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"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN'"

WORLD BRIEFS



JAPAN A defense official said yesterday that Japan is seeking to increase its sales of military equipment to Southeast Asian nations amid growing tensions with China and North Korea. The move is part of Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's push to bolster Japan's military role and its sales of defense equipment, especially in Southeast Asia, where China has expanded its own arms sales. **More on p10**

SINGAPORE Police detained a preschool assistant who shared pro-Islamic State group materials online and intended to travel to Syria, their first arrest of a female Singaporean citizen alleged to be a sympathizer of the radical group. **More on p14**



PHILIPPINES Filipinos marked their country's Independence Day by raising the national flag yesterday in a southern city where troops pressed assaults to quell a three-week siege by Islamic State group-aligned militants that has left 270 combatants and civilians dead. **More on p13**

INDONESIA A strong earthquake yesterday morning rattled part of Indonesia's main island of Java and swayed buildings in the capital, but caused no apparent damage or casualties. **More on p14**

More on backpage



HK plans tech park on swamp by the border

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Health Bureau to amend assisted reproductive services law

P2

Worker dies after iron beam collapses

Yesterday morning, an accident took place in a construction site located at the Avenida Dr. Rodrigo Rodrigues, resulting in the death of a worker and injuring three others. An iron beam weighing approximately six tons, of six meters in length, yielded accidentally during its testing period, hitting the workers, aged between 40 and 50 years old. The three injured workers were sent to two different hospitals after the accident, with all showing signs of diminished consciousness during transportation. Construction works at the affected building were suspended.

DSEJ not forcing Mandarin teaching

Wong Kin Mou, Director of the Department of Research and Educational Resources of the Education and Youth Affairs Bureau (DSEJ), said that the DSEJ absolutely does not require or force any schools to adopt Mandarin as the medium of instruction for Chinese language courses. Wong claimed that students will be more competitive if they possess the ability of communicating bilingually, both in Cantonese and Mandarin. He also noted that most local schools only offer Mandarin courses, typically one to two classes on a weekly basis. With this curriculum structure Cantonese teaching will not be affected.

Factory to be completely demolished next year

The director of the Office for the Development of the Energy Sector (GDSE), Hoi Chi Leong, said that the CEM's power factory, located at the Avenida de Venceslau de Morais, will be completely torn down in the third quarter of 2018. Currently, CEM has already demolished the factory's engine room. The government will supervise the entire demolishing process in accordance with the instructions of the environmental evaluation report regarding the process, Hoi informed. The government has planned to build public housing on the site.

THE director of the Macau Health Bureau (SSM), Lei Chin Ion, announced that the bureau has already started to amend the region's law and regulations regarding Macau's assisted reproductive services. However, those services would not be publicly funded.

On the sidelines of the Pediatric Rehabilitation center's opening ceremony, Lei informed the media that only a few local families seek out artificial conception services in Macau, further disclosing that the majority seeking such services in Macau are mainland residents. "Especially after mainland issued the two-child policy," said Lei. He added that "Macau's needs are not substantial."

The director indicated that there are suspicions that some local clinics are making it easy for customers to obtain these services (see box).

Lei admitted to this situation, explaining that "the technolo-

SSM to amend assisted reproduction law



Lei Chin Ion

gy in Macau is not better than that in Hong Kong or the mainland," and that people choose Macau when searching for assisted reproduction services because "they saw that Macau's related laws had some flaws."

However, as Lei noted, "we are currently using administrative methods to stop it from being abused."

According to Lei, a few mainland websites claim that there are various options in Macau for people interested in assis-

ted reproductive services.

The local government has requested mainland authorities to block these websites which issue false information, and to release correct information to clarify the situation in Macau. **JZ**

CLINICS UNDER INVESTIGATION

LAST WEEK it surfaced that the SSM is investigating four private clinics on the suspicion that these clinical facilities have been offering assisted reproductive services. The bureau informed in a statement that it was alerted that such services were being made

available through the clinics' webpages and consequently conducted a surprise inspection of seven of these medical facilities. In four of the cases, the presence of devices and medicine used for assisted reproduction was detected.

HEALTH

Pediatric Rehabilitation Center inaugurated

Julie Zhu

THE Pediatric Rehabilitation Center, officially established in the Areia Preta Health Center yesterday, is expected to provide better and faster medical assistance to children with developmental difficulties.

Alexis Tam, Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture, informed, during the center's inauguration, that it is expected to serve more than 7,000 requests.

According to Tam, the new center will greatly shorten the waiting time each child endures to get medical treatment after being through an assessment at the pediatric assessment center located in the Centro Hospitalar Conde de São Januário (CHCSJ).

Simultaneously, a children's assessment center's website was launched to broaden the knowledge of the society about developmental difficulties in early childhood.

To meet the needs of an expanded pediatric service, the MSAR government is hiring more professional physicians, establishing more pediatric treatment facilities and spaces, and investing more resources in pediatric services.

The secretary revealed that the Health Bureau, along with the Education and Youth Affairs Bureau, and the Social Welfare Bureau will create a central distribution mechanism of pediatric resources.

Workshops and training courses for parents will also be held to enhance the support to the families in their domestic rehabilitation works.

As disclosed by Tam, CHCSJ's pediatric assessment center has handled more than 1,000 individual cases, with the waiting time for pediatric assessment shortened to one month from the previous nine to twelve months.

Over 70 percent of the total number of evaluated children were said to need further speech, behavior and other types of training. Currently, there are three speech therapists at the rehabilitation center.

In addition, Tam infor-

med that, in the upcoming academic year, the Macao Polytechnic Institute (IPM) will open a physical therapy course and will offer 20 vacancies to interested students.

Tai Wa Hou, adviser at the Office of the Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture, stated that every child with speech difficulties will undergo medium term treatment that will cover, on average, eight to 10 independent treatments.

Tai pointed out that, in the past, a child wou-

ld have to wait one to 10 years until eventually receiving treatment.

Thanks to the opening of this new rehabilitation center, the treatment-waiting period can be reduced to somewhere between a half-year and nine months.

The new rehabilitation center features two speech treatment lounges, one activity lounge and two other occupational treatment lounges. The center can provide treatment to four to six children simultaneously.

Tam claims cultural heritage is protected

ALEXIS Tam, said that the government pays great importance to the protection of the city's cultural heritage.

"Not only do we educate our society for the importance of cultural heritage, but for environmental protection as well," said Tam on the sidelines of the rehabilitation center's inauguration. Tam added that the society and the government should work together towards the dissemination of these two social aspects. Tam claimed that the Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC) will carefully analyze UNESCO's latest documents regarding the protection of cultural heritage in Macau, which criticized some issues and indicated



that the current failure to provide adequate protection could have "serious consequences."

The secretary claimed that the local cultural authority will continue to protect cultural heritage sites under the guidance of UNESCO, China's State Administration of Cultural Heritage supervision and under the local government's supervision.

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DIRECTOR AND EDITOR-IN-CHIEF_Paulo Coutinho paulocoutinho@macaudailytimes.com
MANAGING EDITOR_Paulo Barbosa paulo.barbosa@macaudailytimes.com
CONTRIBUTING EDITORS_Eric Sautedé, Leanda Lee, Severo Portela

NEWSROOM AND CONTRIBUTORS_Alberto Martins, Annabel Jackson, Daniel Beitler, Emilie Tran, Grace Yu, Ivo Carneiro de Sousa, Jacky I.F. Cheong, Jenny Lao-Phillips, João Palla Martins, Joseph Cheung, Julie Zhu, Juliet Risdon, Lynzy Valles, Renato Marques, Richard Whitfield, Rodrigo de Matos (cartoonist), Viviana Segui
DESIGNERS_Eva Bucho, Miguel Bandeira | ASSOCIATE CONTRIBUTORS_JML Property, MdME Lawyers, PokerStars, Ruan Du Toit Bester | NEWS AGENCIES_Associated Press, Bloomberg, Financial Times, MacauHub, MacauNews, Xinhua | SECRETARY_Yang Dongxiao army@macaudailytimes.com

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ADMINISTRATOR AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Kowie Geldenhuys kowie@macaudailytimes.com

SECRETARY_Denise Lo denise@macaudailytimes.com

ADDRESS_Av. da Praia Grande, 599, Edif. Comercial Rodrigues, 12 Floor C, MACAU SAR Telephone: +853 287 160 81/2 Fax: +853 287 160 84

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ARTS

Ox Warehouse to be evicted by year-end

ALTERNATIVE art gallery Ox Warehouse will be evicted from its current site on Avenida do Coronel Mesquita by the end of the year, the association's exhibition curator, Gigi Lee, told the Times this week.

The venue, which is owned by the Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau (IACM), has been leased to Ox Warehouse for approximately 14 years.

"Now, because of a change of policy, they are retaking the venue," said Lee. "I'm not sure exactly why; the IACM have not sent out any documents yet."

"We have until the end of this year to move everything out, [and so] after October we will not have any more exhibitions," she said. "We are trying to look for another place [but] we still have to stop [exhibiting] for some time."

"It is a bit of a shame because we have been running for 14 years," added Lee. "I think we are the only association open for exhibiting experimental art



on a large scale. Of course some other associations are doing a lot of exhibitions, but not the same type of art as us."

■ ■ We are the only association open for exhibiting experimental art on a large scale.

GIGI LEE
CURATOR

Lee believes that the IACM will open a tender process for a new tenant at the association's current site, but admitted that this has not yet been announced.

She also said that Ox Warehouse would struggle to find a large space in the territory suitable for their needs.

The Times attempted to contact IACM to understand the policy change in question and to ascertain what the bureau is planning to do next in the location. No acknowledgement or reply was received by press time. **DB**

361,974 included on Social Security Fund list

THE Social Security Fund (FSS) announced the name list of the special allocation of funds from the budget surplus 2017 for the Provident Fund Individual Accounts yesterday. According to the FSS, this year, a total of 361,974 people are included on the list and 133,207 people are not. To be included on the name list of the special allocation of funds from budget surplus, the person must simultaneously fulfill several requirements, including having stayed in the MSAR for at least 183 days in 2016.

No formalities are required for the individual accounts of those who are already on the list to be allocated MOP7,000. For individuals who are entitled to the allocation of funds for the first time, they will also be allocated the incentive basic fund of MOP10,000.

For individuals who are not included on the list, they will receive a notice if they reach 65 years of age or if they are not included on the list for the first time. The FSS informed that individuals who are not included on the list can file an objection statement.

In addition, there are nearly 60,000 seniors qualified to apply for withdrawal this year. Like last year, the FSS will accept the applications for withdrawal in batches. Seniors aged 75 or older, beneficiaries who have been receiving disability pension from the FSS for more than one year and beneficiaries who are currently receiving special disability subsidy from the SWB, will be given priority to submit their applications in August. Seniors aged between 65 and 74 can submit their applications in September.

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CRIME

Digital scams hitting locals on WeChat

Renato Marques

SEVERAL Macau residents have reportedly been targeted in several cybercrime actions taking place using the WeChat platform, a Judiciary Police (PJ) spokesperson said yesterday in a press conference.

According to the reports, there were at least five crimes related with the mobile app reported in between June 8 and 10, with some cases reporting the loss of several thousands of patacas.

In one of these cases, a 33-year-old male telecommunication technician told the PJ that on June 9, he chatted with a woman on WeChat who told him that she worked in a company that provided the service of tourism guidance.

On the next day, the two chatted again and, allegedly, the woman requested the man to help her by requesting her "service" from the company.

She told the man to keep the receipt of the service request so she could later reimburse him. After that she asked him



to buy a reload card for online games valued at MOP1,300 on her behalf and send her the code and password, which he did.

A few minutes later, he said he received a phone call from a person saying that they were the owner of the company for which the woman worked. During that phone call, the

alleged company owner said the money he had paid was not enough to allow the service asking him to buy a total of 23 reload cards with an amount of over MOP30,000.

The man did as requested within a few hours of the phone call. After the purchase he received another phone call from the same person

asking for more cards. At that point he did not agree to buy more and decided to file the complaint claiming a loss of about MOP32,000.

In a separate case, a woman (35), who holds the manager position at a local tourism agency, was alerted by friends and relatives on June 10 that there were some problems

with her WeChat account as they were receiving requests from someone, in her name, to borrow money.

As she tried to login into her account she realized that she could not do it. When she was able to retrieve her account, she saw in her phone communication from someone, on behalf of her, to one of her friends where she was requesting a loan of RMB3,000.

She then realized that her friend had already fallen into the scam and paid that person through a WeChat transfer.

She informed her friend of the possibility of filing a complaint at the PJ claiming the loss of RMB3,000.

According to the PJ information, between June 8 to June 10, there were reports of at least three more similar cases, all involving local residents, male and female, that told the police they had been targeted with similar cases and then, when alerted by their friends and family, they managed to stop the cybercrime by changing their access passwords on the mobile app.

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GREATER BAY AREA

Hong Kong cozies up to Shenzhen in border swamp to lure startups

Natasha Khan, Enda Curran

IT'S the story of an obscure fishing community that was afforded special trading status and grew to become one of the world's most vibrant economic centers. Then came competition. Just upriver, an even more obscure fishing community was afforded special trading status and soon grew to become one of the world's most vibrant economic centers.

The first was Hong Kong, which rose rapidly after being made a free port in the mid 19th century, becoming a model for free-market capitalism by the time of its return to China 20 years ago. In the past two decades, it has watched the dazzling rise of Shenzhen, just across the Sham Chun River.

Now, officials in Hong Kong have an ambitious proposal to link the two via a technology park on a disputed swamp by the border that aims to revitalize Hong Kong's sagging economy and add fuel to Shenzhen's nascent startup boom.

The proposed 87-hectare park, called the Lok Ma Chau Loop, is the largest proposal of its kind by Hong Kong and is being pitched as an incubator for future tech giants. The idea is that tenants would be close to Shenzhen's cheaper manufacturing and innovation, while retaining Hong Kong's legal and business framework and internet freedom, with eased border crossings between the two.

The plan says as much about the changing roles of the two cities as it does about Hong Kong's aspirations to be a technology womb.

Shenzhen is pivoting from its legacy as ground zero for China's manufacturing boom into a center for research, development and production of advanced technology. Hong Kong is trying to diversify from old staples such as banking and real estate as revenue streams in shipping and tourism slacken.

"Hong Kong has to do this," said Albert Wong, chief executive officer of Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corp., the government agency that runs the city's biggest existing technology park and startup incubators. "It's not an option."

Sitting in his office at the city's lush science park, half way between the border and the financial center, Wong maps out a vision that doesn't lack for ambition. He wants to more than double the number of researchers and developers at HKS-



A man walks past the Charles K. Kao Auditorium (center) at the Hong Kong Science Park

TP to 20,000 over the next five years.

The Loop is key to that expansion. The park would be built on land that was part of China until the government straightened the Sham Chun River in the 1990s to reduce flooding, effectively moving the border. The marshy area enclosed by the loop of the old river course remained disputed and undeveloped - an area of wetland for otters and migrating birds - until an agreement in January by the two governments to build the tech park.

Hong Kong has to do this. It's not an option.

ALBERT WONG
HK SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
PARKS CEO

The accord reflects a wider plan by China to bind together Hong Kong and Macau with cities in Guangdong - an almost contiguous urban area of more than 60 million people. Think of all the cities on the eastern U.S. seaboard from Boston to Washington, plus the San Francisco Bay Area rolled into one.

For Wong and other proponents of the Loop, Hong Kong would be the San Francisco to Shenzhen's Silicon Valley in the new "Bay Area" of the Pearl River Delta.

It's an attractive idea for entrepreneur Song Li, a former executive director of equity derivatives products at Morgan Stanley. Li founded Zhenai.com, an online dating service,

which says it has more than 120 million registered members. Though he works in Shenzhen, Li prefers to live in Hong Kong, with a two-and-a-half-hour round trip commute. An office in the Loop would cut that in half, he says.

Another supporter of a combined technology area in the Pearl River Delta is Tencent chairman Pony Ma Huateng, head of the most valuable company on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange. China "has the ability to create a world-class tech Bay Area, and preside over the global tech revolution of the future," Ma said in March, adding that the technology areas could help maintain stability in the former colony.

Hong Kong certainly needs the boost. Since Britain handed back its former possession, the city has played a diminishing role as the gateway to China and a financial hub. Its container port, which once vied with Singapore as the world's busiest, has fallen to fifth, overtaken by both Shanghai and Shenzhen.

An aging population and widening inequality are stirring political discontent. The city's economy is growing at less than half the rate it did in the decades up to 2015. Citizens are saving less and borrowing more, and few young people can afford the sky-high price of a new apartment, even one the size of a family car.

"The world has changed and Hong Kong needs to change again," said Nicholas Yang, the government's minister responsible for technology and innovation.

Government efforts to foster innovation in the city have been mixed. Its Cyberport business

park proposed in 1999 came under criticism when most of the project was developed as apartments, while many of the offices remained empty for years.

The accord reflects a wider plan by China to bind together Hong Kong and Macau with cities in Guangdong

"The problem is that on one hand property is too expensive for grassroots innovation, and on the other, when the government gets involved it tends to be over-planned and engineered," said Antony Dapiran, a Hong Kong-based corporate lawyer and author of an upcoming book "City of Protest: A Recent History of Dissent in Hong Kong."

The idea for closer integration with Shenzhen isn't new. Pro-China think tank Bauhinia Fou-

ndation has been urging stronger links with Guangdong for a decade. But many Hong Kongers are increasingly concerned that closer ties with the mainland would erode the freedom the city was promised as part of the "one country, two systems" agreement when Britain handed back the territory.

Meanwhile, Shenzhen forged ahead, clearing out most of its old, labor-intensive factories and building high-tech giants like Huawei Technologies Co. and ZTE Corp. The city's Nanshan district is a cradle for more than 8,000 technology firms, centered around the vast Shenzhen Hi-Tech Industrial Park, known as SHIP. Entrepreneurs have come from across the world, leading some to question why Guangdong needs to collaborate with Hong Kong on innovation.

"That ship has sailed," said Felix Chung, chairman of Hong Kong's pro-business Liberal Party. "The plan could have been good 10 years ago but have you seen Shenzhen lately? It has the ability to do so much on its own."

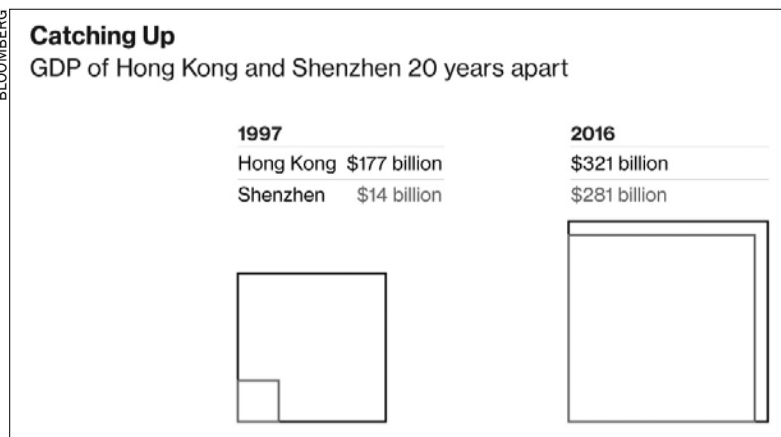
Critics say the tech park would take at least seven years to build, by which time Shenzhen may have pulled even further ahead. The Hong Kong government has not given a timetable or an estimated cost for completion of the project.

Hong Kong does have advantages, such as lower income taxes, relative security of capital and rule of law, said Nisa Leung, a veteran health-care investor at Qiming Venture Partners and a board member of the Hong Kong Science Park. Chung said the city can make its mark in value-added services such as intellectual property protection or helping Chinese companies build international divisions.

And the Pearl of the Orient still holds a strong lifestyle appeal for many entrepreneurs, despite the high rents.

"I like to be able to meet smart people from all around the world, having great internet, the exercising options and access to nature," said Frenchman Benjamin Joffe, who works for a fund that invests in hardware startups. He moved to Hong Kong after living in Shenzhen and Tokyo in recent years. "I split my time between Hong Kong, Shenzhen and the world."

Bloomberg



MSAR to further cooperate with Hungary

The MSAR government wants to boost tourism and cultural exchanges with Hungary. Chief Executive, Chui Sai On, made the remarks on Friday during a meeting with the visiting Speaker of the Hungarian National Assembly, László Kövér, at Santa Sancha Palace. Chui also hinted at economic cooperation, saying that Macau could take advantage of its bridging functions to help Hungarian products enter the mainland market.

Gov't accused of 'only loving money'

Cheang Kok Keong, member of the Cultural Heritage Council, said that if the government cannot protect cultural heritage it proves that the government "only loves money." "If [Macau's] world heritage disappeared, [...] it would not only be an embarrassment for Macau, but also for the country," said Cheang. "If we talk about the criteria behind the 'Love the Country and Love Macau', then protecting world heritage is one of them. If [the government] cannot [protect the world heritage], then you [the government] do not endorse the 'Love the Country, Love Macau' at all, you only love money."

Poultry sellers disagree with compensation proposal

Julie Zhu

THE fourth round of talks between employers in the poultry sector and the Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau (IACM), took place yesterday at the IACM headquarters. The meeting ended up stoking the anger of the poultry vendors, as IACM maintained its original financial support proposal.

Yesterday, IACM had a meeting with the employers to discuss the consequences of the region's permanent ban on the sale of live poultry. The discussion focused particularly on the compensation proposed by IACM to the live poultry sellers.

Leong Meng Lap, chairman of the Macau Live Poultry Vendors Association, instead of talking to the media regarding the details of the meeting, heavily condemned the media for not publishing "the voice of the vendors."

Leong accused a local TV station for only reporting on the government's side while overlooking the vendors.

"How can the government ma-



Leong Meng Lap

nipulate the journalism sector?" questioned Leong, adding "how can it be like this? I feel so disappointed. Don't you feel shameful?"

A seller, surnamed Chow, noted that Hong Kong recently allowed live poultry sales in the city. He believes that the local government can learn from the Hong Kong example, and let local vendors restart their live poultry businesses.

According to Chow, IACM maintained its stance by offering financial subsidies ranging from MOP240,000 to MOP480,000.

The proposal triggered the fury

of the meeting's participants, with many of them leaving the room speaking loudly while expressing their dissatisfaction towards IACM.

IACM Chairman José Tavares noted that the bureau has a plan which involves MOP41 million to support the live poultry sector.

"They have expressed their understanding and their opinions, we have heard them, but we [IACM and the live poultry sellers] have been talking about two different things since the beginning," said Tavares.

The IACM chairman explained

that the employers are talking about "a compensation" while IACM is addressing "a financial support."

Tavares confirmed that the government will not allow live poultry sales anymore, unless a scientific breakthrough can show a better way of preventing flu outbreaks without resorting to the full ban of live poultry sales.

Tavares also pointed out that Hong Kong cannot be used for comparison regarding live poultry sales conditions in Macau.

The IACM chairman announced that by the end of June, the bureau will retake the vendor spots of the involved sellers. Whether these vendors have replied to the IACM's financial support plan or not, the government will retake their shops.

IACM will assist the vendors in altering their businesses if they are willing to run a vendor shop at their current shop, otherwise the government will take the shops.

This meeting marks the last of its kind between the two sides. No changes will be made over to financial support offered, Tavares said.

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BELT & ROAD

China, Singapore vow trade cooperation in sign of thaw

CHINA and Singapore pledged to cooperate on trade and regional infrastructure projects, in a sign the countries have begun to repair ties strained amid security disputes in Southeast Asia.

Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi and Singaporean counterpart Vivian Balakrishnan said yesterday in a briefing in Beijing they reached agreement to work more closely on China's "Belt and Road" trade and infrastructure initiative. Balakrishnan described ties as "strong" and said China's relationship with Southeast Asia was "stable, calm and positive."

"We had in-depth talks and reached a lot of consensus on bilateral, regional issues and shared interests," Wang said. "Both of us are of the view that, against the background of a backlash against globalization, China and Singapore, as the champions of regional integration, need to work together to address challenges and uphold common interests."



The remarks suggest that Singapore's efforts to paper over diplomatic tensions with its largest trading partner are paying off. The city-state of 5.3 million had found itself in Beijing's crosshairs over its military ties with Taiwan, support for the U.S. naval presence in the disputed South China Sea and perceived lack of support for the Belt and Road program.

Singapore didn't receive a formal invitation from China to attend a Belt and Road summit in May, Bloomberg News reported last month. A shipment of Singaporean infantry carrier vehicles that had been used in military exercises in Taiwan was seized and held in Hong Kong for two months before being released in January. The meeting came after Singapore Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong told Australia's ABC Ra-

dio in an interview broadcast Saturday that Chinese President Xi Jinping's Belt-and-Road Initiative was a constructive way to expand business ties with its neighbors.

"The Chinese and Singaporean leadership understand that there is a wide range of cooperation

■ The two countries accounted for USD66b in two-way trade last year, representing 13 percent of Singapore's global total

down the road," said Huang Jing, a professor with the National University of Singapore's Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy. "As a regional financial center and a developed economy that is fully integrated in the global economic system, Singapore has a lot to offer to China, while benefiting from the development of One Belt, One Road."

Balakrishnan described Singapore as a "strong believer and supporter" of the Belt and Road plan and pledged to establish a financial cooperation platform with China. "China-Singapore relations are in good working order," he said. "They are strong, with the potential to grow even stronger."

The two countries accounted for USD66 billion in two-way trade last year, representing 13 percent of Singapore's global total. Singapore is also China's second-largest investor, with \$6.18 billion last year, according to China's official figures.

Wang said Singapore was an important clearance center for the yuan. "To advance the Belt and Road Initiative we need financing," he said. "We hope that cooperation with Singapore will draw upon Singapore's strengths as a financial center." **Bloomberg**

Wang said Singapore was an important clearance center for the yuan. "To advance the Belt and Road Initiative we need financing," he said. "We hope that cooperation with Singapore will draw upon Singapore's strengths as a financial center." **Bloomberg**

FASHION

Moschino bets on casino chic with Vegas-themed runway show

Nicole Evatt, Los Angeles

MOSCHINO'S modern showgirl can't leave home without her sequined denim, studded platforms or feather head-dress.

Designer Jeremy Scott looked to the iconic performer for his splashy Las Vegas-themed collection presented last week in Los Angeles.

It's "the idea of a showgirl off-duty kind of going

home from the casino," Scott said in an interview before his men's spring and women's resort show. "She may be just in her jeans, but still has part of her costume on and she's running, maybe to go get something to eat between shows. I kind of wanted to play with this idea and it's all with a little bit of glamour and love."

Models Miranda Kerr, Hailey Baldwin and Stella Maxwell (who was spotted

backstage with Kristen Stewart) strutted the catwalk lined with bright neon signs to slot-machine sound effects and Elvis' "Viva Las Vegas."

"Jeremy is just a creative man. He's passionate about what he does and he follows, you know, the rhythm to his own drum and I love that," said Kerr before hitting the runway in a denim patchwork skirt suit.

There were Playboy bunnies, barely there shorts

and colorful, pointy cowboy hats.

Betty Boop and pinup girl appliques adorned sweaters and coats; hot-rod flames decorated leotards and blazers; and sequins ran wild on everything from pastel suiting to men's Speedos.

"There's sequins and there's laces and there's leathers," said Scott. "A little bit of everything a showgirl in Vegas would need. Even a couple feather headdresses



thrown in for good measure."

Moschino's celebrity casino-goers included Fergie, Diplo, Sarah Hyland, Joe Jonas, Vanessa Hudgens, Charli XCX, "Black-ish" actress Tracee Ellis Ross, reality star Erika Jayne, Kate Beckinsale, model Ashley Graham, Courtney Love and Lars

Ulrich of Metallica. The collection hit the jackpot for Fergie, who strutted to her front-row seat fashionably late.

"We are all driving to Vegas and we're all getting cowboy hats and we're gonna have a fun time on a road trip!" she said with a huge grin after the show. **AP**

corporate bits

JANICE VIDAL TO PERFORM AT THE VENETIAN MACAO



One of Hong Kong's top female artists, Janice Vidal, will bring her 'Janice Vidal Beloved Tour 2017 - Macau' to The Venetian Macao's Cotai Arena on July 22. Tickets go on sale at all Cotai Ticketing box offices today.

With album sales exceeding 10 million, Vidal has won hundreds of awards and has toured throughout China, Hong Kong, Southeast Asia, the United States and Canada. Vidal has been one of the dominant

singers under Warner Music Hong Kong Limited since 2015, and she has had her songs ranked as the top influential music.

Fresh from the Guangdong leg of her tour, which included performances in Guangzhou, Shenzhen and Foshan, Janice Vidal Beloved Tour 2017 brings audiences a new song list, alongside more than 20 of her classic hits.

According to a press release issued by The Venetian Macao, Vidal will be performing new material and new arrangements of her hits including the ballad "Streetlight Dinner" and "Butterfly".

MELCO HOLDS RESPONSIBLE GAMING FORUM

Melco Resorts & Entertainment held a leadership forum last week at the City of Dreams integrated resort with the purpose of educating its employees on responsible gaming.

The forum, titled "Responsible Gaming Leadership Forum," was attended by over 600 of the company's management staff.

Paulo Martins Chan, the director of the Gaming Inspection and Coordination Bureau (DICJ) of Macau, was the honorable speaker at the forum, according to a statement from Melco. He delivered a speech about the MSAR

government's policies to promote responsible gaming.

Chan said that the government was "glad to see that the gaming operators actively arrange their employees to participate in training regularly, [and] equip them with the knowledge of responsible gaming so that they can offer immediate assistance for people in need."

Chan was joined at the forum by Professor Davis Fong, the director of the Institute for the Study of Commercial Gaming, and Lawrence Lee, a psychologist at the Gambling Addiction Treatment Service of the Macau Government.

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DAS COMUNIDADES PORTUGUESAS

Exposição de pintura portuguesa
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CRUZEIRO SEIXAS
E JOÃO PAULO**
Clube Militar de Macau
8 a 24 de junho



Exposição do cartoonista
RODRIGO DE MATOS
Espaço expositivo do
Consulado-Geral de Portugal
5 a 30 de junho



Exposição de aguarelas
"NOTURNO" de
FILIPE MIGUEL DAS DORES
Albergue SCM | 6 de junho a 9 de julho



Exposição "O MAR"
de **ANA PESSANHA**
Galeria da Casa Garden
7 de junho a 31 de agosto



Lançamento do CD
de música infantil
"CASTELOS NO AR"
Pequeno Auditório do CCM
9 de junho | 20:00



Encontro com o escritor
JOAQUIM FURTADO
Café Oriente - IPOR
13 de junho | 18:30



Exposição "DEBRIS" de **VHILS**
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Centro de Arte Contemporânea
31 de maio a 13 de junho



MOSTRA DE **INDIELISBOA**
Associação Cultural
CINEMA PORTUGUÊS
Cinemateca Paixão
30 de junho, 1 e 2 de julho



Exposição coletiva dos alunos
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Espaço expositivo da Residência Oficial
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Espectáculo
"NO PRECÍPIO
ERA O VERBO"
Teatro D. Pedro V | 4 de junho | 20:00



Concerto com
JOÃO CAETANO
Grande Auditório do CCM
2 de junho | 20:00



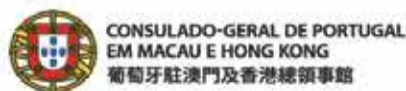
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HASTEAR DA BANDEIRA
Consulado-Geral de Portugal
10 de junho | 9:30



**TAÇA DAS
CONFEDERAÇÕES**
Café Oriente - IPOR
17 de junho a 2 de julho



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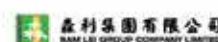
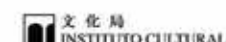
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MOZAMBIQUE

Public debt is expected to be restructured, EIU says

MOZAMBIQUE'S public debt is likely to be restructured and the inflow of foreign capital is expected to take time to return to previously recorded amounts, the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) said in its latest country report.

In the document obtained by Macauhub, the EIU analysts restated that Mozambique is currently facing a liquidity crisis stemming from unsustainable public debt and the freezing of external support to the State Budget.

The report said the government will seek to maintain strict fiscal and monetary policies in an attempt to restore the relationship with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and overcome the constraints caused by the liquidity crisis, but added that resistance by political agents should delay the pace of reforms and give rise to some inconsistencies.

Real GDP growth (nominal minus the inflation rate) will



Mozambique citizens travel in a crowded bus in Maputo

remain weak in 2017/2018, at least when compared to the figures recorded in the recent past, due to weak domestic private and public demand.

The report adds that, as of 2019, more rapid growth in GDP should be expected in line with increased business confidence.

The current account is expected to contract in 2017 to 19 percent of GDP, as the liquidity crisis will immediately lead to a reduction in imports and an increase in the international prices of both thermal and coking coal.

There seems to be no quick fix for the fact the country took on

undisclosed loans, which is why the country is facing its current difficulties and Mozambique officially went into financial default when it failed to pay coupons and continues to claim it does not have the funds to pay make upcoming payments.

The EIU analysts said the most likely scenario is that the three loans (one bond issue and two syndicated loans) will be brought together in a single vehicle, with lenders being forced to lose part of the capital invested and repayment of the remainder being postponed until the 2020s.

The timeframe for this scenario is not known, with potential lenders requiring the results of the audit conducted by Kroll Associates UK to be made public and for Mozambique to have a new aid program with the IMF.

They point out, however, that negotiations with the IMF have not even begun, so negotiations with creditors are expected to drag to well beyond 2017 if they even start this year. **MDT/Macauhub**

CAPE VERDE

More promotion among Chinese entrepreneurs needed

CAPE Verde should be made more widely known to Chinese business people and other citizens, the former deputy director of the Foreign Ministry's Department of Foreign Trade Wang Cheng' An said in Beijing, quoted by Cape Verde's Inforpress news agency.

The idea was mentioned during a lecture on "Trade relations between China and Portuguese-speaking countries," given to a group of Cape Verdean journalists from various public and private institutions in Beijing, China, at a training seminar for media professionals from developing countries.

Wang Chengan, who was previously General-Secretary of Forum Macau and has worked in several Portuguese-speaking countries, including Cape Verde, said some Chinese already know Cape Verde but "not in depth" as

many do not even know where it is, what the investment climate is like or what the country has to offer tourists.

"It is necessary to expand the promotion of Cape Verde in China so that the Chinese can get to know the country better, especially to entrepreneurs who can invest, but who do not know exactly what the investment projects are," he said, stressing that the Cape Verde embassy in China has done a "good job," but that it must continue, given that promotion of the archipelago "has not been enough."

What Cape Verde needs to do, said Wang Chengan, is to organize meetings with Chinese business people to present the archipelago, investment projects, improve cooperation, the business climate, among others, so that they might become interested in investing. **MDT/Macauhub**



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AP PHOTO

FLIGHT 736 Chinese plane lands safely in Sydney with hole in engine casing

A plane heading to Shanghai returned safely to Sydney after an in-flight problem left a gaping hole in an engine casing. China Eastern Airlines said the crew on Flight 736 noticed damage to the air inlet on the left engine after takeoff Sunday evening and the captain decided to return. The airline said on its Sina Weibo microblog that the plane landed safely and the airline was taking care of passengers' needs. The Airbus A330 plane has two engines. Passengers told Australian media they heard a massive noise and smelled something burning. Passenger Ashley Beck told Australia's Channel Nine television that after the passengers heard the loud noise, the crew started moving everyone from the left side of the plane. Photos showed a jagged, vertical hole in the side of the casing.

CRIME

Chinese prostitute among two killed in Germany

German police have arrested a suspect in the killing of two women who worked as prostitutes in the southern city of Nuremberg. A 44-year-old Chinese woman was killed in the city June 5. Both women had moved to Nuremberg recently. A 22-year-old Romanian woman was killed in Nuremberg on May 24. Public broadcaster Bayerischer Rundfunk reports that the 21-year-old German suspect was identified with the help of cellphone data and DNA from the crime scene. Nuremberg police declined to confirm details of the man's arrest ahead of a news conference yesterday.



AP PHOTO

PANDA DIPLOMACY

Giant cub born in Tokyo zoo, survival uncertain

A giant panda cub was born in a Tokyo zoo, but its gender, weight and even whether it will survive are uncertain. The mother, ShinShin, whose previous cub survived only six days, was holding her newborn in her paw but whether the cub was nursing was not clear, Ueno Zoo said in a statement. The zoo released a blurry photo of the mother with the tiny head and limbs of her cub also visible. While ShinShin's cub born in 2012 died, other pandas born at the zoo have survived. The father of the newborn is another panda in the Tokyo zoo called RiRi, whose name means "power." ShinShin's name means "truth." About 420 giant pandas live in captivity, mostly in their native China, while about 1,860 live in the wild. China for decades gifted friendly nations with its unofficial national mascot in what was known as "panda diplomacy." The country more recently has loaned pandas to zoos on commercial terms.

AP PHOTO
A visitor looks at a miniature model of P-1 Maritime Patrol Aircraft of Kawasaki Heavy Industries, during "MAST Asia", Japan's international arms exhibit, in Chiba, yesterday

SOUTH CHINA SEA

Tokyo to boost arms deals with Southeast Asia following Beijing's steps

Mari Yamaguchi, Chiba

A defense official said that Japan is seeking to increase its sales of military equipment to Southeast Asian nations amid growing tensions with China and North Korea.

The move is part of Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's push to bolster Japan's military role and its sales of defense equipment, especially in Southeast Asia, where China has expanded its own arms sales.

Hideaki Watanabe, head of the Defense Ministry's Acquisition Technology and Logistics Agency, said Japan will host a meeting Thursday with defense officials from the Association of Southeast Asian Nations to discuss the sharing of equipment and technology.

He spoke yesterday at an international arms exhibit near Tokyo that was attended by hundreds of defense officials and industry leaders from around the world.

Watanabe said there have been aggressive attempts by nations in recent years to change the status quo, in an apparent reference to China's building of artificial islands in disputed areas of the South China Sea.

"It is essential to maintain

the open and stable sea under the rule of law," he said. "Ensuring safety of navigation and flight contributes to the peace and prosperity of Japan and international society. Japan's research and development of high-quality defense equipment contributes to the defense of Japan and elsewhere."

Japan's defense industry at home is worth about 1.8 trillion yen (USD16 billion) annually, a fraction of the country's 52 trillion yen (\$470 billion) auto industry.

It is essential to maintain the open and stable sea under the rule of law.

HIDEAKI WATANABE
DEFENSE MINISTRY, JAPAN

Japan had restricted arms exports under its post-World War II war-renouncing constitution, limiting joint research and development to the U.S. under a bilateral security pact. Since an easing of the rules in 2014, Japan now has joint research deals with Britain, Australia and France.

In order to scale up the defense industry, Japan's government has bolstered research funding to more than 10 billion yen (\$90 million) this year.

Japan has been promoting the transfer of defense equipment to Southeast Asian countries to help their maritime security capabilities amid China's growing presence in the South China Sea, but deals have been limited to the sale of TC-90 surveillance aircraft to the Philippines.

China already exports mostly low-cost military equipment to many Southeast Asian countries.

The arms exhibit, sponsored by the Japanese defense, foreign and industry ministries, included panel discussions focused on missile defense. North Korea has conducted several missile tests this year.

U.S. defense giant Lockheed Martin and Japanese contractors Mitsubishi Heavy Industries and Kawasaki Heavy Industries were among dozens of exhibitors from around the world who had booths at this year's Mast Asia exhibit, just east of Tokyo.

Japanese manufacturers are still cautious about the prospects of military sales. Mitsubishi Industries, a

maker of Aegis destroyers and fighter jets, is not expecting booming business right away, as Japan's defense equipment sales are more focused on disaster prevention and international peace.

"We want visitors to see our comprehensive and advanced technology first," he said. "We are happy to provide our technology and equipment wherever they can be used for international peace."

While Japan's defense role is still a sensitive issue for other Asian countries that still have bitter memories of Japanese wartime aggression, a greater contribution by the country is welcome as the region now faces common challenges such as North Korea, said South Korean defense expert Yoon Sukjoon, a retired navy captain who was at the exhibit.

"We have a threat, a real threat from North Korea," Yoon said, citing the North's recent missile capabilities and nuclear development. "Japan is our neighbor. As long as we have common interests, common security concepts, there is no specific reason why we should reject military cooperation in terms of military equipment and sharing of the information of that." AP

PAKISTAN CONFIRMS

Chinese couple killed after IS claim

PAKISTAN confirmed yesterday that a Chinese couple abducted at gunpoint has been killed, three days after Islamic State militants claimed the killing and sent a video to local journalists purporting to show their bodies.

Interior Minister Chaudhry Nisar Ali Khan confirmed the deaths yesterday, without saying who was behind the killings or whether the bodies have been recovered.

Lee Zing Yang, 24, and Meng Li Si, 26, were taken by gunmen from the southwestern city of Quetta last month.

IS claimed it killed the couple last week after Pakistan said it had prevented the group from establishing a stronghold. Pakistan has sought to downplay the group's presence, saying local militants are me-



Pakistan's Interior Minister, Chaudhry Nisar Ali Khan speaks during a press conference

rely acting in its name. Pakistani extremist groups have partnered with IS in a series of attacks in recent months, including a suicide bombing at a Sufi shrine in February that killed at least 90 people.

The interior minister said the Chinese couple had entered Pakistan on business visas but be-

gan "preaching" after they arrived in Quetta, without elaborating. He called for a review of his country's visa policies with regard to Chinese nationals.

China, a longtime ally of Pakistan, is investing billions of dollars in projects collectively known as the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor. **AP**



ECONOMY

Auto sales fall 2.6 pct in May; SUVs up 13.5 pct

CHINA'S auto sales shrank for a second month in May amid weak demand following a rise in the sales tax, an industry group reported yesterday.

Sales in the world's biggest auto market by number of vehicles sold contracted 2.6 percent from a year earlier to 1.75 million vehicles, according to the China Association of Automobile Manufacturers.

Purchases of SUVs rose 13.5 percent 715,000, helping to offset a 9.3 percent plunge in sedan sales

to 839,000. Sales last year rose 15 percent from 2015 after a 10 percent sales tax on small-engine vehicles was cut by half. Demand weakened after part of that tax was restored in January, raising it from 5 percent to 7.5 percent.

Total sales for the first five months of this year rose just 1.5 percent from a year earlier, according to CAAM.

Sales of plug-in and hybrid electric vehicles in May rose 28.4 percent to 45,000.

— General Motors

Co. said sales of GM-brand vehicles by the company and its Chinese manufacturing partners rose 9.5 percent from a year earlier to 294,425. It said Cadillac sales rose 65 percent to 14,154.

— Ford Motor Co. said its sales declined 3 percent to 87,733. Sales for the first five months of the year were 436,961.

— Nissan Motor Co. said its sales rose 5.7 percent to 112,085. Year-to-date sales were 531,756.

— Toyota Motor Co. said sales rose 11 percent to 112,800. **AP**




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PHILIPPINES

Flag raised on Independence Day in war-torn city

FILIPINOS marked their country's Independence Day by raising the national flag yesterday in a southern city where troops pressed assaults to quell a three-week siege by Islamic State group-aligned militants that has left 270 combatants and civilians dead.

Many were teary-eyed during the flag-raising ceremonies at the heavily guarded city hall and provincial capital building in Marawi, the heartland of the Islamic faith in the country's south, where hundreds of gunmen went on a deadly rampage on May 23.

Blasts from airstrikes thudded in the distance during the events.

While the flag-raising was mainly to mark Independence Day, it also symbolized the reclaiming of city hall and other areas of Marawi by government forces. Policemen roamed a community that troops had wrested back from the militants



and festooned abandoned houses with small flags.

Marawi Mayor Majul Gandamra fought back tears as he thanked troops, police and volunteers in the crisis that has turned parts of the previously tranquil lakeside city of more than 200,000 people, most of

whom have fled the fighting, into a smoldering battlefield.

Villager Janisah Ampao, who fled her home with her husband and two children when the fighting broke out last month, felt a sense of relief and pride when she saw the flag being raised at the provincial capital building.

She has been living with other evacuees in a nearby government building that has been turned into an emergency shelter.

Marawi Mayor Gandamra fought back tears as he thanked troops, police and volunteers in the crisis

"I don't know how we can re-start our lives after the fighting," Ampao said by telephone. "Our city is in ruins, all the people have gone and the stores are closed. I saw on TV that our village has been destroyed."

Facing the worst crisis in his yearlong presidency, President

Rodrigo Duterte canceled an annual Independence Day diplomatic reception at the presidential palace and skipped a flag-raising ceremony in Manila.

"He doesn't feel like giving a toast, even symbolic, when soldiers are dying and the evacuees and the displaced are in the provinces and in Marawi's margins," Foreign Secretary Alan Peter Cayetano told reporters.

Philippine flags were also flown at half-staff as the country mourned the killings of 13 marines in a fierce battle in Marawi on Friday. Some of the marines perished in a fire ignited by the militants at the height of the fighting, military officials said. They said 58 soldiers and policemen, 191 militants and 21 civilians have been killed in the three weeks of clashes.

U.S. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson conveyed independence greetings on behalf of President Donald Trump and the American people, saying the U.S. stands as an ally with the Philippines as it confronts the attacks in Marawi and other terrorist threats.

The U.S. military has deployed a spy plane at Manila's request to help provide surveillance to troops battling militants still holed up in a few buildings in Marawi with an unspecified number of civilian hostages. **AP**

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Image posted on social media of the Al-Khansa Brigade of ISIS

SINGAPORE

Police arrest female Islamic State suspect

POLICE in Singapore have detained a preschool assistant who shared pro-Islamic State group materials online and intended to travel to Syria, their first arrest of a female Singaporean citizen alleged to be a sympathizer of the radical group, the Home Affairs Ministry said yesterday.

The ministry issued a statement saying that 22-year-old Syaikhah Izzah Zahrah Al Ansari was arrested earlier this month under the country's Internal Security Act, which allows for indefinite detention without trial. Singaporean authorities since 2015 have detained 14 Singaporean males suspected of being Islamic State group sympathizers.

Singapore's immediate neighbors, Indonesia and Malaysia, have large Muslim populations, and hundreds of Islamic State group sympathizers are estimated to have traveled to Syria from the two countries. Singapore, an island

nation of 5.6 million people, is a multicultural society dominated by ethnic Chinese. Ethnic Malays, who are predominantly Muslim, make

up 15 percent of its citizens.

While the country hasn't experienced any attacks linked to Islamist militants, "a handful" of Singa-

poreans are believed to be fighting alongside militants in Syria, Deputy Prime Minister Teo Chee Hean has said.

The ministry statement said Izzah had been "radicalized in 2013 by online propaganda related to the terrorist group Islamic State of Iraq and Syria" and in turn posted materials on social media supporting the group. "Several of her social media platforms were taken down by administrators because of the pro-ISIS content, but she created new ones," the ministry said.

Izzah, who worked at PCF Sparkletots, a chain of government preschools, planned to travel to Syria with her young child and "was intent on joining" the Islamic State group, the ministry said. "She also said that she was prepared to undergo military training and engage in armed combat to defend ISIS, if called upon by the terrorist group to do so."

She was allegedly looking for a Salafi or Islamic State group supporter "to marry and settle down with." Salafism is a form of Islam that interprets the Quran literally.

Her parents, both freelance Quranic teachers, and sister were aware of Izzah's plans and tried to stop her, the ministry said. But when Izzah was put under investigation, a family member tried to destroy evidence to "try to minimize her acts."

A report released by the ministry this month said that Singapore's terrorism threat level "remains the highest in recent years."

It cited two foiled plans. Last August, the group Katibah Gonggong Rebus, based on the nearby Indonesian island of Batam, attempted to launch a rocket attack on downtown Singapore, the report said. Authorities also "swiftly but discreetly" stemmed an attack planned by foreign Islamic State group militants last year, it said, without providing further details. **AP**

Bangladesh arrests six suspected Islamist militants

SECURITY officials in Bangladesh's capital have arrested six members of a banned militant group and accused them of planning to kill an outspoken Islamic scholar for his stand against religious extremism, a police official said yesterday.

Police counter-terrorism chief Monirul Islam said the men were arrested Sunday night in a raid in Dhaka.

He said the suspects are members of Jumatul Mujahedeen Bangladesh, which has been blamed for many killings in recent years, including an attack last July on a restaurant in Dhaka's diplomatic zone in which 20 hostages were killed. Seventeen of the victims were foreigners.

Islam said the suspects had targeted a top Islamic scholar who speaks and acts against radicalism. He would not disclose the name

of the reported target, but said the suspects wanted to kill him during the current fasting month of Ramadan.

Islam said the house of the targeted scholar was already under the suspects' watch and their plan was going ahead.

Later yesterday, a judge in Dhaka authorized police to keep them in custody for interrogation.

Bangladesh has experienced a rise in Islamic militancy in recent years, with groups targeting atheist bloggers, publishers and writers, members of minority groups and foreigners.

The Islamic State group has claimed responsibility for many of the attacks, including last year's restaurant siege, but authorities have rejected the claims and held JMB responsible. The government has vowed to



Members of a leftist student group run to break a police barricade during a protest against the removal of a Lady Justice statue in Dhaka

crush Islamic militancy and some 60 suspects have been killed in raids across the country since last July. **AP**

INDONESIA

Quake rattles Jakarta, but no damage apparent

A strong earthquake rocked western parts of Indonesia's main island early yesterday, causing panic but no immediate reports of damages or casualties.

The National Disaster Management Agency said the earthquake shook wide parts of western Java island including the capital, Jakarta. It said residents in some cities ran out of houses in panic.

The U.S. Geological Survey said the magnitude-5.6 quake was centered in the Indian Ocean, about 97 kilometers south-southwest of the West Java town of Cibungur with a depth of 10 kilometers.

Indonesia's Meteorology, Climatology and Geophysics Agency said the quake was a stronger magnitude-6.3 but had no potential to cause a tsunami.

Indonesia, the world's largest archipelago, is prone to the seismic upheaval and tsunamis due to its location on major geological faults known as the Pacific "Ring of Fire."

In 2004, an extremely powerful Indian Ocean quake set off a tsunami that killed more than 230,000 people in a dozen countries, most of them in Indonesia's Aceh province. **AP**



Damage caused by an earthquake in Poso, Central Sulawesi, Indonesia, on May 30

UK | HUNG PARLIAMENT

Queen's speech and Brexit can wait

Danica Kirka, London

SENIOR members of British Prime Minister Theresa May's government rallied to her defense yesterday amid doubts over her ability to remain in power following a disastrous election result.

As the Conservative Party digested the loss of its majority in last week's election, government officials suggested both the announcement of the prime minister's agenda, known as the Queen's Speech, and talks over Britain's divorce from the European Union could be postponed.

Sky News reported the speech would be delayed a few days — a highly unusual circumstance in a country where the monarch's schedule is determined months in advance.

The possible delays come as critics urge cross-party discussions to reach a consensus on Britain's exit from the EU. May's failure to get a majority has undercut her tough Brexit strategy, which had raised fears that Britain was heading for a so-called "hard Brexit," which could potentially see tariffs slapped on British exports to the bloc.

May moved to demonstrate that she understands the frustration of voters by moving up a meeting with rank-and-file Conservative Party lawmakers, some of whom have called for her to step aside sooner rather than later. The meeting will be held earlier today [Macau time].

The prime minister's most pro-



Theresa May

minent potential rival, Foreign Secretary Boris Johnson, sought to quash any suggestion that she would be ousted imminently. Writing in the mass-circulation Sun newspaper, Johnson stressed that the Conservatives won more votes than at any time since Margaret Thatcher and are still the largest party in Parliament.

"The people of Britain have had a bellyful of promises and politicking," he wrote. "Now is the time for delivery — and Theresa May is the right person to continue that vital work."

With opinion polls showing the Conservatives had a commanding lead over the opposition Labour Party, May called an early election in hopes of increasing her majority in Parliament and strengthening her position in Brexit negotiations.

Instead, the election stripped May of her majority and obliterated her political authority. The Conservatives are now trying to secure the support of Northern

Ireland's 10 Democratic Unionist Party lawmakers to assure passage of May's program.

Over the weekend, May's top two aides stepped aside. Many in the party were furious at the pair for shutting them out of decision-making during the election campaign.

May also restored former Justice Secretary Michael Gove to the Cabinet in another move designed to show she was willing to listen to critics. Gove, a long-time opponent who was dismissed when May became prime minister last year, will now serve as environment secretary.

Conservative leaders yesterday sought to shift the debate away from May's wounded leadership and onto complex Brexit talks, which are formally set to begin next week.

David Davis, the cabinet member in charge of Brexit, said talks with the EU may not start on Monday (June 19) because it would clash with the Queen's Speech, but they will

still begin next week.

"It may not be on the Monday because we also have got the Queen's Speech that week and I will have to speak in that, and so on," he told Sky News.

The people have had a bellyful of politicking. Now is the time for delivery — and May is the right person to continue that vital work.

BORIS JOHNSON

Davis suggested the government would focus on the divorce proceedings before moving on to trade. The divorce issues include the rights of EU citizens in Britain as well as U.K. citizens in the EU, how much Britain will have to pay to cover previous spending commitments and the border between Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland.

The EU has said that sufficient progress must be made on these issues before trade deals can be discussed, though Britain had argued the talks should take place simultaneously.

Moody's Investors Service said the inconclusive election outcome would complicate and "probably delay" negotiations with the EU.

"Overall, we believe that the election outcome will hamper Brexit negotiations and increase fiscal risks, and therefore be negative for the U.K.'s credit profile," Moody's said in a statement.

"However, the Conservative Party's reduced share of the vote may indicate a higher likelihood that a 'softer' form of Brexit might now be pursued, involving compromises with the EU that Ms. May would not have countenanced previously, and which would be positive."

As discussion continued, a leading business organization said the political uncertainty is leading to a "dramatic drop" in confidence. The Institute of Directors survey said company directors see no clear way to resolve the political situation quickly. They also believe another election would negatively impact the U.K. economy.

"It is hard to overstate what a dramatic impact the current political uncertainty is having on business leaders, and the consequences could — if not addressed immediately — be disastrous for the U.K. economy," said Stephen Martin, the director-general of the IoD. "The needs of business and discussion of the economy were largely absent from the campaign, but this crash in confidence shows how urgently that must change in the new government." AP

CLIMATE

US opts out of G7 pledge committing to Paris accord

THE United States refused yesterday to sign onto a Group of Seven pledge that calls the Paris climate accord the "irreversible" global tool to address climate change.

The G7 environment ministers issued a final communique after their two-day meeting, the first since the United States announced it was withdrawing from the Paris climate pact. In a footnote to the communique, the United States said it wouldn't join with the other six countries in reaffirming their Paris commitments, but said it was taking action on its own to reduce its carbon footprint.

"The United States will continue to engage with

key international partners in a manner that is consistent with our domestic priorities, preserving both a strong economy and a healthy environment," the footnote read.

As a result, the U.S. said it would not join those sections of the communique on climate and multilateral development banks.

The head of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Scott Pruitt, had attended the first few hours of the summit Sunday, but left to attend a Cabinet meeting in Washington.

Presenting the communique yesterday, Italy's environment minister, Gian Luca Galletti, called the Paris accord "irreversible, non-negotiable and the

only instrument possible to combat climate change." He said the other G7 countries hoped to continue "constructive dialogue" with the U.S., but insisted on the Paris parameters.

"Everything else for us is excluded," he said.

The 2015 Paris agreement aims to prevent the Earth from heating up by 2 degrees Celsius (3.6 degrees Fahrenheit) since the start of the industrial age. Since the world has already warmed about 1.1 degrees Celsius (2 degrees Fahrenheit) since the Industrial Revolution, the accord aimed at making sure the threshold was not breached with each nation curbing heat-trapping



Grass covers the round table where environment ministers sit at the opening of a two-day G7 summit on the environment, in Bologna, Italy

emissions.

All but a very few scientists say the overwhelming majority of warming is man-made, as do dozens of scientific academies and professional societies. Scientists have known since the 19th century that

burning coal, oil and gas spews carbon dioxide into the air, which then acts like a blanket to trap heat on Earth.

President Donald Trump announced the U.S. was withdrawing from the Paris accord earlier this

month, framing it as a "reassertion of America's sovereignty." He has said the U.S. could try to re-enter the deal under more favorable terms, but Italy, France and Germany have said the Paris accord cannot be re-negotiated. AP

what's ON



MACAU ARTS WINDOW 2017 - HUNDRED SPECIES - WORKS OF PEGGY CHAN
TIME: 10am-7pm (Last admission at 6:30pm, closed on Mondays)
UNTIL: August 13, 2017
VENUE: Macau Art Museum
ADMISSION: Free
ENQUIRIES: (853) 8791 9814

30 - PRINTMAKING WORKS BY NG LAI SEONG AKA TUZI
TIME: 12pm-7pm (Closed on Mondays)
UNTIL: June 25, 2017
VENUE: Ground Floor, Macau Art Garden
ADMISSION: Free
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2836 6064

LOVE OF MACAU - PHOTOGRAPHS BY LEE KUNG KIM
TIME: 10am-7pm (Last admission at 6:30pm, closed on Mondays)
UNTIL: July 9, 2017
VENUE: Macau Art Museum
ADMISSION: Free
ENQUIRIES: (853) 8791 9814

IN SEARCH OF THOSE JOURNEYS - A RETROSPECTIVE EXHIBITION OF THE FERRY TRANSPORT BETWEEN MACAU AND THE ISLANDS
TIME: 10am-7pm (Last admission at 6:30pm, closed on Mondays)
UNTIL: October 5, 2017
VENUE: Taipa Houses
ADMISSION: Free
ENQUIRIES: (853) 8988 4000

Offbeat

**NAKED TRUTH: MODELS SPORT PITHY SLOGANS PAINTED ON BARE BODS**

Dozens of people have gathered in Times Square to tell the naked truth — or tell the truth naked.

Brooke Champlain stood nude in one of New York's busiest areas last week with the slogan "We're All Just Stardust" painted around her bellybutton during Body Notes, an event organizers say was designed to uplift people.

The nude models were painted in view of gawking tourists and heavily armed police. Brushed onto their bare torsos were pithy slogans, including, "Embrace Love And Life" and "Born Naked."

Body Notes is the brainchild of Andy Golub (GAH'-lub), producer of NYC Bodypainting Day. He says it lets people express themselves through "their words and their bodies."

He was inspired by the "Subway Therapy" art project of sticky notes containing people's thoughts after the presidential election.

TV canal macau



13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:50	RTPi Live
17:10	Revenge Sr 2
17:50	Now Generation (Repeated)
18:40	TDM Sports (Repeated)
19:40	Soap Opera
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	TDM Interview
21:30	Grimm Sr 1
22:10	Now Generation
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Miscellaneous
00:05	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
00:40	RTPi Live

cinema



CINETEATRO

8-14 JUN



THE MUMMY

ROOM 1

2:30, 4:45, 7:15, 9:30pm

Director: Alex Kurtzman

Starring: Tom Cruise, Sofia Boutella, Annabelle Walls

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 141min

WONDER WOMAN

ROOM 1

2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:45pm

Director: Patty Jenkins

Starring: Chris Pine, Connie Nielsen, Robin Wright

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 141min



BLEED FOR THIS

ROOM 3

2:30, 4:45, 9:30pm

Director: Ben Younger

Starring: Miles Teller, Aaron Eckhart, Katey Sagal

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 116min

MACAU TOWER

30 MAY - 11 JUNE



WONDER WOMAN

(3D) 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30pm

Director: Patty Jenkins

Starring: Chris Pine, Connie Nielsen, Robin Wright

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 141min

this day in history

**1991 YELTSIN WINS FIRST RUSSIAN ELECTIONS**

Boris Yeltsin is celebrating victory as Russia's first popularly-elected president.

The 60-year-old reformer and leader of the group Democratic Russia has inflicted a heavy defeat on the Communist Party which has ruled the country since the 1917 Revolution.

Although the result will not be officially confirmed until next week, it is clear Mr Yeltsin has achieved more than the 50% of votes required to avoid a second ballot.

His supporters claim he has secured 60 to 70% of the vote in many of the large Russian cities and up to 90% in his native city, Sverdlovsk.

His allies, Gavriil Popov and Anatoly Sobchak, who stood in the mayoral races in Moscow and Leningrad respectively, have also defeated their Communist rivals.

But the biggest surprise of all is that the people of Leningrad have voted to change the city's name back to the Tsarist St Petersburg - despite a vigorous opposition campaign.

Mr Popov said the elections had been "a great event in Russian history and brought Russia into the family of civilised nations which choose their leaders by direct popular elections".

United States presidential spokesman Marlin Fitzwater said the election was a "historic step for the Russian people and the Soviet Union".

President Yeltsin's mandate, as head of three quarters of the Soviet land mass and 150 million people, could now force President Mikhail Gorbachev to embark on more radical reforms.

He remains President of the Soviet Union, but unlike President Yeltsin he was not elected by the people.

Mr Yeltsin resigned from the Soviet Communist Party last year. He had been a trenchant critic of Mr Gorbachev for not pressing ahead fast enough with political reform and his departure left the Communist Party in disarray.

One of Mr Yeltsin's first tasks as Russian President will be to maintain the delicate political balance between himself and Mr Gorbachev.

Speaking on the eve of the ballot, Mr Yeltsin said his relations with Mr Gorbachev were "businesslike and low-key".

For his part, Mr Gorbachev told reporters that he was prepared to co-operate with anyone the Russians elected.

Mr Yeltsin has chosen as his deputy a former Afghan war hero, Colonel Alexander Rutskoi.

He will also have to improve his shaky international image - beginning with a visit to Washington and President George Bush on 20 June.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

In August 1991 Soviet hardliners staged a coup against President Gorbachev and President Yeltsin emerged as a national hero as he rallied the people from the top of a tank to keep the peace.

In early December, the leaders of Russia, Ukraine and Belarus precipitated the end of the Soviet Union with the formation of the CIS or Commonwealth of Independent States.

Mr Gorbachev stepped down as Soviet leader on 25 December 1991 and Mr Yeltsin became president of independent Russia.

He pushed ahead with a radical programme of reforms but when he met opposition from within his own parliamentary assembly, he chose to break the deadlock by closing it down and then ordering the military to storm the Moscow White House.

In the second half of the 1990s he began to suffer from health problems and underwent heart surgery in 1995.

The unpredictable nature of his character surfaced again and he sacked his entire government twice, until parliament eventually forced him to accept limitations on his powers. He stepped down on 1 January 2000.

Yeltsin died on April 23, 2007, in Moscow

YOUR STARS

Aries Mar. 21-Apr. 19 'Honesty is the best policy' may be your catchphrase at this time.

Taurus April 20-May 20 Money might be the only thing on your mind right now. You may spend hours poring over your bank records.

Gemini May 21-Jun. 21 That new relationship might start off on a neutral ground today, but it probably won't end up there.

Cancer Jun. 22-Jul. 22 Between your job, your home life and your social life, everything seems to be draining your energy resources.

Leo Jul. 23-Aug. 22 You have so many potential dates lined up, you may need to send the overflow to your friends.

Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22 You might gaze with envy at some of your more freewheeling friends right now.

Libra Sep.23-Oct. 22 Whether you're swapping travel stories with a long-lost friend, networking with a colleague or getting to know someone new.

Scorpio Oct. 23 - Nov. 21 Everyone around you seems to be in giddy high spirits. It may inspire you to adopt a less-than-prudent attitude.

Sagittarius Nov. 22-Dec. 21 You have a bit of a bounce in your walk today. Life seems fairly entertaining at the moment and things promise to be lively.

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19 If anyone can meet a goal at this time, it's you. An expert in making plans and following them to the letter.

Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 18 Be on the lookout for a few kindred spirits today. They're out there and nearer than you think.

Pisces Feb.19-Mar. 20 An impulsive remark might put you on the blacklist today. Don't let it come to that point.

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Easy

5x5 grid for Easy Sudoku puzzle with numbers 1-5.

Easy+

5x5 grid for Easy+ Sudoku puzzle with numbers 1-5.

Medium

5x5 grid for Medium Sudoku puzzle with numbers 1-5.

Hard

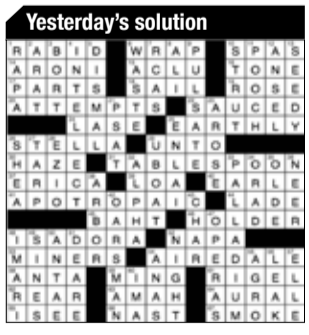
5x5 grid for Hard Sudoku puzzle with numbers 1-5.

WEATHER

Weather forecast table with columns for MIN, MAX, and CONDITION for various cities in CHINA and WORLD.

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Pelvic bones; 6- Danny's daughter; 11- Jiff; 14- Emollient-yielding plants; 15- Upstate New York city; 16- Locka, FL; 17- Kids toys; 18- Gazette; 20- Self-esteem; 21- Words of comprehension; 23- White as a ghost; 24- Hazardous; 26- Deadlock; 28- Short-tempered; 30- Exorbitant; 31- Sidewalk eateries; 32- is human...; 33- Student stat; 36- Black cuckoos; 37- Make ___ for oneself; 38- Prompted; 39- Tic-___-toe; 40- Halts; 41- Tremble; 42- Annie of 'Designing Women'; 43- Thrills; 44- Alfalfa; 47- Penned; 48- Designer Mizrahi; 49- River in central Switzerland; 50- Fire starter?; 53- One who rents land from a tenant; 56- Soccer scores; 58- Test area; 59- Ignited again; 60- Small bay; 61- TV Tarzan Ron; 62- Shouts; 63- Closes in on; DOWN: 1- 'Smooth Operator' singer; 2- Sleep like ___; 3- Imparting color; 4- Cath. or Prot.; 5- Aids; 6- Medium of exchange; 7- Out of the wind; 8- Remote button; 9- Cruces; 10- Theoretically; 11- Second-year students, for short; 12- Fencing swords; 13- Chili con ___; 19- Pronto; 22- Heavens; 25- Angers; 26- Agenda entries; 27- A ___ formality; 28- Shool; 29- Mandlikova of tennis; 30- Lathers; 32- Govt. security; 33- Republic in N Central America; 34- Short dog, for short; 35- Citrus coolers; 37- Envelope abbr.; 38- FDR's fireside ___; 40- Black magic; 41- Fizz ingredient; 42- ___ moss; 43- Stray; 44- Cotton thread used for hosiery; 45- Customary; 46- Cabdriver; 47- Pianist Andre; 49- Indigo source; 51- Robert of 'The Sopranos'; 52- Concordes, e.g.; 54- Maiden name indicator; 55- Competitor of Tide and Cheer; 57- The loneliest number;



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Fire department 28 572 222
Water Supply - Report 2822 0088
PJ (Open line) 993
Telephone - Report 1000
PJ (Picket) 28 557 775
Electricity - Report 28 339 922
PSP 28 573 333
Macau Daily Times 28 716 081
Customs 28 559 944
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Steve McMorran, Wellington

RUGBY

THE first trio of brothers to be selected in the same All Blacks team — the Barretts — honed their skills in backyard battles which featured arcane rules, tears and privileges of seniority.

Flyhalf Beauden Barrett, lock Scott Barrett and utility back Jordie Barrett — the imposed-upon youngest — spoke in Auckland yesterday about pedigree and sibling rivalry as they prepared for the first test against the British and Irish Lions.

Four trios of brothers have played for the All Blacks in the past. The Brownlies — Maurice, Cyril and Laurie — played for New Zealand in the 1920s but never all in the same team. The Nicholls brothers — Marcus, Harry and Harold — were All Blacks in the same decade but not the same side.

Most recently the Whitelocks — Sam, George and Luke — played for New Zealand but not simultaneously.

The Barretts made history when they were named last week in the All Blacks' 33-man squad for the Lions series and have some small chance of making a more exclusive place in history if they are to be included in the same team during the three-test series.

The brothers attribute their collective success to pedigree; father Kevin "Smiley" Barrett was a long-serving and famous player for New Zealand's Taranaki province



Barrett brothers (from left) Beauden, Scott and Jordie

and mother, Robyn, was a noted athlete.

"Mum was a pretty talented athlete and they all say the speed comes from Mum and the size and workrate would come from Dad," Beauden Barrett said. "I guess it's a good mixture, sitting here today.

"Dad was always a forward and worked hard in the pack. We probably got our flair from Mum."

Beauden said a learned work ethic had also been part of the brothers' success. They grew up on the family farm in Taranaki province, a dairy farming region in the cen-

tral North Island, and found time for sport only when chores were done.

"If you live on a farm you appreciate you can work countless hours and there's always work to be done," Beauden Barrett said. "We saw Mum and Dad doing that and

coming home to cook us dinner and get us ready for school.

"If you relate that to your rugby, it's always striving to be the best you can be, and that is endless as well."

The brothers developed a typical sibling rivalry in which youngest brother Jordie was at the target of most jokes. He had to accept the nicknames Baby or Bub, though recently the names have become more sophisticated.

"We played all sorts in the backyard but mostly cricket and I was always just trying to match these guys," Jordie said. "The rugby games I was in tears most times and couldn't really participate.

"No one was supervising and I think I was hung out to dry there."

Beauden said the rivalry may have hardened the brothers, and deepened their companionship.

"Mum would call for dinner and it would always go 10 minutes extra," he said. "It would be most likely him [Jordie] flying at you, getting up crying and he would come back that little bit harder next time." AP

Iran targets World Cup spot; China and Qatar target survival

IRAN could become just the second team to advance through qualifying for the 2018 World Cup — after Brazil — while China and Qatar could be officially eliminated from contention in Asian qualifiers this week.

Led by former Real Madrid and Portugal coach Carlos Queiroz, Iran has appeared at four World Cups but never managed back-to-back qualifications. Should Iran, four points clear at the top of Group A, defeat Uzbekistan in Tehran in front of what should be a capacity crowd of 100,000 today [Macau time], then it will secure a spot with two games remaining.

Unbeaten Iran hasn't conceded any goals in seven games in the third round of qualification, from which the top two teams in both groups get automatic spots at Russia 2018. The two third-place finishers enter a playoff series.

Today, South Korea can take a step to a ninth successive World Cup with a win in Qatar. The Taeguk Warriors sit in second, four

points below Iran and one above Uzbekistan, but a series of indifferent performances has raised the possibility of missing out on the World Cup for the first time since 1982.

Against Qatar — the recent diplomatic rift in the region meant that Korea traveled from United Arab Emirates to Doha via Kuwait on Saturday — defeat would see the team's German coach Uli Stielike come under increasing pressure.

Qatar, host of the 2022 World Cup, is last in Group A and already unable to finish in the top two in the group. Failure to win will officially end its already slim hopes of taking the playoff spot.

In the other Group A game today, Syria hosts China in the neutral venue of Malaysia. Syria has an outside chance of third place and is four points behind Uzbekistan.

China must win or its faint hopes of automatic qualification will end, and even the play-offs could be out of reach.

"It is totally within our

capabilities to defeat Syria," China coach Marcello Lippi said after his team thrashed the Philippines 8-1 in a friendly last week. "If we lose to Syria both at home and away, then we deserve to be eliminated."

Three teams are level atop Group B with 16 points after Australia defeated Saudi Arabia 3-2 last week.

That gives Japan a chance to move three points clear in top spot if it beats Iraq in a game played on neutral turf in Tehran.

Japan will be without Shinji Kagawa of Borussia Dortmund who was injured in a warm-up 1-1 draw against Syria, and coach Vahid Halilhodzic is expecting a tough time in Tehran.

"Everyone in Japan thinks that qualification for the World Cup is going to be no problem," Halilhodzic said. "But I'll warn everyone, it is not going to be easy."

In the other Group B match Thailand, already out of contention, is looking for a first win in this stage at home to United Arab Emirates. AP



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NHL

EVEN Sidney Crosby and the Pittsburgh Penguins are going to be challenged trying to top this.

Crosby was awarded his second consecutive Conn Smythe Trophy as the MVP of the Stanley Cup playoffs, and goalie Matt Murray made 27 saves for his second straight shutout as the Penguins became the first team to repeat as champion in nearly two decades with a 2-0 win over the Nashville Predators in Game 6.

That doesn't include Crosby also winning the World Cup of Hockey title before this season started, along with tournament MVP. He followed that up by leading the NHL with 44 goals, and Crosby was at his best in this Cup Final leading all scorers with seven points — one goal and six assists, including three in a 6-0 win in Game 5 that put the Penguins on the verge of their latest title.

Crosby also became only the third man to win back-to-back Conn Smythe trophies. All within a calendar year.

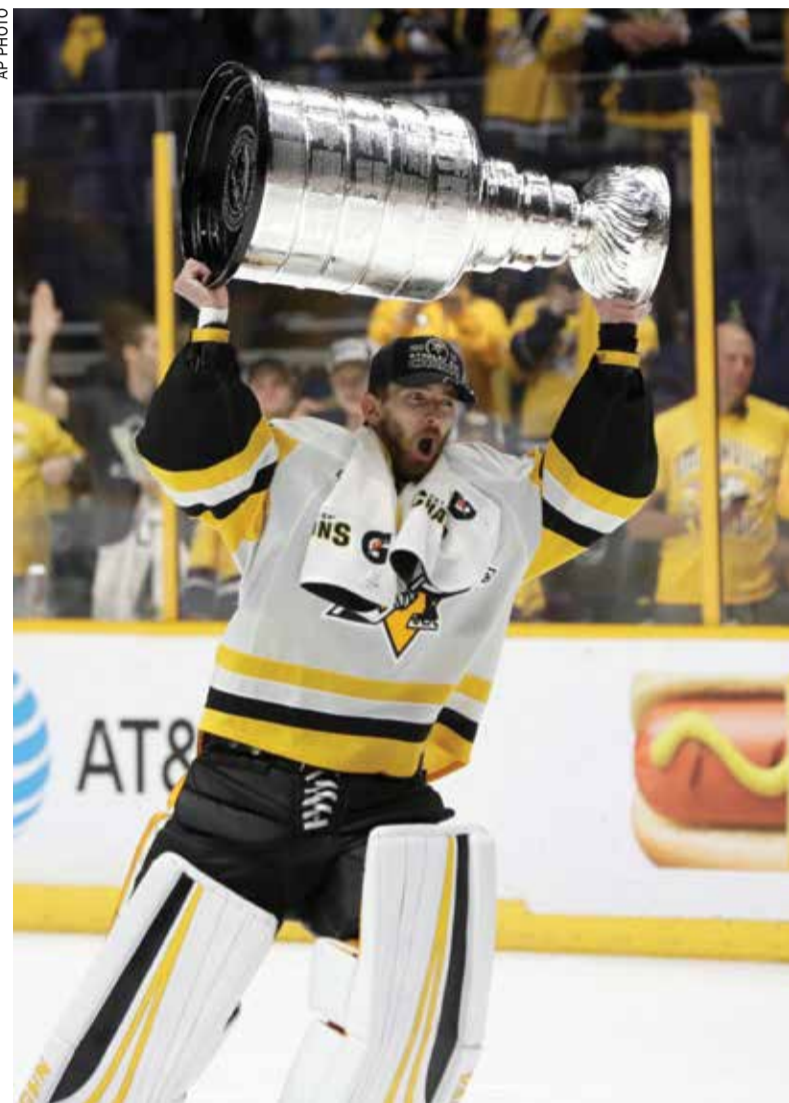
"You have a small window to play and to have a career, and I feel fortunate, but I also understand how difficult it is, so you just want to try to make the best of it," Crosby said.

The Penguins won their fifth title — all of them clinched on the road — to tie the Wayne Gretzky-Mark Messier-era Edmonton Oilers for sixth on the all-time list and the most by any non-Original Six franchise. The Detroit Red Wings in 1997 and '98 were the last champion to defend their title. The Penguins are the first to do it in the salary-cap era.

"It starts with Sid, our captain," coach Mike Sullivan said. "He's just such a terrific person and has such an appetite to win, and I think it's really contagious amongst our group."

Crosby did have some help. Murray is the first goaltender in NHL history to win the clinching game for the Stan-

Crosby, Pens cap amazing year with 2nd straight Stanley Cup



Pittsburgh Penguins' Matt Murray celebrates with the Stanley Cup after defeating the Nashville Predators 2-0

ley Cup in each of his first two seasons. He also set a rookie record with two shutouts in a Cup Final.

The Penguins also needed the second-latest clinching goal in regulation to finish off the Predators, who had played their way to their first Stanley Cup Final after being the last team into the playoffs. Patric Hornqvist, the last pick of the 2005 draft (by the Predators), scored the game-winner for Pittsburgh with 1:35 left by banking the puck

off Nashville goalie Pekka Rinne's left elbow. Carl Hagelin added an empty-net goal.

"There's been a lot of guys telling us we can't do it, and now we're standing here," Hornqvist said. "We're going to celebrate in Pittsburgh in a few days. This says a lot about this team. We've battled through a lot."

The celebration on the ice last a long time. Crosby took the Cup from NHL Commissioner Gary Bettman before

handing the trophy off to veteran defenseman Ron Hainsey who passed it to veteran forward Matt Cullen, who may have played his final game at the age of 40.

Nashville lost for just the first time in regulation on home ice this postseason, and this one had some hard luck. Colton Sissons had a goal erased by a whistle 67 seconds into the second period. The Predators went 0 of 4 with the man advantage, including 32 seconds of a 5-on-3 in the third. Sissons and Filip Forsberg each hit the post in the

The Penguins capped their 50th season in the NHL's centennial year

third period.

"It's going to sting, it's going to hurt for a while," said Nashville defenseman P.K. Subban, who made the Predators a Cup contender when he was added in a stunning trade nearly a year ago.

The disallowed goal will be remembered in Nashville for a long time. Referee Kevin Pollock blew the whistle when he lost sight of the puck, which was sitting behind Murray with lots of space in the crease for Sissons to tap it into the net.

"I know he lost sight, and we all make mistakes," Rinne said. "It was tough for sure."

The Penguins capped their 50th season in the NHL's centennial year with the third championship for Crosby and a handful of teammates from the 2009 title team, surpass-

ing the two won by the Penguins teams led by current owner Mario Lemieux in the 1990s.

And it's the second championship for Sullivan, who has yet to lose a playoff series since taking over after Mike Johnston was fired. Sullivan is the first American-born coach to win the Cup not once, but twice.

"It's been an amazing year from the start, trying to repeat," Lemieux said. "A lot of these guys played injured in the playoffs and showed a lot of character. Of course, Sid being the best player in the world again and winning the Conn Smythe. He was our leader and picked up the team when we needed it."

The loss ended the upstart Predators' deepest playoff run in their 19-year history and one that became the talk of the town — and the league — with all their country stars, catfish tossing and aggressive play on the ice.

Having won just three of 12 playoff series before this year, Nashville opened this postseason by eliminating the top-seeded Chicago Blackhawks in four games. In doing so, the Predators became the first eighth-seeded team to sweep a first-round series since the current playoff format was introduced in 1994. Nashville went through St. Louis and then Anaheim to the Final, where only captain Mike Fisher on the roster had ever played before.

The Penguins ruined Nashville's star-filled party on the final night of CMA Music Festival to set up another celebration of their own.

"We've got a collection of guys who understand what it takes to win," Crosby said. **AP**

FOOTBALL

South Korea leader proposes Asian nations co-host 2030 World Cup

SOUTH Korea's new liberal president has offered to co-host the 2030 World Cup with rival North Korea and other Northeast Asian countries as part of efforts to promote peace in the region, his office

said yesterday.

Moon Jae-in made the proposal during a meeting with FIFA President Gianni Infantino at the presidential Blue House in Seoul, Moon's office said in a statement.

"If neighboring Northeast Asian countries including South and North Korea can host the World Cup, I think that would contribute to peace between South and North Korea and in the Northeast Asian

region," Moon told Infantino, according to Moon's office. "I would like President Infantino to have interests on this matter."

Infantino was quoted as saying he will sound out Chinese President

Xi Jinping about Moon's idea when the two meet later this week.

Since taking office last month, Moon's government has been seeking to expand cross-border exchanges as a way to improve strained ties over the North's nuclear and missile programs. But North Korea has conducted several missile launches in a show of its resolve to continue its weapons development program.

The organizers of

the 2018 Olympics in Pyeongchang, South Korea, hope North Korea will take part in the Winter Games.

The two Koreas have been divided along the world's most heavily fortified border since the 1950-53 Korean War ended with an armistice, not a peace treaty. About 28,500 American troops are stationed in South Korea as deterrence against potential aggression from North Korea. **AP**

opinion

Our Desk

Julie Zhu



FORGOTTEN BUSES

Bus line 25 has recently become a hot topic because it was decided that the line would no longer serve the Hac Sa Beach area.

Some people complained about this decision despite not knowing where exactly to take the bus. Others felt disappointed because they now have one less option when it is time to go home.

If the decision to shorten line 25 was for the purpose of ensuring the bus could run more effectively and better serve passengers, then routes 71 and 73 ought to be reconsidered. Buses 71 and 73 are two of the three lines that share a terminal on the campus of the University of Macau, connecting people from that school, a seemingly sporadically visited place, to all other parts of the city, including Taipa and the Macau Peninsula.

Both buses 71 and 73 run from the UM campus and pass by the Praça de Ferreira do Amaral, while bus 72 serves a few spots in Taipa. Notwithstanding, upon leaving Praça de Ferreira do Amaral, bus 73 drives towards Areia Preta.

Since their inception, buses 71 and 73 have seen several changes to their routes, mainly in the form of extra stops added between their terminals.

For instance, bus 73 used to stop at Ponte de Sai Wan/ Av. Jardins do Oceano before hitting Praça de Ferreira do Amaral. Now, the bus stops at Rotunda Marginal/ Est. do Dique Oeste, and then goes to the Macau Tower. Afterwards, it traverses through Av. Dr. Sun Yat-Sen and Av. 24 de Junho before heading to the Praça de Ferreira do Amaral. Hence, the bus now covers some of the city's main parts, despite the number of passengers it takes still indicates that this bus serves mainly workers and students from UM.

Thus the question arises: why run across the long way from the UM campus to the Areia Preta, passing through the Macau Tower and stopping near some of Taipa's main hotels, if the bus only carries students and workers from UM? Can someone make bus 73 feel prouder about its road performance?

During off-peak traffic times, buses 71 and 73 are like two good friends, they even occasionally depart from UM together. This situation causes the bus following behind to often carry a single-digit number of people - or sometimes none at all - which is normally the case for bus 71. This happens because these two buses leave the UM terminal simultaneously and because the majority of the passengers want to go to the border gate, thus preferring 73. When bus 73 arrives five seconds earlier than 71, the poor 71 is very likely to be left empty. Similar situations happen in the reverse direction.

In summary, these buses definitely benefit those who want to visit UM. However, seeing these buses empty or seeing them stopping at many stops without anybody to hop on, really brings people down.

Money is being invested in routes 71 and 73, traffic compounds because of them and even bridges have been prioritized for them, but where are the passengers for buses 71 and 73?

THE TROPICAL STORM MERBOK LASHES BUZZ MACAU, HONG KONG

Macau braced itself for its first typhoon this year, as Tropical Storm Merbok lashed the city with rain. All ferries to Hong Kong and some plane departures in the city were suspended. The Macau Meteorological and Geophysical Bureau kept Signal No. 3 raised last night.

In the HKSAR, the Hong Kong Observatory raised Signal No. 8 at 5:20 p.m. local time and said the warning would remain in force yesterday. Tropical Storm Merbok was centered about 50 kilometers south-southeast of Hong Kong and is

forecast to move north-northwest at about 20 kilometers per hour in the general direction of the city. It is expected to make landfall over the vicinity of the Pearl River Estuary around midnight and will dissipate gradually today, the Observatory said.

Cathay Pacific Airways Ltd. canceled or delayed 27 flights to and from Hong Kong yesterday and today. The Airport Authority Hong Kong estimated 41 flights were canceled and another 275 were delayed as of 7 p.m.

Station	Air quality	
Roadside	15-35 Good	
High Density Residential Area	15-35 Good	
Ambient	15-35 Good	

SOURCE: DSMG

WORLD BRIEFS

NEPAL Confessed French serial killer Charles Sobhraj, who is serving a life sentence in Nepal, had successful heart surgery yesterday, doctors said. The Frenchman is believed to have murdered at least 20 people in Afghanistan, India, Thailand, Turkey, Nepal, Iran and Hong Kong during the 1970s.

YEMEN A multinational coalition of navies says it will step up patrols in waters around Yemen after several attacks there, including those launched by Somali pirates and others blamed on Yemeni rebel forces.



RUSSIA Thousands of anti-government activists challenging President Vladimir Putin's rule were protesting across Russia yesterday, with police arresting main opposition leader Alexei Navalny outside his Moscow home before he could reach the main demonstration and scores of others.

POLAND Polish officials are hailing an upcoming visit by Donald Trump, with Poland's defense minister calling it a "huge success" for the government and another official celebrating the unexpectedness of a U.S. president stopping in Warsaw before Paris, London or Berlin.



BRITAIN Senior members of British Prime Minister Theresa May's government rallied to her defense yesterday amid doubts over her ability to remain in power following a disastrous election result. *More on p15*

BRAZIL A fugitive Italian crime clan boss was taken into custody at a Brazil airport over the weekend, authorities said. Vincenzo Macri was part of an international criminal organization that imported and trafficked drugs from Morocco, the Netherlands and the Dominican Republic.

Greece puts faith in France to solve bailout impasse

Derek Gatopoulos, Athens

FRANCE'S finance minister says Greece is on course to reach a crucial funding deal with bailout lenders this week.

"A new crisis on the Greek issue must be calmly avoided," Bruno Le Maire said after meeting yesterday with Greek Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras.

The French minister traveled to Athens ahead of a meeting in Luxembourg on Thursday of finance ministers from countries using the euro currency.

Loan payouts from the eurozone countries have been delayed for months, and Greece urgently needs them as it faces a July spike in debt repayments worth some 7 billion euros (USD7.8 billion).

"We are not far at all from a solution. That solution must be found on June 15," Le Maire said.

Successive Greek governments have viewed France as an ally in bailout disputes, in contrast to the more fiscally hawkish Germans.

Athens is also seeking Paris' help on obtaining a concrete pledge from creditors on debt relief, an issue complicated by disagreement among lenders over the country's growth



French Minister of the Economy and Finance Bruno Le Maire (right) walks with his Greek Finance Minister Euclid Tsakalotos during their meeting in Athens yesterday

potential and debt sustainability.

"We're closer than ever to reaching an agreement on the debt issue, one that corresponds to the sacrifices made by the Greek people," Tsipras said after the meeting.

Investors continued yesterday to anticipate an end to the months-long delay in reaching an agreement with bailout lenders.

Shares on the Athens Stock Exchange were roughly unchanged at 781 points following a weeks-long surge from just over 600 in early February, while market borrowing rates were also lower. Yields on two-year bonds dropped to 5 percent from above 10 four months ago.

Klaus Regling, head of the

eurozone's bailout European Stability Mechanism also appeared optimistic.

"I continue to be convinced that if Greece continues with its reforms, it can end the [bailout] program next year and will regain market access before the end of the program," he said in an interview published yesterday.

Prime Minister Tsipras pushed more painful austerity measure through parliament in successive votes that ended Friday, extending draconian budget cuts for roughly five years.

While in Athens, Le Maire will meet Greek Finance Minister Euclid Tsakalotos and was due to hold talks with Bank of Greece Governor Yannis Stournaras. **AP**

THE DECISIVE MOMENT



Bend on the bend. This (apparent) mainland tourist couldn't wait to find a better spot to check her smartphone latest whatever-tweet, no. On the beep, she bends over her knees just there; on a busy bend downtown, oblivious to the walking crowds, which had to contour her to proceed to their destination.

Paulo Coutinho

AP PHOTO