will play out in terms of child custody.

"All I need is a job and a blue card and then I can stay and maintain custody of my children. It's a very complex situation and my position is tenuous. There have been some very ugly scenes," she told the Times.

Jane, together with many other expat wives, feels she's left in a particularly weak position to negotiate divorce settlements and custody.

Under the local law, spouses of skilled blue card holders can be granted a special stay permit to live here. However, they're not allowed to work in Macau because of the specific conditions of their special stay permit.

The permit granted to direct family members of skilled blue card holders materializes as a stamp – now a small white piece of paper – in their respective passports.

In a telephone interview with the Times, lawyer João Soares, who's an expert in administrative law, explained that a special stay permit can be granted to someone for a number of reasons.

"This stay permit is completely different from the residency status," he pointed out, adding that according to article 8 of Law 4/2013, which regulates the "Permission to Remain," a special stay permit can be granted for higher education study and family reunification purposes, among other similar situations deemed admissible.

"This is what we call a true general clause. This particular article gives Macau administration what we call a discretionary power. The legislation provides the administration a high degree of freedom to apply the law," he explained.

Furthermore, number five of the same article stipulates that "the stay permit given to the direct family of a skilled non-resident worker, whose recruitment has been of interest to the MSAR, is granted for the same period of the non-resident employee's working visa."

The entity that has granted the working visa is also called on to provide its assessment of the direct family members' special stay permit application.

"The latter rule clearly states that their right to remain in Macau relies and depends on the right given to the non-resident worker, the other spouse," Mr Soares recalled.

There first has to be a stay permit authorization granted to the blue card holder. Only then can they apply for a special stay permit for their respective spouse and children. "The family members can be given a special stay permit. And why is this permit special? Because it is dependent on another stay permit [the one granted to the spouse who has been given a working visa]," the lawyer recalled.

Jane believes that – upon a divorce – blue card holders' wives face a particularly difficult time, since the non-resident worker appears to wield enormous power. "There are so many cases. Divorces are on the rise. [This disequilibrium] between partners shouldn't be there," she reiterated.

The law allows the administration to grant a special stay permit in situations it deems admissible.

JOÃO SOARES

Divorce is harder on 'blue



Obtaining legal advice on custody and immigration laws, and specifically on how those two areas interact, is particularly difficult in Macau, according to Jane.

Although she finds Macau's laws particularly grey in these matters, she has been told that courts have a general tendency to award custody to the mother.

According to our source, in addition to the difficult process of obtaining legal advice on the matter, the topic appears to be sensitive in Macau. Asked why it appears so sensitive, she suggested that Macau seems to have little concern for people of her status, who are dependents on a blue card holder.

If a blue card holder attachee no longer retains that status, the general idea is that she/he needs to leave Macau. "Immigration law takes precedence [over family law]. The laws are at loggerheads with each other," she stressed.

Mr Soares observed that the law has provided Macau's administration with a high degree of freedom in their decision-making.

"This means that people in these situations need to be particularly careful and com-

municate to authorities the whole set of circumstances surrounding their individual situation," he told the Times.

He added that, "they will need to provide information on their divorce, for instance, whether one of the spouses is exclusively responsible for the divorce."

Furthermore, "people may need to say that their divorce proceedings are still ongoing, or that they have children and they need to remain here, as they're going through a custody process."

"So there are many aspects that need to be communicated to the Macau administration. And the administration, having a high degree of freedom conferred by the law, can authorize or renew the special stay permit of that person, because the law allows the administration to grant a special stay permit in situations it deems admissible," he reiterated, adding that "admissible reasons [to request a stay permit or its extension] need to be carefully explained to the administration."

Jane's case is particularly sensitive given that there are children involved.

The Hague convention on the Civil Aspects of Interna-

tional Parental Child Abduction 1980 stipulates that one parent is not allowed to take a child from his or her country of "habitual residence" without the consent of the other parent. Any request to leave the country must be settled in the family court of that country. The Hague convention will be reviewed in 2017.

And while the couple is married, children are only allowed to travel out of Macau with the approval of both parents.

"Although we often hear that the administration is not sensitive towards people's problems or that the Chinese system does not understand these situations – I'd say this is not true. In this particular legal area I can guarantee that there are people in the public services and even within the Secretary for Security's cabinet that hold great ability to understand these situations, with great sensitivity towards people's problems, specially when the situation involves children," lawyer João Soares noted.

Mr Soares says he's convinced that the administration will consider all aspects surrounding each individual situation and – if there are admissible reasons from a human point of view – will award the person a special stay permit or its extension.

"This means that one is not necessarily forced to leave," he explained, although noted that since blue card holders' attachees are not allowed to work here, they're left in a weak position and they may have to explain to the administration how they can provide for themselves while remaining in Macau.

Asked whether her expat experience brought added strains to her marriage, Jane said, "probably, yes."

She recalled that the dependents' visa in Macau is nigh on worthless, "a slip of paper." "The paper is equivalent to toilet paper. [The government] can't even spend money [to give us a proper card]," she said.

Life for dependents becomes increasingly difficult, because even simple daily tasks have to be done with the blue card

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card' holder dependents

holders' authorization, such as opening a bank account, or joining the local library, she recalled.

Julia (also a fictitious name), an expat living in Macau who also went through a divorce process, shared a similar feeling. "Being attached to the husband's blue card means we need to do everything together. Even applying for a China visa," she told the Times.

She acknowledged that her relationship had deteriorated prior to moving to Macau, and

RENATO MARQUES



recognized that joining her former husband here was a last-ditch effort to make things work.

"This puts a lot of added pressure on a relationship. Women are now so independent, but while being attached to the husband's blue card we

cannot work or volunteer," Julia lamented.

She added that being given a special stay permit is about reuniting families. "So you bring them here and then force them to be nobodies in society. What do I do? Wander in the casino?" she questioned.

Julia's story ended happily. She was able to find a company to sponsor her, and was granted a blue card of her own.

The Times contacted the Social Welfare Bureau (IAS) to ascertain how it supports women or men in expat divorce situations. In a written reply via email, the Bureau acknowledged that, "it has received some requests for help" from expat wives in divorce processes, including from non-resident workers, blue card holder attaches, and also women who came attached to their husbands' Macau ID.

IAS assured MDT that, "upon receiving these requests for help, it has provided them with adequate assistance, assessing their individual situations and needs, namely by providing counseling, temporary accommodation, and support by contacting other social assistance services."

It's a very complex situation and my position is tenuous.

JANE

Executive charged for 5-year-old son's murder in Singapore

PHILIPPE Graffart, head of Asia Pacific fund distribution at Nordea Investment Management in Singapore, was charged in a Singapore court on Wednesday for the murder of his five-year-old son. According to the Straits Times, it is believed that Graffart, 41, "had been fighting for custody of the boy with his former wife."

The suspect will be remanded for psy-

chiatric observation. He didn't enter a plea and his next court hearing is scheduled for Oct. 28. He wasn't represented by a lawyer. If convicted, he may face the death penalty.

Singapore Police said on Tuesday an injured man was found outside a police center at 5:11 a.m. After preliminary inquiries, officers went to an apartment

unit, where the man's son was found lying motionless in a bedroom, according to a statement on the Singapore Police Force website. Paramedics pronounced the boy dead at 6:17 a.m.

Magnus Nelin, a spokesman for Stockholm-based Nordea, confirmed in an e-mailed response to queries that Graffart is employed by the bank.

"We are aware of this very tragic event and our thoughts go out to the family," Nelin said. "We can't comment further at this stage. We have to wait for the ongoing investigation and the court's ruling." **MDT/Bloomberg**

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UN office investigating donation from Ng Lap Seng



In this courtroom sketch, defendant John Ashe, right, sits in court during his arraignment on bribery charges in New York, Tuesday, Oct. 6

Edith M. Lederer

THE United Nations said Wednesday its office promoting cooperation between developing countries is reviewing a USD1.5 million donation from a foundation controlled by a Macau billionaire who has been linked to an alleged bribery case involving former U.N. General Assembly president John Ashe.

U.N. spokesman Stephane Dujarric said the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation is undertaking “a very close review” of its relationship with the Sun Kian IP Group Foundation, whose leader Ng Lap Seng has been charged with lying about plans for \$4.5 million brought into the United States over several years aboard private jets.

Dujarric said the office will

look “as deeply as possible into the money, where it went and what it was used for.”

Ashe, a former U.N. ambassador from Antigua and Barbuda who served in the largely ceremonial post as head of the 193-nation assembly from September 2013 to September 2014, faces tax fraud charges in what authorities call a conspiracy with five others including Ng. The Office for South-South Co-

operation said in a statement to The Associated Press late Wednesday that “all elements” of the foundation’s partnership with the office “are currently under review.”

It said the \$1.5 million, together with support from national governments, U.N. agencies, non-governmental organizations and foundations, was used to organize conferences on South-South cooperation in Bangladesh in May 2015 and in Macau in August 2015.

In addition, the office said the money is being used to support preparations for a ministerial

-level South-South Conference on Science and Technology and a summit of the Group of 77 developing countries on South-South Cooperation to be held in 2016. It said money is also going to support the World Alliance of Cities Against Poverty and for a South-South technology exchange.

“The disbursement of funding on these initiatives was carried out in full compliance with U.N. standards and guidelines,” the office said. “All disbursed funds were tracked and accounted for, and there is no evidence that any funds received... were misdirected or misappropriated.”

Dujarric responded to a question asking what the United Nations is doing right now in terms of launching a separate investigation saying “we are continuing to study the complaint.” AP

PARTNER DENIES KNOWLEDGE OF CENTER

WILLIAM KUAN Vai Lam, a business partner to Ng Lap Seng, has denied any knowledge of the reported “South-South” U.N.-sponsored conference center project in Macau. Kuan, a member of the board of directors of the SKY group, attended a phone-in-program on TDM’s Chinese-language radio channel, and said that the group’s projects would be unaffected by Ng’s arrest. “I have never heard whether or not Macau is going to have a new

conference center. Is it likely that a [U.N.] conference center will be built in Macau just because of some work [someone] supposedly did for the United Nations?” Kuan asked. He then went on to explain that Ng’s son, Ng Kei Nin, is the company’s board chairman, and therefore the SKY group is unaffected by the case and detention, especially since the elder Ng “has not directly participated in the company’s operations for the past few years.”

PROFILE

A highly influential figure in Macau, Guangdong

NG Lap Seng has made the news in recent weeks following his detention in New York which was handed to him after he allegedly lied to U.S. authorities regarding the purpose of the USD4.5 million he brought into the country, and more recently as a result of allegations that Ng was involved in a U.N. bribery case.

A confidential report by Steve Vickers, former HKPD detective and CEO of Steve Vickers and Associates Ltd (SVA) security consultation firm, investigates Ng Lap Seng’s background. MDT had access to this report, a scrutiny of which raised a number of “red flags” in relation to Ng.

Ng, born in 1948, is a native of Guangdong Province and moved to Macau in 1979, starting his career trading cheap garments. By the early 1990s, he had become a very wealthy businessman, and proceeded to expand into the real estate investment and development business sectors.

Today he is the owner and chairman of the San Kin Yip (SKY) Group – a group with total investments exceeding HKD10 billion divided between Hong Kong and Macau. One of his more recent developments – a residential project of 1,500 units called

“Windsor Arch” – has generated some controversy in regards to obstructing the view of existing residents in the area. The most publicized of Ng’s projects is the Fortuna Hotel, which the Macau magnate owns jointly.

Ng is considered to be a highly influential individual in the Guangdong and Greater China circles. Aside from being a member of the Chinese People’s Political Consultative Committee (CPPCC), he is also said to have close connections with senior PLA officials – many of whom frequently visit his Fortuna Hotel. Despite his extensive connections among the Guangdong and Beijing elites, the Steve Vickers report indicates that Ng “keeps a low-profile socially.”

Ng does not have a criminal record but is reported to be involved in a number of illicit activities. He is portrayed in some of the media as a “Macau Crime Lord” and, according to the report, “a kingpin of the international slave prostitution trade”. It is reported that the Fortuna acts as a ‘hangout’ for the Shui Fong Triad – a group that is notorious for loan-sharking, protections rackets and prostitution in Macau.

Among the circle of political elites to which Ng has access is the Clintons and their administration. Eyebrows

have been raised concerning the connection, especially due to the number of visits, including one such visit that ended in Ng staying over at the Whitehouse as an official guest. Additionally, a third-party who it appears is close to the Clintons is also Ng’s associate Charlie “Yah Lin” Trie – an Arkansas restaurant owner and alleged member of the 14K Triad Group.

Ng has been accredited with large donations made to the Clinton team, but these were reportedly later returned, possibly as a consequence of various concerns in the media about the origin of the funds. Some media reports from the time openly suggested that Ng had been linked to organized crime in Asia.

Although there have been a number of litigation proceedings against Ng Lap Seng, none have resulted in prosecution. In 2002, the late Nina Wang is thought to have had a legal dispute with Ng when she filed a claim against him for an alleged failure to provide certain information ahead of a prospective acquisition. She filed again in 2006 for a misrepresentation of a company’s franchises. In 2007, it was reported that SKY refused to abide by a court order in relation to unpaid construction work in Zhuhai.

Gov’t in no position to offer remarks on UN corruption case

Aries Un

LOCAL authorities gave a wide berth to the high-profile graft case involving the local businessman Ng Lap Seng, citing the stage of judicial procedures that the case was brought in as the primary reason.

Following the Government Spokesperson Office’s refusal to comment on the case that grabbed many headlines starting three weeks ago, Wong Sio Chak declined to disclose much information on the saga, while professing no details were available at the second.

“As to such a question, the case has entered the judicial process, we aren’t in a position to give comments,” he explained. “Yet regardless of the security departments, especially the Judiciary Police, we haven’t gotten any related information. Thus we have no such information to offer.”

In addition, the secretary stressed that the investigation agencies lacked the rights to initiate probes, yet adding that “they would [initiate] if it was necessary in the future.”

“It isn’t within Macau’s jurisdiction,” he claimed. “We could only make an evaluation after the incident becomes more public and clear. Yet at the moment, we don’t see this as a possibility or necessity.”

Aries Un

AUTHORITIES have intensified their anti-stowaway watch along the shoreline of Coloane as more and more illegal migrants from across the border have been caught attempting to enter the region through the waters within the region since early this year.

The secretary for security, Wong Sio Chak, accompanied by customs officials, took a field trip yesterday morning to inspect two black spots generally understood to be an entry point for illegal migrants – Coloane's Long Chao Kok and the University of Macau's Hengqin campus.

According to the secretary, the number of illegal migrants has surged by 64 percent to 1,810 between January and September, a percentage Wong described as "very high." During that time span, 905 migrants have been identified in the southern costal area alone.

Wong blamed the area's geographic features for the exponential growth of illegal entries, yet promised to develop more approaches to mitigate the surging flow of mainlanders arriving in the region from there.

"Today's field visits primarily, first of all, tell how highly we regard the issue. Another objective is to identify those difficulties," said the official in reference to the rocky bayside area.

More people try to cross border illegally



Despite being reticent of the worsening ordeal early this year and having adopted new arrangements, customs patrols still find themselves challenged by the craggy seaside that allegedly harbored the migrants, Wong noted.

"From the data, it has been found that the risk of illegally entering the region is extremely high and we face certain difficulties in enforcing the law," admitted Wong. "This place is geographically demanding,

which makes anti-detection measures easier."

Furthermore, the official indicated that previous investigations have suggested that the seaside area stretching from the Westin Resort to the rock-ribbed strip in the far south of Coloane could be one of a series of potential spots on which the arriving migrants could land.

"They might disembark anywhere and that's the challenge to our personnel deployment," he added.

The Secretary also visited the Hengqin campus of the University of Macau, where the security situation seems to be improving. A mere total of six people were caught this year trying to jump the walls of the university to enter the territory of the MSA, compared with a total of 51 people caught last year.

The walls surrounding the university which initially appeared to be short now have been made much higher with spikes scattered atop, yesterday's visit revealed.

Still, according to the official, apart from the customs officers who remained continuously on patrol along the enclosure se-

parating the campus from the mainland, the authorities also have squads on standby to respond to all suspected activities related to illegal entry within the region.

Wong also pledged to continue close collaborations with the Zhuhai police in combating similar activities.

To further curb illegal arrivals in the region ashore, the government is now exploring 4G technology, which the secretary explained could allow surveillance imageries to be instantly transferred back to the authorities' headquarters as a way to monitor the situation.

Besides, the authorities also decided to prioritize setting up surveillance cameras along the seaside, which was originally slated for much later. Starting last month, the citywide surveillance installation work has already begun, operating in four phases.

Another measure deemed important by Wong is the expected introduction of police personnel patrolling the waters close to the shore in small-scale speed boats to snare unauthorized arrivers.

Large number of dead fish found in Fai Chi Kei

Personnel from the Macau Marine and Water Bureau removed around three tonnes of dead fish floating off Fai Chi Kei's north bay yesterday morning. The authorities cautioned the nearby residents to avoid consuming the deceased fish, as it might be harmful health. It was the second time this year in which the bay saw massive shoals of fishes floating in the water. In March, complaints from local residents emerged over an unpleasant odor lingering in the sea before the first massive fish death.

Transmac buses to run on new contract early next year



Bus operator Transmac has reached consensus with the government over the future implementation of a brand new contract, which is expected to come into force early next year, TDM radio reported. The group's executive revealed that, aside from the government's subvention, part of the fare would also be invested into the company. However, no details on the agreement were available, except for the group's desire to recover part of the service fees on which they had missed out previously through the subsidy. Additionally, the authorities' agreement with another bus operator TCM took effect this month, with both parties satisfied with the starting price that determined how much the government paid to the group.

Marine authorities see two major position changes

The position of Marine and Water Bureau vice president has been awarded to Chou Chi Tak amid an ongoing investigation carried out by the Commission Against Corruption, which has focused on two staff members at the managerial level of the bureau. It was believed that one of the individuals under investigation was the former vice head. As early as April this year, Chou, who previously managed a department, already assumed the acting position. Additionally, Chan I Un rose to the head of the Maritime Museum. Both appointments were made by the Secretary for Transport and Public Works, Raimundo Rosario.

HEALTH

'No green light' to skip medical personnel accreditation

THE Council for Medical Affairs reaffirmed on Wednesday the need for a formal examination of medical personnel skills, stating also that all requests will be processed in the same stringent manner and according to the rules approved, the Health Bureau informed.

According to the same statement, the council has performed 16 public consultation sessions in order to guarantee that all sectors and citizens could enjoy full and grounded access to the legislation and content of the draft law that regulates the "medical personnel accreditation regime".

The health authorities felt the need to clarify and reaffirm these requirements, since, in a recent report disclosed by the media, it was indicated that a new inclu-

sion to the project intended to exclude the examination and the internship for 15 healthcare categories. This led to concerns among some citizens who feared that this exemption would have a negative impact on the quality of medical staff.

"this examination aims to evaluate the knowledge and skills of health care personnel in order to guarantee that they meet the established norms for such a career in Macau," the statement adds.

In this way, all medical personnel, regardless of where they studied or their clinical experience should obey these requirements in order to obtain their medical accreditation certificate.

The Health Bureau also states that it is worth clarifying that in the project it is

mentioned that by council's deliberation, it is possible to be exempted from the knowledge evaluation test in the cases where the candidates possess a scientific curriculum that can prove that they possess the skills needed to fulfill their profession. However, this mechanism was a reactive measure which sought to address the government's plan to attract talented locals working abroad to return to Macau and are applied to these individuals only.

Furthermore, those applicants would need to have certain medical specialties that are needed in the territory. Still, the Council will adopt an evenly strict evaluation mechanism to handle these specific cases, as mentioned by the Health Bureau vice-president Dr. Chan Ip Lap. **RM**

STATISTICS

Loans grow at a faster rate than deposits

LOANS have grown at a faster rate than total deposits in August, according to statistics released by the Monetary Authority of Macau (AMCM). Broad money supply continued to fall in August, with the

amount of currency in circulation dropping by 0.8 percent.

The data released by the AMCM indicates that deposits by residents decreased 1.4 percent from the preceding month to MOP467.0 billion.

Deposits by non-residents rose 2.9 percent to MOP256.1 billion. Public sector deposits with the banking sector increased 2.1 percent to MOP125.6 billion. As a result, total deposits with the

banking sector in August grew 0.4 percent from a month earlier to MOP848.6 billion. The distribution of MOP, HKD, CNY and USD across the total deposits was 19.7%, 41.0%, 12.3% and 23.2% respectively.

AMCM also indicated that domestic loans to the private sector increased 0.5 percent to MOP386.1 billion.

25 AIDS cases identified in 2015



The region's anti-AIDS committee has forecasted a fall in the number of infection cases this year, given

that as of September, the total number of cases for the year is 25 compared to the total of 48 cases identified last year. According to the given figures, 14 locals contracted the viruses through same-sex intercourse while another 11 patients are imported laborers from entertainment venues.

Pearl Horizon buyers' interest safeguarded in overdue

The Land, Public Works and Transport Bureau claimed that the authorities' future response to the troubled Pearl Horizon developer, which failed to finish construction works before the anticipated deadline, would be in the interests of its pre-sale proprietors. Some of the buyers made the purchase on the mortgage, petitioning the government several times to intervene in the dispute. According to the authorities, there are three additional plots of land, all in Taipa, which face a similar plight where construction works are believed to be lagging behind the deadline. The authorities are entitled to recover the land parcels if the grantees are found to be failing to fulfill their development obligations.

Authorities shrug off dubious factors in SJM staff's death in Pyongyang

THE secretary for Security, Wong Sio Chak, revealed yesterday that information that is currently in the hands of authorities dismisses all individuals suspected of involvement in the death of a local who was working in Casino Pyongyang, North Korea, in which the tycoon Stanley Ho is of interest

Lei Weng Fu's abrupt "suicide" came as a devastating blow to his family, and they continue to be skeptical about the official explanations. To the family, the twists and turns during the 29-year-old SJM staff member's stay in the reclusive country have rendered the suicide claim unconvincing.

Nonetheless, around four months after Pyongyang confirmed the death, citing the presence of internal physical injuries, the appeal for the "possible truth" behind the death by the deceased's family remains unanswered.

Wong Sio Chak told media on the sidelines of a site visit



People gather in Pyongyang at a monument built 10 years ago to honor the founding of the Workers' Party of North Korea

that the "information received "so far was yet to paint a wider picture for the authorities regarding the incident", also conceding that it was "difficult to follow on the investigation."

"We're still awaiting more news from there," he claimed. "However, the information we received suggests nothing suspicious."

Asked if the authorities would urge closer communication with Pyongyang's investigators over the inquiry, he said: "We'd try our best to do it."

It was said that International Criminal Police Organization, consults on both sides, and local investigative agents have been conducting a probe into the death. Prior to his death, he was accused of committing a theft in Casino Pyongyang and was diagnosed with psychosis.

Earlier, the mother of the deceased told newspaper Hoje Macau that the family received a strange WeChat message from Lei Weng Fu on May 31, stating that he

was being threatened due to financial problems, and that one of the shareholders of the North Korean casino threatened to block his bank accounts in Macau. The following day, Lei Weng Fu contacted the family again, informing them that he had been fired after having been accused of stealing casino chips, something that the family believes "he would never do." Five days of silence followed, during which time Lei Weng Fu did not reply to the messages sent by his parents. On June 5, his parents allegedly received a call from their son's manager in Macau informing them that Lei Weng Fu would soon arrive at the local airport. Hours later, they received news from SJM that he had committed suicide in North Korea. According to a death certificate issued by a Pyongyang hospital, he died on June 5 after being found with multiple bone fractures. **AU**

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Tokyo auto show to highlight 'smart' green cars

AP PHOTO



Toyota will show the fantasmic toy-like Kikai, which means "machine" in Japanese, a three-seater concept model that purposely shows the parts of a car usually hidden from view

Yuri Kageyama

THE Tokyo Motor Show, opening to the public Oct. 30 at Tokyo Big Sight convention hall, will be packed with futuristic eye-catching vehicles that drive themselves, offer online information in dazzling ways and are so green they are zero-emissions. Taking part with their latest offerings are 160 companies, including automakers, suppliers and motorcycle manufacturers from around the world, but the biggest stars of the Tokyo show are usually the Japanese. There will be 42 "world premiere" vehicles, being unveiled for the first time.

FUEL CELL RIVALRY

Honda Motor Co. is gearing up to challenge Toyota Motor Corp.'s Mirai fuel cell vehicle, which is already on sale, with its own fuel cell car, whose name is set to be announced at the show. It is promised for the Japanese market by the end of March 2016, and set for the U.S. market after that. Fuel cells are hot lately because they have zero emissions, running on the energy created when hydrogen stored in a fuel tank combines with oxygen in the air, and only spits out water. But it is a relatively expensive technology. The Mirai went on sale in the U.S. this month for \$57,500 and Toyota plans to sell more than 3,000 Mirai cars in the U.S. by the end of 2017. Mirai, which means "future," went on sale in Japan in December for 6.7 million yen (\$56,000). In both places, it qualifies for green rebates. Toyota has received 1,500 orders for the Mirai in Japan. The key feature of the new Honda fuel cell is that the fuel stack is smaller

and can fit under the hood where the gas engine usually is, instead of in the bottom, under the seats. This allows more cabin room, making Honda's fuel cell the first model, planned for commercial production, to seat three people in the back. It travels more than 700 kilometers (430 miles) on a full tank, beating Mirai's 500 kilometers (310 miles). Toyota is also planning to show a revamped fuel cell, although that's a concept model without too many details.

SCREENS EVERYWHERE

The Japanese auto industry is worried how young people here are falling out of love with the car, and appear to be more interested in cellphones, literally spending most of their money on mobile services. Nissan Motor Co.'s Teatro for Dayz concept car is designed with that challenge in mind. The entire inside of the car works like a computer screen, where passengers, even drivers, thanks to self-driving technology, can engage in social media, check email and surf the Internet. Executive Design Director Satoshi Tai says car design usually accentuates power, quality and speed. But these values do not resonate with younger Japanese. "If anything, such car traits just call to mind old-fashioned technology that bears little relevance to their lives," he said.

TINY ROBOT

Toyota is showing a simplified and smaller version of the Kirobo robot, a talking humanoid designed by Tomotaka Takahashi, which went into space and returned last year. Kirobo Mini, at 10 centimeters when seated, fits on a person's palm. It can't do any hea-

vy lifting, but it's designed to be a mascot-like companion, raising both its arms in a greeting when it detects an approaching smiling face. Toyota has no immediate sales plans but hopes adding a cute robot will make driving more fun. It only speaks Japanese. Toyota cooperated on the Kirobo space project, working mainly on its voice recognition capabilities, along with the University of Tokyo, JAXA or Japan's equivalent of NASA and other robotics experts. Toyota has shown robots in the past, including one that plays the trumpet, another that plays the violin, as well as a robot that works as a guide in a Toyota showroom. Honda's famous walking talking humanoid Asimo is not set to be a major star at its booth this year.

MECHANICAL BEAUTY

Toyota is showing the fantasmic toy-like Kikai, which means "machine" in Japanese. The three-seater concept model that shows the parts of a car usually hidden from view, such as the fuel tank, exhaust pipes and the swiftly moving road underneath. Toyota engineers say the model, with no immediate plans for commercial production, emphasizes the idea of craftsmanship, simplicity and movement in a machine. "Monozukuri," or the concept of "making things," has long been idealized in Japan. Kikai looks like a cartoonish hodgepodge of parts, defying typical ideas of what a car should look like. "By removing the concealment of sheet metal, the concept expresses the intricate beauty of functional machines and reminds us of the pleasure of tactile contact with the material world," Toyota said. AP

MARKETS

China stocks jump, other Asian indexes await Fed minutes

PENT-UP investor demand fueled a jump in Chinese stocks after markets reopened yesterday following an extended holiday but other Asian bourses were lackluster ahead of the release of minutes from the Federal Reserve's latest policy meeting.

KEEPING SCORE

The Shanghai Composite Index in mainland China soared 3.5 percent to 3,158.12 as trading resumed after a weeklong holiday. Other regional benchmarks struggled following several days of gains. Japan's benchmark Nikkei 225 Index slipped 0.7 percent to 18,190.98. South Korea's Kospi dipped 0.2 percent to 2,001.45. Hong Kong's Hang Seng fell 0.7 percent to 22,364.32. Australia's S&P/ASX 200 climbed 0.4 percent to 5,220.20.

MARKET TALK

China's "rally is partly driven by the positive economic data released over the holiday break, such as a slightly better than expected official manufacturing" index, said Gerry Alfonso, trading director at Shenwan Hongyuan Securities in Beijing. "There are also some technical reasons for the rebound as investors are likely to start rebuilding portfolios after reducing positions before the holidays," he said. "Investors seem to be hunting for bargains in these initial trading moments."

MINUTE DETAIL

Elsewhere, investors are again focused on the Federal Reserve's rate hike intentions as the minutes are due tomorrow (Macau time) from its Sept. 15-16 meeting. That's when the U.S. central bank refrained from rising interest rates from ultra-low levels, citing global market turmoil and low inflation. The report will provide more detail on the thinking behind the Fed's decision as well as possible clues on timing of the rate hike, which many economists now expect to come next year.

WALL STREET

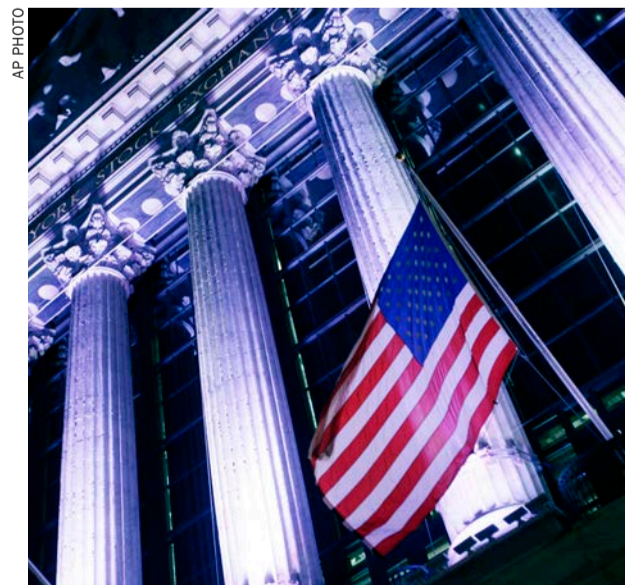
Major U.S. benchmarks ended higher Wednesday, with the Dow Jones industrial average rising 0.7 percent to close at 16,912.29. The Standard & Poor's 500 added 0.8 percent to 1,995.83. The Nasdaq composite rose 0.9 percent to 4,791.15.

ENERGY

Benchmark U.S. crude rose 25 cents to USD48.06 a barrel in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. The contract fell 72 cents to settle at \$47.81 a barrel in New York. Brent Crude, which is used to price international oils, climbed 20 cents to \$51.97 a barrel in London.

CURRENCIES

The dollar slipped to 119.92 yen from 119.97 yen in the previous day's trading. The euro climbed to \$1.1253 from \$1.237. AP



An American flag flies in front of the New York Stock Exchange

REAL ESTATE MATTERS

All you wanted to know about property investment

- Renting & managing your investment property (part 8 of 8)

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.



JULIET RISDON

www.JMLProperty.com info@JMLProperty.com

This is the final installment of an eight part series about putting your money to work.

"If you think our professional fees are high, you should compare it with the cost of hiring an amateur!" - Red Adair, Texan Oil Firefighter

Welcome to the final part of this series.

Now that you have found your property and prepared it for rental, it is time to find someone to represent your interests and help you achieve the best rental income possible.

It's easy to find a real estate agent, a quick walk around Taipa or Macau and you will see plenty of estate agents. The question is, how do you find a real estate agent that will help you to handle your property professionally?

You can start with the newspaper. The local Macau paper has properties for sale and rent in your area. Browse the listings to find properties similar to yours.

If you are letting a studio, you want to look for agents with

plenty of studio listings. If you are renting a lakefront three-bedroom apartment, look for those.

When you find similar properties, note the names and numbers of the agents that are selling and renting them.

The idea here is to find a real estate agent that has experience with your type of property. An agent that has all the penthouses may not be the best to handle your one bedroom character property, for example.

What to ask a real estate agent

When you call the agents - and it's best to call several - you want to verify that they do have experience renting out properties like yours and ask for examples.

Ask what they do to market a property?

Any agent can put together a sheet to stick on a window. Do they have existing leads? - people looking for properties like yours?

Do they let other agents know about your property?

Do they show their listings very often?

Many agents just list real estate for rent and let others lease it for them. It's more profitable for them, but not for you.

If they are a good agent, you want them to go through the house with potential tenants. Do they do their own negotiations?

You want the same person to be there through the whole process. You want one person to call. Things go wrong all the time in real estate, keep it simple and don't complicate it further by having more people involved.

Once they have found a potential tenant what kind of support do they offer with contracts, rental collection, rental renewals, inspections, and maintenance support? Trust your intuition when choosing an agent.

Ensure you have chemistry and a good relationship - If you don't feel comfortable with an agent, it's possible potential tenants won't either. And ask the right questions.

You don't just want to find a real estate agent you like, you want to find the right agent for your property.

VENETIAN MACAO OPEN 2015 威尼斯人 澳門高爾夫球公開賽. Includes photos of golfers and tournament details: 15-18/10/2015, Venue: Macau Golf & Country Club.



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Chinese companies bolster oil sales in Angola

CHINESE companies are bolstering Angola's oil sales, even at a time of uncertainty when Chinese purchases from other countries in the region, such as Nigeria, are falling, according to figures from financial news agency Thomson Reuters.

China International United Petroleum & Chemicals Co. (Unipet) has been one of the most active buyers on the spot market, absorbing most of the Angolan oil shipments marketed for November, according to the agency.

"Angola is selling quite well, with Chinese companies buying a large number of oil shipments," a trader told Thomson Reuters. Only a third of the 55 Angolan oil shipments scheduled for November had not been auctioned by the end of September, compared with Nigerian oil shipments, the majority of which had yet to be sold.

In October, according to figures from Thomson Reuters, exports from West African countries to China are expected to have been the lowest of the last four years - about 735,000 barrels per day (bpd).

India increased its purchases



Oil tankers pass along the road towards the capital Luanda

from countries in the region from 475,000 barrels to 552,000 barrels, as did Taiwan. Angola is the main African oil supplier to China with exports of 806 million barrels in 2014.

Long-term supply contracts to China, which have intensified since 2002, have come to be regarded as a financial "cushion" for Angola in the current environment of falling prices, due to the way the price is set, which is favourable for Angola in times of market fluctuation.

The Africa Intelligence Monitor, citing senior officials of the Angolan regime, said the sharp drop in oil prices has to some extent been

mitigated by these long-term contracts.

According to figures recently compiled by Reuters, China's funding to Angola, including the latest loans, already amounts to US\$20 billion, support that has become increasingly necessary due to the sharp decline in oil revenues over the last year.

In recent years, the Chinese state oil companies have been acquiring major stakes in Angolan oil wells. In 2005, the acquisition by China Petroleum & Chemical Corporation (Sinopec) of Block 3/80 coincided with the announcement of a new loan of US\$2 billion to Angola and, in 2010, the

same Chinese state oil company bought 50 percent of Block 18, while the first tranche of a loan from the China ExIm bank was paid out.

Also with Chinese capital, the China International Fund (part-owned by China Sonangol), is starting the construction of the new Soyo refinery (northern Angola), which should be operational in 2017, with a processing capacity of 110,000 barrels of fuel per day.

Angolan economic growth forecasts have been revised downwards, given the uncertainty about a recovery in oil prices, the government now pointing to 4.4 percent, which is significantly above the figure put forward by the International Monetary Fund (3.5 percent in 2015 and 2016).

MDT/Macauhub

Angola is selling quite well, with Chinese companies buying a large number of oil shipments

PORTUGAL Textile companies take part in fair in China

Eleven Portuguese companies will take part from 13 to 15 October in Shanghai, China, in Intertextile Shanghai Apparel Fabrics, one of the busiest fabric fairs in the world, with almost 4,000 exhibitors from 30 countries and regions. The organization of the Portugal Pavilion, which is taking part for the tenth time this year, is in the hands of Selectiva Moda, of the Textile and Clothing Association of Portugal in charge of promoting the country at international fairs, according to Portuguese news agency Lusa. In 2014, exports of Portuguese textiles to China totaled about 5.5 million euros, up 10 percent compared to 2013. The largest increase was in the areas of synthetic filaments and fibres, which grew 104 percent and 26 percent, respectively, but cotton fabrics remained in first place, accounting for about half of the total: 2.28 million euros, 10 percent more than in 2013.

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6.30PM ~ EXHIBITION OPENING
7PM ~ MACAU SESSIONS
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MIGRATION

US judge declines to undo gov't order on Chinese, Indian green cards

Gene Johnson,

LAWYERS for a group of highly skilled immigrants from India and China say they'll keep pressing the government to allow their clients — and tens of thousands of others — to immediately apply to become permanent U.S. residents, even after a federal judge rejected their request for an emergency order.

The State Department issued a notice early last month announcing which categories of the immigrants would be able to file their final green card paperwork beginning Oct. 1, a step that grants several benefits, including the ability to change jobs and travel abroad more easily as they wait for permanent resident status.

But officials revised it on Sept. 25, severely curtailing who could apply — and frustrating thousands of people who had already spent money on legal fees and medical tests to get their applications ready.

More than a dozen of the immigrant workers sued the government in federal court in Seattle last week, arguing the change was arbitrary and had violated their due-process rights.

They sought an emergency order forcing the government to abide by its original notice, but U.S. District Judge Ricardo S. Martinez rejected that bid on Wednesday, saying they had not shown that they were likely to win their case or that the order would be in the public interest.

The case will continue with both



Immigration centre in New York

sides making full arguments.

"We're disappointed, but we also think we have a viable case going forward," said Gregory Siskind, a lawyer for the immigrants.

In court documents, officials said they had to correct the earlier notice because it suggested more visas were immediately available than federal law allows to be issued. Moreover, the notice itself was simply advisory and did not create any actual right to file final green card paperwork, they said.

The judge found that persuasive.

"It appears the revised visa bulletin did not in fact substantially alter or diminish the rights of plaintiffs and potential class members, rather it clarified an

erroneous prior statement of their rights," Martinez wrote.

He also noted that the immigrants "cannot point to any law establishing that a visa bulletin can create a constitutional right to due process."

The lawsuit, which seeks class-action status, was filed by more than a dozen immigrants. Among them are Quan Yuan, a Chinese-born math professor at the University of Wisconsin-Stout, and Qi Wang, a Chinese citizen who lives in Superior, Colorado, and works as a research engineer at the National Renewable Energy Laboratory, the government's main lab for renewable energy research.

The U.S. issues up to 40,040 visas each year to workers in the category of the affected immi-

grants, but it limits how many visas can be issued to immigrants of any single country. That's created huge backlogs for immigrants from India and China, countries with large numbers of highly skilled workers who want to stay in the United States.

Last year, President Barack Obama issued an executive order seeking to streamline the U.S. legal immigration system.

The case has garnered attention from members of Congress, some of whom criticized the State Department's handling of the matter, as well as top companies. On Sunday, Microsoft Corp., Google Inc., Intel Corp., Halliburton Co. and several other businesses joined the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, immigration lawyers and others in

sending a letter to Secretary of State John Kerry and Homeland Security Secretary Jeh Johnson urging them to abide by the original bulletin.

They called the government's handling of the matter "heart-breaking for these immigrants and deeply troubling for all who observed the process," and they argued that the government could allow the immigrants to file the paperwork — and start receiving the benefits that come with doing so — even if the actual green cards aren't immediately available.

"This situation and its aftereffects ultimately contribute to the ever-growing impairment of our country's ability to attract and retain the best talent in the world," they wrote.

Hyderabad, India, natives Amar Dhamanaboina and Ashok Sirupa, who each work as information technology consultants in Dallas, said Wednesday they were discouraged by the judge's decision. Sirupa said he spent more than \$2,300 on legal and medical fees to prepare his application, and that he recently declined a lucrative job offer because he hasn't been able to file his final green card paperwork.

"Politicians are discussing a lot of things about immigration, but they're not talking about us, about legal immigrants," Dhamanaboina said. "We're doing our jobs. We're paying our taxes. Our kids were born here and they're going to school here. We're contributing to this country." AP

USA

Chinese immigrant pleads guilty to killing 5 relatives with meat cleaver

A Chinese immigrant who authorities said butchered five relatives with a meat cleaver in a fit of jealousy, including four small children, will serve at least 125 years in prison after pleading guilty Wednesday to murder and manslaughter charges.

Mingdong Chen admitted that he killed his cousin's wife, 37-year-old Qiao Zhen Li, and her children, Linda, 9; Amy, 7; Kevin, 5; and William Zhou, 18 months; in October 2013.

The 27-year-old showed

no visible reaction as he entered his plea. Under a deal with prosecutors, Chen must serve at least 125 years in prison before becoming eligible for parole.

Prosecutors said Li called her mother-in-law in China on the evening of Oct. 27, 2013, saying Chen was in the house with a knife and threatening the family. When the mother-in-law heard children crying in the background, she called other relatives in New York who rushed to the home in Brooklyn's Sunset Park

neighborhood. By the time they arrived, the five relatives were dead and Chen was dripping in blood.

Police said the family had been slaughtered, each of the five repeatedly stabbed and slashed in the throat and neck. Their bodies were found strewn about the house. Chen had been staying in their home for about a week before the killings, authorities said.

When detectives questioned him, Chen told them he was jealous of the success of his fellow

Chinese immigrants, police said. Relatives said he had been fired from different restaurant jobs.

But exactly what set off Chen's rampage remains a mystery, one that left family members, prosecutors and the judge with a burning question.

"The question is why he'd do these things," state Supreme Court Judge Vincent Del Giudice said. "It really doesn't much matter."

Assistant District Attorney Mark Hale said prosecutors offered Chen



Mingdong Chen is arraigned in Brooklyn criminal court in New York

the deal because it would spare Li's husband and other relatives from having "to relive the worst day of their lives." Hale said they also wanted to ensure that Chen would publicly admit to the killings. Li's husband was in court Wednesday but declined to comment.

In 2014, a Brooklyn judge ruled that Chen was not competent to stand trial because he had exhibited signs of mental illness that made him incapable of being able to assist in his own defense.

Chen's attorney, Danielle Eaddy, declined to comment. AP

Chinese tourist glass walkway closed after cracks appear

TOURISM officials have closed a newly opened glass walkway in a central China scenic spot after cracks appeared in the structure at the height of the weeklong National Day holiday.

The glass walkway in Henan province's Yuntaishan scenic area had been supporting dozens of tourists on Monday when the cracks appeared with a loud bang. A single pane of the 68-meter long section shattered into coin-sized segments, according to footage on state broadcaster CCTV.

Postings to Weibo described the fears of tourists who heard the panel crack

The area's management bureau said on its microblog yesterday that there was no threat to safety because only one of the three layers of glass that make up the walkway was damaged. It said investigators were looking into the cause of the fissures and added that the walkway is able to support weights of more than 800 kilograms per square meter.

Postings to China's Twitter-like Weibo messaging service described the fears of tourists who heard the panel crack, but there were no indications of mass panic or injuries.

The structure hugs a cliff side roughly 120 meters above a canyon in the remote mountain areas renowned for its



A couple walks across the suspension bridge wearing protective shoe coverings

scenery. It opened on Sept. 20, just in time for China's weeklong Oct. 1 National Day holiday.

A glass walkway above London's famed Tower Bridge suffered a similar accident in November after a falling bottle shattered the topmost layer of one of its panes that was designed to be easily replaceable if damaged.

Such walkways have grown popular

in China as scenic areas compete to attract increasingly affluent Chinese tourists. Among them is the world's highest and longest glass skywalk located in Hunan province's Zhangjiajie, known as the model for the planet Pandora in the film Avatar. The structure stretches 430 meters (1,410 feet) at a height of 300 meters (984) above the canyon floor.

Governor of Fujian province in corruption investigation



Su Shulin

THE governor of China's economically vital eastern province of Fujian has been placed under investigation amid President Xi Jinping's ongoing attack on corruption at all levels of government.

Su Shulin is suspected of "serious violations of discipline," according to a one-sentence statement issued by the ruling Communist Party's corruption watchdog body, the Central Commission for Discipline Inspection.

No details were given, although the term usually applies to accusations of corruption and abuse of power.

Su took over as Fujian governor in 2011 after a lengthy career in the oil industry, which has been a major target of anti-corruption investigators.

Starting as a geologist in the northeastern Daqing oil patch, Su rose to general manager of China's largest oil refiner, Sinopec, before moving into the provincial government offices. He is among the highest-ranking serving officials to be caught up in the anti-corruption dragnet launched soon after Xi's assumption of China's presidency in March 2013.

China's state-dominated energy sector has come under special scrutiny under Xi's crackdown, partly because of its role as a power-base for political rivals.

A former state security chief and member of the ruling party's inner circle, Zhou Yongkang, who held key positions in the state oil sector, was sentenced to life in prison in June for corruption and other crimes.

Another former Sinopec general manager, Wang Tianpu, has also been placed under investigation for corruption, a step that almost always leads to criminal charges, prosecution and a lengthy prison sentence. **AP**

Foreign exchange reserves fall USD43.3 billion in September

CHINA'S foreign exchange reserves shrank again last month in a sign the country's central bank continues to support the currency's exchange rate after a surprise devaluation. But the smaller size of September's fall indicates receding pressure on the currency.

Central bank data show that the reserves fell by USD43.3 billion in September after declining a record \$93.9 billion the previous month.

That still leaves China with the world's biggest hoard of foreign currency reserves, at \$3.514 trillion.

Beijing's shock move to devalue the tightly controlled yuan by more than 2 percent on Aug. 11 roiled global financial markets and fueled bets by currency traders that it



A Chinese couple chat as a model poses next to a Mercedes-Benz AMG GT S model on display during a promotional event at a shopping mall in Beijing

would fall further.

The central bank responded by selling off dollars to ease downward pressure on the exchange rate.

The devaluation's officially stated goal was to make China's currency, which is also known as the renminbi, more market oriented. But the ti-

ming of the move, coming after months of dismal economic data and stock market declines, raised concerns that Beijing was also trying to give its struggling exporters a price advantage.

Analysts said the smaller decline in reserves last month indicates that pressure is easing somewhat on the currency.

"It appears that as expectations for a rate hike by the U.S. Fed have been pushed back and Chinese growth concerns have receded somewhat, capital outflows out of China have eased," said Julian Evans-Pritchard of Capital Economics.

"As a result, the PBOC has been able to continue to hold the renminbi stable while also stepping back from FX intervention."

Beijing steadily amassed its foreign exchange currency stockpile over the past two decades through buying dollars to prevent the yuan from rising too fast against the greenback and hurting Chinese exporters. **AP**

MYANMAR

Jesters who were jailed for joking get serious for elections



Lu Maw, right, speaks as his wife Ma Ni, dressed in traditional costume, performs during an evening show of the Mustache Brothers in Mandalay, the second largest city in Myanmar

Min Kyi Thein, Mandalay

DURING Myanmar's darkest days of dictatorship, the Mustache Brothers' brazen, sarcastic stabs at military leaders won them nationwide notoriety, and fans. While the feisty comedic duo continues to draw large crowds under the nominally civilian government, there is one subject they refuse to poke fun at: Upcoming general elections. After all, they say, the country's future is at stake, and it's time to get serious.

As the sun sets on the city of Mandalay, a crowd forms and the two men start stressing the importance of voting for the National League for Democracy. The opposition party's popularity is tied closely to its leader, Aung San Suu Kyi, who spent 15 years under house arrest when the junta ruled as she called for respect for human rights, the rule of law and national reconciliation.

"Our people have suffered from bad politics since 1962," said the extravagantly mustachioed Lu Maw. "There's been so much damage in the past. That's why it is so important for all of us."

"Everybody wants real change," the 65-year-old added, "so it is so important the NLD wins."

Myanmar started transi-

tioning from a half-century of brutal military rule to democracy five years ago. But it's been a bumpy road. Early reforms implemented by nominally civilian leaders — including the release of junta-era political prisoners and the freeing up of the media — have stalled or started backsliding.

Many believe the country's old military rulers are still pulling the strings, and that they will continue to do so even if the NLD wins the majority of seats in Parliament — as most experts predict.

When Myanmar goes to polls on Nov. 8, the Mustache Brothers want people to be out there, exercising their newfound rights to vote. If they do?

"Oh, the NLD will win by a landslide!" says clean-shaven Lu Zaw, 63. "I would say the NLD will win the coming election for sure, as long as it is free and fair."

The Mustache Brothers — they are actually cousins — perform regularly at their house-turned-theater in Mandalay and, these days, on the streets campaigning.

As evening falls, the pair are in full swing. One yells out, "Please don't steal anything. The government does not like competition." The other parades around with a sign that says "Competition."

Though now fixtures on the tourist trail, many years ago

they were the jesters who were too edgy for the generals.

That story goes back to 1996. Irked by one particular show the junta arrested two of the then-three-man team. They served five years in prison with hard labor.

One of those who was jailed has since died. Today the surviving Mustache Brothers still make fun of the current leaders. But the ordeal left its mark. With the prospect of real political change approaching there are some things too serious to joke about.

"I have no plan to tell jokes about the election because I don't want to cause a disturbance," says Lu Maw, who avoided prison because he didn't perform on the fateful night.

"This is a very important time for us and I'm taking it very seriously. I don't want to detract from the election's meaning by my jokes."

The Mustache Brothers have a special relationship with Suu Kyi. The infamous performance that sent them to prison took place at her home in Yangon, at an Independence Day celebration. She's never forgotten what happened, and they are devoted to her.

"Vote for the NLD!" the men chant as the audience breaks out into a dance. "They are the guiding star of the people!" AP



Rolando del Torchio

PHILIPPINES

Armed forces mount massive search for abducted Italian

PHILIPPINE forces mounted land and at sea searches yesterday for a former Italian Catholic missionary a day after he was abducted by gunmen in the south, where he has lived for years despite a history of attacks against fellow Italian priests, officials said.

At least six men, some armed with rifles, dragged Rolando del Torchio from his pizza restaurant into a van and then to two motor boats and fled under cover of darkness Wednesday from Dipolog city in Zamboanga del Norte province, city police chief Superintendent Ranie Hachuela said.

Del Torchio's abduction came after two Canadian tourists, a Norwegian and a Filipino woman were kidnapped last month from an upscale marina on Samal Island in Davao del Norte province, also in the south. There has been no trace of the four.

The abductions have been the latest reminder of the long-running security problems that have hounded the region, which has bountiful resources and promises but is hamstrung by poverty and an array of insurgents and outlaws.

Hachuela said security cameras caught images of some of the gunmen and that may help

authorities identify them.

Air force helicopters, navy patrol boats and army and police forces were deployed Thursday to search coastal areas and suspected hideouts, including in southern Sulu province, where al-Qaida-linked Abu Sayyaf militants have held hostages for ransom in jungle camps.

But police said they do not know who is behind the latest kidnappings.

Del Torchio was an agriculturist who became a missionary with the Pontifical Institute for Foreign Missions, a Catholic group founded in Italy which has about 500 members in 17 countries. He helped farmers hone their skills and set up cooperatives in poor communities, according to a colleague, Father Gianni Re.

"He's a very approachable person," Re said by phone, adding that del Torchio left the Catholic mission several years ago but stayed on in the region even though three Catholic missionaries from the institute have been kidnapped and two others killed in the past three decades.

Re, who heads the institute in the Philippines, said 10 other Italian missionaries are still working in the southern Philippines.

CAMBODIA

Gov't to increase garment industry minimum wage

CAMBODIA says it will raise the minimum wage in its clothing industry by 9.4 percent to USD140 a month.

The increase falls short of labor unions' \$160 proposal.

A Labor Ministry statement said Thursday it was increasing the wages on instructions from Prime Minister Hun Sen after eight days of tense negotiations in a committee representing em-

ployers, workers and the government.

The new wages take effect at the beginning of next year.

Three years ago, a militant union campaign to double the then-minimum wage of \$80 in the textile, garment and footwear industries resulted in clashes with police and a crackdown on public protests. A \$100 level was set for 2014 and \$128 this year. AP

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USA

Clinton opposes Pacific trade deal in major break with Obama

Lisa Lerer & Catherine Lucey,
Mount Vernon (Iowa)

HILLARY Rodham Clinton declared her opposition to the Trans-Pacific Partnership trade accord yesterday, her most significant break with President Barack Obama since launching her campaign for the Democratic presidential nomination.

"I think there are still a lot of unanswered questions," she said of the big trade deal in an interview with PBS' "Newshour." "As of today, I am not in favor of what I have learned about it."

Her push-back against the chief economic proposal of Obama's second term is a blow to the president, undermining his arguments to Congress as the White House is in the final stretch of winning approval of a deal years in the making.

Clinton joins the rest of the Democratic field in challenging a trade pact that's enraged the labor unions, environmentalists and other liberal constituencies whose support will be crucial to her electoral success. With several months to go before the primary process starts, Clinton remains the front-runner for her party's nomination.

Her position on the agreement also marks a striking reversal for the former secretary of state, who promoted the deal in dozens of appearances during Obama's first term in office. During a 2012 trip to Australia, she called it the "gold standard in trade agreements."

In the interview, Clinton said the agreement does not meet her standard for creating jobs, raising wages and protecting national security. She raised specific concerns about a potential for currency manipulation by China and provisions



Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Rodham Clinton reacts to a supporter before speaking at a community forum

that she said would benefit pharmaceutical companies at the expense of patients.

"I don't believe it's going to meet the high bar I have set," she said.

The united opposition from the Democratic presidential field leaves Obama in the uncomfortable position of watching a Democratic debate

I don't believe [the TPP] is going to meet the high bar I have set.

HILLARY R. CLINTON
PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE (D)

next week in which none of the major candidates is willing to defend a deal that the White House sees as a key piece of his presidential legacy.

Clinton's chief Democratic rival so far, Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders, has vocally opposed the TPP. Her announcement comes as Vice President Joe Biden considers entering the race, and labor group have warned his support of the pact would hurt his standing with unions.

Obama and many Republican lawmakers favor the accord, saying it will greatly help the U.S. economy by boosting exports of American products.

Clinton's campaign and the Obama administration have always said the time would come when she would outline her own policies and deliver criticisms, implied and direct,

of the president.

Last month, she came out against the Keystone XL pipeline, which would carry oil from Canada to the U.S. Gulf Coast; the administration remains undecided.

In August, she said Obama's decision to approve offshore drilling in the Arctic wasn't "worth the risk" to the environment. She subtly resurrected her 2008 primary attack of Obama's approach to world affairs, taking a more hawkish stance toward Russia, Syria and Iran. And she's promised to work to repeal the "Cadillac tax," a tax on high-cost employer-sponsored insurance that the Obama administration says is necessary to fund the health care law.

On both immigration and gun control, she has also pledged

to use executive power as president to do more than Obama.

On immigration, she cited Obama's deportation policy this week and said, "I'm not going to be breaking up families. And I think that is one of the differences."

Still, she added, "I totally understand why the Obama administration felt as though they did what they did under the circumstances."

Campaign veterans in the White House say the impact of Clinton's departures from Obama policies are minor and they dismiss some of her proposals as routine campaign fodder. Candidates use policy plans to declare their priorities. Worries over practical implementation come later.

Clinton aides know she must tread lightly when it comes to criticizing Obama, given that much of her strategy relies on the still-loyal coalition of African-Americans, Latinos, women and younger voters that twice elected Obama. But at the same time, they say she must find ways to distinguish herself — and undercut Republican attacks that Clinton would simply provide a third Obama term.

Many of Clinton's top aides joined her campaign from the White House and the two staffs remain in frequent communication.

Before Clinton announced her opposition to the Keystone pipeline and gun proposals, campaign staff alerted the White House. After Obama last week appeared to deride her proposal for a no-fly zone over Syria, aides called to make sure Clinton understood the criticism wasn't aimed at her, according to a senior White House official who spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss private conversations. **AP**

Las Vegas doctor denies sexually assaulting patients

A Las Vegas physician stood shackled in court and pleaded not guilty yesterday to drugging and sexually assaulting at least 14 patients, including a 16-year-old girl whose alleged attack was videotaped.

An indictment filed last week accuses Bin Minh "Ben" Chung of 24 charges including lewdness, sexual assault, administering a drug in the commission of a felony, and a kidnapping charge that could bring a life sentence if he's

convicted.

Chung, 41, is a family practice doctor. He was arrested June 20 on suspicion of possession of child pornography and his medical license was suspended June 23 by the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners.

The charges were upgraded after police identified some women in videos and others came forward.

Chung's defense attorney, Christopher Oram, declined to comment

outside court.

Prosecutors Alexander Chen and James Sweetin said outside court that a 15th victim depicted in video remained unidentified.

The case came to light after Chung's wife told police she found a number of videos of him having sex with women and the teenage girl, according to a police report.

The girl later told investigators she became unconscious after being gi-

ven an injection during what Chung told her was treatment for acne in July 2014, and remembered waking at one point with some of her clothes removed.

The girl's mother told police that Chung's wife had contacted her.

Chung is being held at the Clark County jail on USD5 million bail.

Clark County District Court Judge Kathleen Delaney scheduled trial July 25, 2016. **AP**

TV canal macau



FRIDAY

13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:30	RTPi Live
18:20	Trail of Lies (Repeated)
19:10	TDM Talkshow (Repeated)
19:40	Soap Opera
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:15	News
21:45	Miscellaneous
22:10	Trail of Lies
23:00	TDM News
23:30	UEFA Euro 2016 Qualifiers: Portugal - Denmark (Repeated)
01:10	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)

SATURDAY

10:45	Boonie Bears S.2
11:45	Young Adult
12:10	Cooking
12:30	Cooking
13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:30	Soap Opera
18:10	News
18:30	Contest
19:20	Miscellaneous
19:50	Macau 360° (Repeated)
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	Drama
22:00	Drama
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Shorts

SUNDAY

10:30	Young Children
11:00	Sunday Mass
12:00	Miscellaneous
12:30	Miscellaneous
13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:30	Zig Zag
16:30	Young Adult
17:20	Documentary Serie
17:50	Miscellaneous
18:20	Miscellaneous
18:50	Action
19:45	Comedy
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	Contraponto
22:00	To Walk Again - A Medical Miracle
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Non-Daily Portuguese News
23:55	UEFA Euro 2016 Qualifiers: Serbia - Portugal (Live)

offbeat

CANADIAN UNIVERSITY HEAD PROPOSED ROCKET SPACEFLIGHT IN 1861

Rocket-based spaceflight was proposed 30 years earlier than previously thought by a Canadian university head, a space historian says.

Historian Robert Godwin says William Leitch of Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario, accurately described the concept of reaching space by rocket in 1861.

Previous histories of spaceflight credited Russian Konstantin Tsiolkovsky and American Robert Goddard with the first scientific proposals of rocket-powered space travel in the late 1800s.

Both claimed science-fiction author Jules Verne as their inspiration. Godwin says Leitch published his thoughts four years before Verne's famous "space gun" in "From the Earth to the Moon."

Godwin's findings were published Sunday in "The First Scientific Concept of Rockets for Space Travel."

Godwin says Leitch was a scientist who predicted that a rocket would work most efficiently space's vacuum.

cinema



CINETEATRO

08 Oct - 14 Oct

THE MARTIAN

ROOM 1
(2D) 2.15, 4.45, 9.45 pm
(3D) 7.15 pm

Director: Ridley Scott

Starring: Matt Damon, Jessica Chastain, Kate Mara

Language: English (Cantonese)

Duration: 141min



THE WALK

ROOM 2
2.30, 4.45, 9.30 pm

Director: Robert Zemeckis

Starring: Joseph Gordon-Levitt, Ben Kingsley, Charlotte Le Bon

Language: English (Cantonese)

Duration: 123min

THE INTERN

ROOM 2

7.15 pm

Director: Nancy Meyers

Starring: Robert De Niro, Anne Hathaway

Language: English (Cantonese)

Duration: 121min



SAVING MR WU

ROOM 3
2.30, 4.30, 9.30 pm

Director: Sheng Ding

Starring: Andy Lau, Ye Liu, Wu Ruofu, Qianyuan Wang

Language: Mandarin (Cantonese/ English)

Duration: 105min



HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA 2

ROOM 3

7.30 pm

Director: Genndy tartakovsky

Language: Cantonese (Chinese/English)

Duration: 89min

MACAU TOWER

01 Oct - 14 Oct

THE MARTIAN

2.30, 4.45, 7.15, 9.30 pm

Director: Ridley Scott

Starring: Matt Damon, Jessica Chastain, Kate Mara

Language: English (Cantonese)

Duration: 141min

this day in history



1967 CHE GUEVARA 'SHOT DEAD'

Marxist revolutionary Ernesto 'Che' Guevara has reportedly been killed during a battle between army troops and guerrillas in the Bolivian jungle.

A statement issued by the commander of the Eighth Bolivian Army Division, Colonel Joaquin Zenteno Anaya, said the 39-year-old guerrilla leader was shot dead near the jungle village of Higuera, in the south-east of the country.

Guevara, former right-hand man to Cuban prime minister, Fidel Castro, disappeared from the political scene in April 1965 and his whereabouts have been much debated since.

His death has been reported several times during the past two-and-a-half years, in the Congo and in the Dominican Republic, but has never been proven.

In his statement, Colonel Anaya said Guevara was one of six guerrillas killed in today's battle. It is understood five Bolivian soldiers were also killed in the clash.

Guevara's body is due to be flown by helicopter to La Paz later today. It is understood that his hands have been amputated for identification purposes.

Argentine-born Che Guevara, an experienced guerrilla leader, was a member of Fidel Castro's "26th of July Movement" which seized power in Cuba in 1959.

He rose quickly through the political ranks, becoming head of the National Bank and ultimately Minister of Industries, and many saw him as the intellectual force behind Castro's government.

But amid rumours of differences with Castro, largely on guerrilla warfare policies, and a desire to further his revolutionary ideals in other parts of Latin America, he resigned in April 1965 and disappeared. Some say he was dismissed although there has never been evidence of this.

It is known he still maintained ties with the Organisation for Latin American Solidarity (OLAS), a group dedicated to "uniting, coordinating and stepping-up the struggle against United States imperialism on the part of all the exploited peoples of Latin America."

His death comes less than two months after an OLAS conference in Havana which highlighted the need for further armed guerrilla action in South America.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

A post mortem examination on Che Guevara's body, carried out two days after his death, suggested he had not in fact been killed in battle but had been captured and executed a day later.

His body was buried in an unmarked grave near Valle Grande and his remains were not found until June 1997, when they were returned to Cuba.

Following his death, Guevara became a hero of Third World socialist revolutionary movements and remains a much-admired romantic figure to this day.

He was born Ernesto Rafael Guevara de la Serna in Rosario, Argentina on 14 June 1928.

As a teenager he was reading left-wing literature, by Marx and Lenin, and frequently took part in riots against the Peronistas in Argentina.

He qualified as a doctor in 1953 but left Argentina soon afterwards to travel around South America, during which time he became involved in many left-wing movements.

Bitterly anti-American, he joined forces with Castro in Mexico in 1956 and was one of 12 survivors of the failed Cuban take-over in the same year.

It was also during 1956 that he married his first wife, Peruvian Hilda Gadea, with whom he had one child, but the couple were divorced soon afterwards.

He escaped to the Sierra Maestra, Cuba's vast mountain range, where he established a guerrilla force and from where the successful take-over in 1959 was co-ordinated.

After the Cuban revolution he married Cuban Aleida Marsh and the couple had four children.

YOUR STARS

Aries
Mar. 21-Apr. 19
Rebuild your romance with life. Money doesn't have to be the end all and be all, unless you make it so. Kids, fun, cooking - the list goes on and on, as long as you keep things on the cheap.

Taurus
April 20-May 20
Your relationship with money is becoming one big power struggle, and you're losing. You don't have to bow down to cash; in fact, that won't get you any further ahead. But do be a little less pompous about it all.

Gemini
May 21-Jun. 21
Getting your ideas put into action is the only way to make money, but it's also a way to risk losing it. Your first step is deciding if you can afford to take that kind of chance right now.

Cancer
Jun. 22-Jul. 22
There is no room in your budget for anything extravagant. No bargain basement prices? Then no purchases. Whether or not you deserve it is not the issue at all.

Leo
Jul. 23-Aug. 22
Get a grip on yourself. You may be losing your money, but that's no reason to lose your warmth or your heart. Find the leak that you had plugged with money and find another way to block it.

Virgo
Aug. 23-Sept. 22
If everyone around you is in the same boat, can you still call yourself the underdog? You may be worth less than you were a year ago, but join the crowd, and don't brag about how much is left.

Libra
Sep.23-Oct. 22
Thinking about your finances should be like looking at the big picture, not the details. This is a long term commitment. In the time it takes to paint a painting, you could win and lose and win again.

Scorpio
Oct. 23 - Nov. 21
Being your own boss can be a problem. If you're solely responsible for where your money goes, then you should be calling yourself on the carpet right about now. Rise to the challenge.

Sagittarius
Nov. 22-Dec. 21
You're better off counting your blessings than your money, and it suits you better, too. In fact, your biggest advantage in life is your optimism. So while fortunes come and go, continue to smile.

Capricorn
Dec. 22-Jan. 19
Business problems cloud everything in your day. People appear as things they are not, but not because of their need to hide. It's more your projections that get in the way.

Aquarius
Jan. 20-Feb. 18
You're past the point of compromise, if only because you simply can't afford to anymore. The only thing left for you is to enter into the power struggle fully, and don't stop until you have your opponent pinned to the mat.

Pisces
Feb.19-Mar. 20
You need a break from it all, for your own health. The way to do it is to keep as busy as possible. Try to keep your mind from wandering, because even your fantasies are too much like reality.

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Easy

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

Easy+

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

Medium

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

Hard

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

WEATHER

	MIN	MAX	CONDITION
CHINA			
Beijing	7	20	clear
Harbin	2	13	cloudy
Tianjin	11	21	clear/cloudy
Urumqi	7	19	clear
Xi'an	9	21	cloudy/clear
Lhasa	5	20	cloudy
Chengdu	16	23	drizzle
Chongqing	19	23	drizzle
Kunming	13	15	heavy rain
Nanjing	15	22	overcast/cloudy
Shanghai	18	23	drizzle/cloudy
Wuhan	15	23	cloudy
Hangzhou	17	23	drizzle/overcast
Taipei	24	26	heavy rain
Guangzhou	24	29	cloudy
Hong Kong	25	29	cloudy
WORLD			
Moscow	-3	4	flurry/drizzle
Frankfurt	10	18	overcast/drizzle
Paris	6	15	cloudy
London	9	15	cloudy
New York	17	19	cloudy

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- SeaWorld attraction; 6- Greased; 11- Back muscle, briefly; 14- Stationery brand; 15- Benjamin; 16- Old English letter; 17- Betrothal; 19- Never, in Nuremberg; 20- D.C. VIP; 21- Bunches; 22- More strange; 24- Actor Baldwin; 25- Mystery; 26- Capital of Utah; 30- Bony prefix; 31- Dispenser candy; 32- Catch; 36- Beauty of "Superman"; 37- Irrigated; 41- Stray; 42- Simplicity; 44- Opposite of post-; 45- Lout; 47- Standing alone; 51- Forbidding; 54- Mild oath; 55- Tries to bite; 56- Burn the midnight oil, studying; 57- Safety device; 60- Bearded grazer; 61- Irrigate beneath ground level; 64- Orch. section; 65- Maine college town; 66- Horselike African mammal; 67- Univ. aides; 68- More recent; 69- Ford flop;

DOWN: 1- Tennis matches are divided into these; 2- Fabled loser; 3- Like ___ of bricks; 4- Witticism; 5- Desecrate; 6- Word of the hour?; 7- Monogram ltr.; 8- Limb of a felled tree; 9- Put out, in the old days; 10- Sense; 11- Bolshevik leader; 12- Old French expression meaning "goodbye"; 13- Unit of heat; 18- Entreaty; 23- Beams; 24- Corroded; 25- Super server; 26- Unit of loudness; 27- On or towards the Mediterranean, for example; 28- Former Fords; 29- Fencing swords; 33- "M*A*S*H" soft drink; 34- Elvis's middle name; 35- Alcoholic drink; 38- An opening; 39- Corner; 40- Make more active; 43- Young newts; 46- Append; 48- Logic; 49- Abject fear; 50- Thickening agent; 51- Emo anxiety; 52- Utah's ___ Mountains; 53- Urges; 56- Silver screen; 57- Apprehends; 58- Versailles verb; 59- Blue hue; 62- Fiddle stick; 63- H.S. proficiency test

Yesterday's solution

A	B	B	A	S	C	A	B	P	A	R	T	S		
H	E	L	M	T	A	R	E	A	W	A	R	D		
A	D	I	A	A	L	G	A	R	A	Z	E	S		
S	E	N	S	A	T	I	O	N	A	L	I	Z	E	
S	T	E	P											
G	S	A	S	H	T	R	A	Y	A	T	A			
O	T	T	E	R		E	E	N	A	R	U	N		
N	O	T	W	I	T	H	S	T	A	N	D	I	N	G
E	R	I	E	H	O	T		O	A	S	E	S		
R	E	C	R	O	O	S	T	E	R	E	S	T		
R	E	P	R	E	S	E	N	T	A	T	I	V	E	
L	O	R	R	E		S	A	N	E	A	V	I	V	
S	T	E	E	L		S	T	I	R	K	A	N	E	
D	A	I	S	Y		S	A	C	S		E	N	E	R

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
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Rob Harris, Jamey Keaten

FIFA suspends Sepp Blatter and Michel Platini for 90 days

SEPP Blatter and UEFA President Michel Platini, the former France great who had been favored to take over as FIFA leader, were both suspended for 90 days yesterday, plunging soccer's governing body deeper into crisis.

Blatter and Platini were suspended by the FIFA ethics committee in the wake of a Swiss criminal investigation. The decision seemingly ends Platini's bid to succeed Blatter as FIFA president in the emergency election in February.

Another presidential hopeful, Chung Mong-joon, was suspended for six years in a separate case and FIFA secretary general Jerome Valcke was banned for 90 days.

The suspensions can be extended by up to 45 days.

The International Olympic Committee called on FIFA to consider a "credible external presidential candidate of high integrity" as Blatter's replacement.

"Enough is enough," IOC President Thomas Bach said. "We hope that now, finally, everyone at FIFA has at last understood that they cannot continue to remain passive."

"They must act swiftly to regain credibility because you cannot forever dissociate the credibility of FIFA from the credibility of football."

Issa Hayatou, the longtime head of the African soccer confederation who was reprimanded in 2011 by the IOC in a FIFA kickbacks scandal, will take over as acting president.

The 69-year-old Cameroonian, who has a serious kidney illness that requires regular



UEFA president Michel Platini (left) and FIFA president Sepp Blatter

dialysis sessions, is currently in Yaounde and is expected to travel to Zurich immediately.

Hayatou said he would not stand for president in February but remained committed to the reform process.

"We will also continue to cooperate fully with authorities and follow the internal investigation wherever it leads," Hayatou said in a statement.

The interim leader of UEFA will be Spanish federation head Angel Maria Villar, who remains at risk of being sanctioned from the FIFA ethics committee in its investigation of the

2018 and 2022 World Cup bidding contests.

UEFA's 54 member nations are due to meet in Nyon, Switzerland, next Thursday, while FIFA vice president David Gill and fellow executive committee member Wolfgang Niersbach have called for an emergency meeting of FIFA's ruling body.

Blatter's suspension brings a sudden halt to a 40-year career that had survived waves of scandals until he was placed under criminal investigation.

Last month, Swiss authorities turned up at Blatter's office at FIFA headquarters and inter-

rogated him. The criminal case centers on Blatter allegedly misusing FIFA money by making a \$2 million payment to Platini, who was questioned as a witness.

Blatter was also questioned by Swiss investigators about broadcasting contracts sold to former FIFA vice president Jack Warner in 2005 that were supposedly undervalued.

Blatter's lawyer, Richard Cullen, said the ethics committee failed to follow procedure and based its decision on a "misunderstanding."

"The attorney general in Switzerland ... opened an investi-

gation but brought no charge against the president," Cullen said in a statement. "In fact, the prosecutors will be obliged by law to dismiss the case if their investigation, barely two weeks old, does not establish sufficient evidence."

"President Blatter looks forward to the opportunity to present evidence that will demonstrate that he did not engage in any misconduct, criminal or otherwise."

There was no immediate comment from Platini.

The suspension of the former France great could have the most far-reaching implications. Platini submitted his formal candidacy to stand in the Feb. 26 election to replace Blatter yesterday. That means it will have to be considered by the audit and compliance committee after the Oct. 26 deadline for candidacies.

Chung, a former FIFA vice president, was found guilty of breaches relating to the investigation into bidding for the 2022 World Cup, of which South Korea was a contender. Valcke had already been put on leave last month after being the subject of allegations over a deal for black market sales of tickets to 2014 World Cup matches.

Valcke's lawyer, Barry Berke, said the Frenchman was the subject of "false allegations." AP

BOXING

Heavyweight champ Klitschko on schedule for November return

Greg Beacham, Beverly Hills

WHLADIMIR Klitschko is on schedule in his recovery from an injured left calf, and the heavyweight champion says he will be ready to defend his title belts against Tyson Fury next month.

Klitschko will begin training in less than two weeks at his usual camp in the Austrian Alps, the champ said Wednesday while taking a brief break from rehabilitation in California.

The fight was delayed five weeks after Klitschko was injured in training last month. The bout was rescheduled for Nov. 28 at Esprit Arena in Duesseldorf, Germany, whe-

re a capacity crowd of 55,000 is still expected despite the date change.

Klitschko (64-3, 53 KOs) had never hurt his calf before, but he knew rest and recovery would be preferable to fighting while injured, as Manny Pacquiao did against Floyd Mayweather Jr. in May.

"I've had a lot of injuries in 25 years, and some of them, you can compete and you're fine," Klitschko said. "With others, you can't. It depends. Is it really worth it to you to try it? You don't want to be handicapped when you get the fight and then hear something like unfortunately we heard from Pacquiao, saying, 'Well, I walked into the fight and had a shoulder

injury,' which is not a good statement to say after the fight."

Even with the five-week delay, almost no fans returned their tickets in Germany, where Klitschko is wildly popular.

The 39-year-old Klitschko hopes for even bigger fights in 2016, including a title unification bout with WBC champion Deontay Wilder, hopefully on pay-per-view in Las Vegas or New York. Both fighters have publicly been eager to meet each other, but Klitschko has no idea whether they can resolve the politics of sanctioning bodies and Wilder's management team at Haymon Boxing.

"I look forward to getting it done," Klitschko said.

"Do I have to? No. Do I feel pressure? No, I don't."

Klitschko has dreamed about unifying the belts since the retirement of his brother, Vitali, the longtime WBC champion. He hopes to entice Wilder, his former sparring partner, into the ring with the weight of history.

"Now I'm going to be a little bit cocky: It doesn't matter how long Wilder or somebody else, (Alexander) Povetkin, I don't know, who else could possibly hold this title," Klitschko said. "They're not going to be called the heavyweight champion. They need to go through me. I've been around for a long time, and you've got to respect that. I will work on it, and I hope it's



WBO, WBA, IBF and IBO heavyweight champion Wladimir Klitschko presents his championship belts during a news conference in Duesseldorf,

going to happen, but if it's not going to happen, am I going to be upset? Well, yeah, but it's all right."

Yet Klitschko and his brother have never been just about boxing. When asked about his future goals, Klitschko speaks

excitedly about a seminar he will teach at the University of St. Gallen in Switzerland early next year, giving his insights on management, motivation and mental strength from his quarter-century in boxing. AP

opinion

Kapok
 Eric Sautédé



THEY TALK, WE LISTEN

It was an epiphany of sorts. It was some kind of astonishment mixed with a sudden surge of exasperation: they were talking, we were listening, and everything had to be absorbed to the full. The scene was taking place on the sidelines of a SJM-sponsored dinner, and the comments were made by two of the most senior managers of the company, who were obviously well sought-after by journalists in attendance.

Mr Ambrose So, SJM's CEO, was asked to comment on the remarks made by Li Gang, the director of the China Liaison Office, which related to the fact that the central authorities would introduce policies to support Macau's battered economy. Mr So naturally appeared very confident that it would be so—we hope that this is what he is suggesting whenever he attends a meeting of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference in Beijing—and that more cities in China will open up to individual travel schemes.

Then Mr So added that it was not only a question of "numbers" but one of "quality", as if he were remembering that a few days back, the Secretary for social affairs and culture, Alexis Tam Chon Weng, had said that "more" was not an option. In the present conditions, we seem to be stuck at 21 million mainland visitors per year. So quality it has to be, not quantity! The question for Mr So is therefore how to, and I quote, "select the quality of visitors... and to attract high-quality and high-spending visitors". What Mr So actually means by "high-spending" is, I am sure, preferably those who are glued to the gaming table!

And then I wondered: but how could one do that and isn't this in contradiction with several policies supported by Beijing? The central authorities and the Macau government itself are advocating for the diversification of the economy. In addition to this, if my memory serves me well, fund transfers to Macao by mainland visitors are strictly limited. And then, if the idea, just like in Bhutan, is to only attract the rich, what do we make of one of the four key components of Xi Jinping's China Dream which is to "comprehensively build a moderately prosperous society"? Are creativity and culture only stemming from wealth? What has SJM done since it opened the Crazy Paris Show in the early 1980s to generate further interest in Macao in order to attract these premium customers—for more than one day, I mean? When was the last time diversification meant a little bit more for SJM than expanding culinary offerings, especially now that the "fish bowl" has gone? Well, the fact that Mr So defines the new game in town as developing Macao into "a center of amusement and leisure" instead of "tourism and leisure" says it all!

As a grand finale, Mr So was asked about the recent scandals and complaints revolving around certain junket operations. For him, junkets are of a different nature at SJM and function strictly within the law. In the words of Mr So, "I checked, they do not follow that same model". He even went as far as embracing "a more regulated market". Again, wasn't it Stanley Ho himself who invented the VIP junket model in the early 1980s? Isn't this model precisely the one that allows for legally registered stakeholders to avoid responsibility and scrutiny regarding credit extension and debt collection? I guess Mr So will not be proven wrong as long as the only solution championed by the DICJ is to create a code of ethics for junkets...

Finally, Mrs Angela Leong, SJM's managing director, rejoiced at the temporary extension of her concession to Macao's canidrome, announcing that SJM would engage into an ambitious renovation plan "to allow for cultural developments, and to allow young people to develop their business." There is no doubt that Mrs Leong is listening more effectively during the meetings of the government's Cultural Industries Committee than the ones of the Legislative Assembly. In any case however, is whistling the tune of the hour enough? The last time SJM's parent company invested money into these dilapidated and shameful facilities was in 1998... slightly better than the 1980s!

THE BUZZ SINGER JULIO IGLESIAS CALLS DONALD TRUMP 'A CLOWN'

Julio Iglesias has jumped into the U.S. political debate, calling Donald Trump "a clown" over the Republican presidential candidate's derogatory comments about Mexican migrants. The singer says he will no longer perform in casinos owned by the real estate tycoon. He says Trump is forgetting what immigrants have

done for the United States. In an interview with the Spanish newspaper La Vanguardia, Iglesias says of Trump: "He's a clown. I have sung many times in his casinos, but I will no longer do it." Iglesias is in Mexico for a couple of concerts before he begins a tour of Asia.

Svetlana Alexievich of Belarus wins Nobel literature prize

Belarusian writer Svetlana Alexievich won the Nobel Prize in literature yesterday for works that chronicled the great tragedies of the Soviet Union and those that followed in the wake of its 1991 collapse. Alexievich, the 14th woman to win the literature award since 1901, used her reporting skills to create literature chronicling World War II, the Soviet war in Afghanistan, the 1986 Chernobyl nuclear disaster and social problems like attempted suicides after the Soviet Union disintegrated.



Belarusian journalist Svetlana Alexievich

It was the first time the Swedish Academy has honored journalistic work, according to its permanent secretary, Sara Danius.

Danius praised the 67-year-old Alexievich as a great and innovative writer who has "mapped the soul" of the Soviet and post-Soviet people. The academy itself said Alexievich was chosen "for her polyphonic writings, a monument to suffering and courage in our time." "She is offering us new and interesting historical material. And she has developed a particular writing style as well, a new literary genre," Danius told The Associated Press. "She has said many times that 'I'm not interested in events, the history of events, I'm interested in the history of emotions' and that's kept her busy for the past 40 years."

Like many intellectuals in Belarus, Alexievich support-

ts the political opponents of authoritarian President Alexander Lukashenko, who is up for re-election on Sunday. Because of her criticism of the government she has periodically lived abroad — including in Italy, France, Germany and Sweden — but now lives in Minsk, the Belarusian capital.

Alexievich told The AP she had not yet received any congratulations from the president, whom she has pithily criticized for years.

"It'd be interesting to see what he's going to do in the situation," she said, speaking on the landing outside her apartment in a Soviet-era block.

The writers group English PEN called Alexievich "a tireless chronicler of voices which might not otherwise be heard," and said it hoped her victory would encourage the Belarus government to improve its human rights record.

At a news conference in

Minsk, the writer said Belarusian authorities simply pretend she doesn't exist.

"They don't print my books here. I can't speak anywhere publicly. Belarusian television never invites me," she said.

But Alexievich said she is unfazed by messages of hate that she sometimes receives from conservative columnists in both Russia and Belarus.

"I think nobody loves the truth. I love the Russian people. I love the Belarusian people," she said.

Her books have been published in 19 countries, with at least five of them translated into English. She also has written three plays and the screenplays for 21 documentary films.

Her first book, "War's Unwomanly Face," published in 1985, was based on the previously untold stories of women who had fought against Nazi Germany. It sold more than 2 million copies.

Alexievich said she was at home ironing when she received the call yesterday from the academy that filled her with both joy and anxiety. Speaking to Swedish broadcaster SVT, Alexievich said winning the award left her with "complicated" emotions. "It immediately evokes such great names as (Ivan) Bunin, (Boris) Pasternak," she said, referring to Russian writers who have won the Nobel Prize for literature. "On the one hand, it's such a fantastic feeling. But it's also a bit disturbing." AP

Station	Air quality
Roadside	50-70 Moderate
High Density Residential Area	95-125 Bad
Ambient	85-115 Bad

SOURCE: DSI/MG

WORLD BRIEFS

NEPAL issues a notice seeking suppliers to bring in fuel by air or by any other means to ease a shortage ahead of the biggest festival celebrated in the Himalayan nation.

NUCLEAR In the backwaters of Eastern Europe, authorities working with the FBI have interrupted four attacks in the past five years by gangs with suspected Russian connections that sought to sell radioactive material to Middle Eastern extremists, The Associated Press has learned. [More on macaudailytimes.com](#)

SYRIA Russian warships in the Caspian Sea fire cruise missiles yesterday as Syrian government troops launch a ground offensive in central Syria, the first major combined air-and-ground assault since Moscow began its military campaign in the country last week.

US-AFGHANISTAN President Barack Obama apologizes to Doctors Without Borders, offers condolences over US attack in Afghanistan. Investigators of the deadly U.S. air attack on a hospital in Afghanistan are looking at whether the decision to open fire broke the military's own rules.

USA Hillary Rodham Clinton declares her opposition to the Trans-Pacific Partnership trade accord, her most significant break with President Barack Obama since launching her campaign for the Democratic presidential nomination. [More on p15](#)

ISRAEL-PALESTINE Palestinian assailants carry out a series of stabbings across Israel, jolting an anxious country unnerved by weeks of violence, as violent clashes between Israeli forces and Palestinian demonstrators spread across the West Bank.

HOLLYWOOD Spike Lee says he hasn't had time to plan what he'll say when he finally gets his Oscar — an honorary one, and about 25 years too late, according to his many fans. But he promises his speech in November will be a positive one, though he still thinks Hollywood has a long way to go to achieve real diversity.

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