



NG LAP SENG'S TRIAL SET TO BEGIN

Macau billionaire Ng Lap Seng will start his trial today in Manhattan on charges of corruption and bribery

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INDEPENDENT BOOK AND RECORD STORE REOPENS

The independent retailer Pin-to Livros reopened after 11 months of absence since its forcible closure

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WORLD BRIEFS



CHINA's foreign minister says Beijing will hold a dialogue with Afghanistan and Pakistan to help improve relations between the two South Asian neighbors. Wang Yi said during a visit to Pakistan yesterday that foreign ministers from the three countries would discuss relations, with an emphasis on economic cooperation.



JAPAN has marked the 75th anniversary of diplomatic ties with the Holy See with a performance of ancient traditional Noh theater in Rome. At the performance Saturday in Rome at the Palazzo della Cancelleria, a Renaissance architectural masterpiece housing Vatican tribunals, visitors were shown how to wear a Noh theater mask.

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FINANCIAL TIMES

China probe shines light on top dealmakers

Over 90 missing in Sichuan landslide

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São João traditional festival records more visitors than ever before

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Four-year-old dies at hotel pool

A four-year-old South Korean child died yesterday afternoon at the pool of an hotel in Cotai. TDM reported that the child was spending the afternoon with its parents at the pool. Around 6 p.m., the parents noticed that the child was suddenly missing, shortly before they saw him unconscious. Hotel staff attempted to resuscitate the child. The child was taken to hospital and was declared dead on arrival. An autopsy is to be performed, but the police believe the cause of death was drowning.

UM graduates first doctor from Colombia

Gilberto Ortiz, a Colombian doctoral student at the University of Macau (UM), became the first doctor from a Spanish-speaking country to graduate from UM. Ortiz is a student of civil and earthquake engineering from UM's faculty of science and technology (FST). In his dissertation, Ortiz proposed a new Bayesian (relating to Bayes' theorem) nonparametric technique that has a wide range of applications, such as predicting peak ground acceleration, modeling of seismic attenuation and assisting with structural health monitoring. Ortiz's supervisor was Professor Yuen Ka Veng, an FST professor who specializes in real-time structural health monitoring systems for large infrastructure and buildings.

Grand Prix and Wine Museum to close from July 1

The Macau Government Tourism Office (MGTO) announced that the Grand Prix Museum, the Wine Museum and the Tourism Activities Center (CAT) will be closed for renovations starting July 1. MGTO plans to remodel the current Grand Prix Museum. Admission to both museums will be free until June 30. Both museums are open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily, but are closed on Tuesdays. The Grand Prix Museum features a number of automobiles and motorbikes on display. The Wine Museum brings visitors through the process of winemaking with exhibitions on the history of wine, as well as a showcase of tools used in wine production.

Ng Lap Seng to begin trial today

MACAU billionaire Ng Lap Seng will start his trial today in Manhattan on charges of corruption, as well as the alleged bribery of senior United Nations officials over a conference center he hoped to build in the MSAR.

Ng has pleaded not guilty to the bribery charges. His former assistant, Jeff Yin – who was arrested at the same time as Ng – arranged a plea deal in April with prosecutors and admitted to being guilty of a single tax charge. Several other defendants in the case have also pleaded guilty.

According to Reuters, jury selection will begin before U.S. District Judge Vernon Broderick in Manhattan, and the trial is not expected

to last more than a few weeks.

The news agency cites several defense lawyers who have argued that Ng's prosecution was politically motivated. One such motivation, they argue, is to limit China's influence over developing countries in organizations such as the U.N.

Among other charges, Ng is accused of paying more than half a million dollars to former U.N. General Assembly president John Ashe, who died in June under mysterious circumstances while awaiting trial.

The alleged bribery was intended to secure Ashe's support for a U.N.-backed conference center in Macau. This would be constructed

by Ng's real estate company, Sun Kian Ip Group, and serve as Ng's legacy in the MSAR.

He was also allegedly behind substantial donations, amounting to hundreds of thousands of dollars, to the Democratic National Committee between 1994 and 1996, while former president Bill Clinton was vying for re-election. Prosecutors suggested that the allegations, which surfaced in a 1998 U.S. Senate report, would not be brought up in the trial.

Ng was initially arrested in September 2015. He was soon freed on a USD50-million bail, whereby he was permitted to live in a luxury apartment under 24-hour guard.



Ng Lap Seng

'FIRST STEP' INTO HARD POLITICS

Jorge Valente to focus on labor, education and housing issues

JORGE Neto Valente Jr, recently announced candidate to the Legislative Assembly (AL) Elections of September 17, has aired his views on what he described as his most pressing concerns for the campaign.

In an interview with Radio Macau, Valente described several issues that he considers top priority. These include labor, ecology and housing, among others.

Valente, who occupies the third position on the "Alliance for Change" (Aliança para a Mudança) list led by Melinda Chan, said: "I want to do more for Macau people. I think I have a focus a bit different [from other candidates] and I can be an 'added value' to the political spectrum."

Justifying his inclusion on Chan's list, Valente said he believes they have many "points in common." He said he had accepted his position and that his main role is to "support Melinda so she can be elected and fight for the ideals that [we have in] common." The agreement, he added, had been addressed prior to his inclusion on the list.

On the list's electoral program, Valente said his list represents "the change and the

innovation", which he described as the response to a certain existing "polarization" that he said "isn't healthy."

In this sense, the list targets "the ones that are in the middle," professional classes that compose the Macau "middle class," which Valente described as the bridge between corporations and blue-collar workers.

Education is another of Valente's main concerns. "There is the need to teach both languages [Portuguese and Chinese] in all the schools of the region [...] the government has the means to do that."

Valente also cited support for small- and medium-sized enterprises as another concern, saying that it is time to seriously evaluate the results of existing programs implemented by the government.

"There is a need to ease the way the regulations for the hiring of non-residents are applied," said Valente, noting that the law was drafted with the restaurant and construction sectors in mind, and "all of those that do not fit [into] those find trouble [hiring] workers."

Valente also thinks that start-ups can lead Macau's economic diversification.



Jorge Neto Valente Jr

"I think Macau can bet on the start-ups as a policy for economic diversification because [they] are giving the tools and creating the environment, especially for the youngsters, to grow and to be able to compete worldwide, and not just locally."

Valente also addressed the need to change the public housing system, namely in terms of the construction and the attribution of units, "in order to give opportunities "to the ones that really need it."

A good result in the election, he said, "would be to get two seats. A very good [result] would be to have three." RM

TOURISM

Visitor arrivals increase by 3.7 pct in May

VISITOR arrivals to Macau in May 2017 increased by 3.7 percent year-on-year, but 6.3 percent down month-to-month, with overnight visitors rising by 14.2 percent, the SAR's statistics service said on Friday.

The latest data issued by the Statistics and Census Service (DSEC) indicates visitor arrivals in May totaled 2.57 million, with overnight visitors reaching 1.38 million and same-day visitors 1.19 million.

The average length of stay of visitors rose by 0.1 days year-on-year to 1.3 days; overnight visitors and same-day visitors stayed an average of 2.2 days and 0.2 days respectively, the same as in May last year, the DSEC data showed.

Visitors from mainland China increased by 4.4 percent year-on-year to 1.7 million in May, mainly from Guangdong Province (708,960), Hunan Province (77,676) and Fujian Province (67,590).

In the first five months of 2017, visitor arrivals totaled 13.2 million, up by 6.3 percent year-on-year; overnight visitors (6.75 million) rose by 13.7 percent while same-day visitors (6.44 million) dropped slightly by 0.5 percent.

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CULTURE

Pin-to Livros returns 11 months after closure

Daniel Beittler

INDEPENDENT book and record store, Pin-to Livros 2.0, officially opened its doors to the public yesterday after 11 months of absence since its forcible closure.

Clean, elegant and quiet, the small store - located at No.47 Rua de Coelho do Amaral, near Kiang Wu hospital - has recaptured the atmosphere of its former incarnation.

Storeowner Anson Ng previously enjoyed a dual set-up, with sister shops Pin-to Livros and Pin-to Musica located one floor apart in the same building, close to Senado Square. His new store now bears the humorous but unofficial byline, "2.0", and is based further afield in an area with lower foot traffic.

The shop, which is just four meters wide and houses both books and records, is considera-



bly smaller than the dual set-up.

Ng was forced to close up shop in July after a new company acquired the lease to the building and notified the bookstore owner that his rental contract would be terminated.

Eleven months on, and the two

former premises appear vacant and derelict. Ng said that, to the best of his knowledge, "the spaces are not being used for anything."

This was corroborated by a visit to the building yesterday by the Times. On the door to the

former bookshop were several Chinese New Year decorations and a note in Chinese informing that Pin-to Livros had closed and will be reopened in 2017. Other than that, there were no signs of activity.

A woman who works in a store in the same building told the Times that the premises are not currently occupied and that there are visitors in the building looking for the bookshop every week.

Meanwhile, back at the new store, Ng was pleased with the opening day turnout.

He estimated that around 100 people had visited Pin-to Livros 2.0 within two hours of its opening. The Times recorded around a dozen people in the shop at any one time during its visit, with several entering or exiting every few minutes.

Despite the limited space, Ng said that he wants to continue hosting concerts, even though they may only accommodate up to 30 people at a time.

The bookstore is located on the ground floor of its new building. The two floors above house a theater association's office and a library of theater-related material.

Pin-to Livros is open daily from 12 p.m. to 9 p.m.



USJ congregation awards 207 degrees

The University of Saint Joseph's (USJ) class of 2017 graduated on Saturday at the Macau Cathedral. The ceremony was separated into morning and afternoon sessions, with 207 graduates and more than 800 witnesses. Bishop Stephen Lee, Bishop of Macau and Chancellor of USJ, officiated the event. Six PhD degrees, 41 master degrees and 160 bachelor degrees were awarded in the presence of the bishop, USJ rector Peter Stilwell, and representatives from the Education and Youth Affairs Bureau and Caritas Macau, among other guests.

Chan denies 'special channel' for recruitment

The Secretary for Administration and Justice, Sonia Chan, said yesterday during a public event that the government "does not have a special channel for staff recruitment." Last week, several media reported the case of a graduated student from mainland China who had reportedly been recruited through a special channel to enter the civil service. According to a statement issued by the Government Information Bureau, Sonia Chan also noted that regarding the specific case of the translation services under the responsibility of the her office, "recruitment is done mostly inside the public services and only in urgent situations an external recruitment system is adopted." Chan noted that such scheme is the same existing since 1989.

Stanley Ho steps down as Shun Tak chairman

MACAU gaming tycoon Stanley Ho has stepped down as chairman of Shun Tak Holdings Ltd., according to Reuters. His daughter Pansy Ho will assume leadership of the Hong Kong conglomerate, which has businesses in hospitality, property, shipping and investment.

Ho founded the holding company and has served on its board for more than 40 years. He will be awarded the title of chairman emeritus - a designation sometimes conferred upon retired founders or corporate visionaries who brought their organizations to new heights - as a mark of distinguished service.

In a statement filed to the Hong Kong stock exchange, the company said Ho will cease to hold any official position - director or officer - at Shun Tak.

Ho, 95, is Macau's wealthiest individual and one of the wealthiest in Asia. He was worth USD2 billion in 2011, making him Hong Kong's 13th richest man. His invest-



A Stanley Ho picture released earlier this year

ments span China, Portugal, North Korea, Vietnam, the Philippines, Mozambique, Indonesia and East Timor.

In the decades that Ho monopolized local gaming, more than 50 percent of the territory's economy came under his ownership.

His many nicknames include "The King of Gambling", "The King of Macau" and "Macau's Underground Governor."

After suffering a stroke in 2009, he began decentralizing his corporate empire and distributing it among his family. Ho has had four wives and 16 children.

Macau European Chamber of Commerce holds gala dinner

THE Macau European Chamber of Commerce (MECC) held its 2017 gala dinner at the Grand Lisboa last Friday. This year's dinner, organized in partnership with the Italian Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong and Macau, was themed "Ciao! Benvenuto!"

MECC presented the MECC awards for "Euroexcellence" in luxury, food and beverage, and innovation to Macau companies that uphold European quality standards. The awards were first launched in 2015 to encourage local enterprises to engage in Sino-Western collaboration, continuing Macau's cross-cultural heritage while creating business opportunities.

This year's winners were Sands China Ltd, which won the MECC Award for Euroexcellence in Luxury for its promotion of European luxury and lifestyle. Man Seng Group won the Award for Euroexcellence in Food and Beverage for its efforts to introduce diverse European culinary pro-



ducts to Macau. The Award for Euroexcellence in Innovation went to Premium & Collectibles Trading Company Limited for its use of advanced technology in the manufacture of toy models and action figures.

Ambrose So, Honorary Chairman of MECC, said at the event that "Macau has always played an important role in China-Italy relations, starting with the arrival of Matteo Ricci in Macau in 1852. MECC is pleased to continue the role of fostering ties between Macau, China and Europe."

So added that a report on the EU's role in stimulating Macau's development was published last January, which highlighted the role that European companies can play in fulfilling

Macau's strategic goals for its five-year plan.

Carmen Cano, Head of Office of the EU to Hong Kong and Macau, said, "The EU and its business community are keen to work with the Macau government to diversify its economy, improve the sustainability of its economic development and promote bilateral trade and investment flows."

She stated that EU businesses already play an important role in Macau's infrastructure projects and expansion plans.

The gala dinner featured musical performances of classic Italian numbers by a pianist, accordionist and vocalist. Each of the trio's songs represented a different Italian city, allowing guests to "travel within Italy" through music.

The Rui Cunha Foundation will host a talk on the consequences of Brexit from the Irish perspective, scheduled for 6.30 p.m. tomorrow at its headquarters. The foundation has invited Peter Ryan, Consul General of Ireland to Hong Kong and Macau, to discuss the impact of Brexit on Ireland. Brexit refers to the United Kingdom's departure from the European Union (EU), which was decided in a vote last year. Negotiations between the EU and the United Kingdom have just begun. The talk will be conducted in English and admission is free.

US Independence Day reception in Macau

The U.S. Consulate General of Hong Kong and Macau hosted a reception last Friday to celebrate the 241st anniversary of the independence of the United States of America. The reception was held at the Clube Militar de Macau. Consul General Kurt Tong and Secretary for Administration and Justice Sonia Chan were present at the reception. During the event, Chan stated that "bilateral trade and investment flows [between Macau and the U.S.] have increased significantly [and that] a good and stable Sino-American relationship is vital to the continued success of U.S. corporations operating in Macau." She added that Macau's long-term policies of economic diversification and regional integration will provide ample opportunities for U.S. corporations in all sectors to flourish.

Delegation from Hubei Province visits IPM

Nie Changbin, Vice Secretary-General of the People's Government of Hubei Province, led a group of delegates to visit the Macau Polytechnic Institute (IPM) last Thursday. The delegation met Hubei students at IPM to learn about their campus life and encourage them to pursue excellence in their studies. During the meeting, Nie stated the main purpose of the trip was to visit Hubei students in Macau and better understand their academic progress. IPM has admitted outstanding students from Hubei to pursue undergraduate studies in Sino-Lusophone trade relations and Chinese-Portuguese translation and interpretation, among other courses.

SPORTS

MOP2m budget cut for the 2nd Wushu Masters Challenge

Julie Zhu

THE local government has planned a smaller budget for the second edition of the Wushu Masters Challenge, as revealed by the President of the Sports Bureau (ID), Pun Weng Kun, during a press conference held last week.

The four-day challenge will take place from August 10 to 13.

The activities will be held in various locations across Macau, such as Tap Seac Square, the Tap Seac Multisport Pavilion and Senado Square.

Activities include the CKF International Combat Challenge-Macao and the Fourth Asia Dragon & Lion Dance Championship, as well as other events held over the four days.

"We have some experience from last year, which our team referred to, therefore we believe it will be better this year, regardless of the event arrangements," Pun

said. "The equipment has all been upgraded, and in regard to how the arrangements have been done, everybody will see by then."

Residents' preferences, and other practical considerations were taken into account this year as well, according to Pun.

He also revealed that the budget for this year's Wushu Masters Challenge is MOP18 million, which is slightly thinner than last year's MOP20 million.

The ID head claimed that the government is planning to spend less than its budget for the event.

"We will control costs even harder," said Pun, who believes a reduced budget does not indicate a poorer arrangement of activities or facilities.

In contrast, the government will provide an even better experience for the event's audiences.

The ID president claimed

that the Wushu Master Challenge is "connecting sports events while improving the cultural and creative sectors. I believe that some of the days will be very attractive and popular among audiences."

The first edition of the event last year was widely criticized for the poor quality of some performers and poor attendance at events. Following the criticism, the Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture, Alexis Tam, said that the event and the possibility of its continuation would be reevaluated.

When asked about public participation and the controversial reactions to last year's event, Pun noted that the ID conducted a survey, the results of which were presented last September.

The survey interviewed 1,002 visitors from August 11 to 14 last year at several of the event's locations. Overall, the survey's results showed



that 59.4 percent of locals and 83 percent of tourists expressed their satisfaction towards the event. About 83 percent of locals would like to see it again.

Local Taiji master, Lei Man Iam, told the media yesterday that the local government should enhance support to Chinese traditional martial arts.

The four-day event aims to provide a platform for martial art enthusiasts to learn, experience and train, as well as provide a way to promote interaction and experience sharing among those that are already practicing.

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Governo da Região Administrativa Especial de Macau
Direcção dos Serviços de Identificação

Requerimento para a emissão do certificado de associação para efeitos das eleições para a Assembleia Legislativa – 2017

Relativamente às eleições para a Assembleia Legislativa – 2017, a Direcção dos Serviços de Identificação (DSI) vem pelo presente informar do seguinte:

- As associações e as organizações devem requerer à DSI, quanto antes, o certificado comprovativo da lista nominativa dos titulares dos órgãos sociais a ser entregue nos SAFF para reconhecimento da relação dos votantes da pessoa colectiva.
- Aos requerimentos apresentados e devidamente instruídos no dia 24 de Julho de 2017 ou antes desta data, será garantida a emissão do respectivo certificado antes do dia 3 de Agosto de 2017, data em que termina o prazo de entrega do referido certificado ao SAFF para a inscrição da relação dos votantes de pessoa colectiva.
- Caso tenha sido apresentado, antes de 20 de Junho de 2017, o "Pedido de Reconhecimento de Constituição de Comissão de Candidatura", já instruído com o certificado da lista nominativa dos titulares dos órgãos sociais, o respectivo certificado pode ser usado também para a instrução do pedido de reconhecimento da relação dos votantes da pessoa colectiva.
- Para os requerimentos apresentados depois das datas acima indicadas ou com documentação incompleta, a DSI vai acompanhá-los com o maior esforço.
- Do certificado a emitir constará somente a relação dos titulares dos órgãos sociais em efectividade de funções em 13 de Março de 2017. Caso a acta da reunião apresentada no requerimento do certificado demonstre que os actuais titulares dos órgãos sociais da associação ou organização iniciaram as suas funções depois de 13 de Março de 2017, a respectiva acta será considerada inaplicável.
- O pedido para emissão do certificado sobredito faz-se mediante:
 - O preenchimento do impresso próprio para "Pedido de Certificado de Associação" fornecido pela DSI (pode ser obtido através do website da DSI : <http://www.dsi.gov.mo>);
 - O pedido é assinado pelo presidente da assembleia geral ou da direcção da associação requerente ou pelo seu procurador, e aposto o carimbo da associação;
 - O pedido deve ser acompanhado dos seguintes documentos:
 - Acta da sessão da assembleia geral para eleições dos titulares dos órgãos sociais;
 - Fotocópias dos documentos de identificação dos titulares dos órgãos sociais;
 - Procuração, quando o pedido for assinado pelo representante designado pelo presidente da assembleia geral ou da direcção da associação requerente.

Não é necessário entregar os documentos acima referidos se tenham efectuado a actualização do registo dos mesmos na DSI, entretanto podem as associações ou organizações requerentes juntá-los novamente ao requerimento para evitar morosidade, caso hajam erros nos documentos anteriormente apresentados.

Para mais informações sobre o requerimento do certificado de associação destinado às eleições para a Assembleia Legislativa, podem ligar para o número 8394-0581.

Direcção dos Serviços de Identificação, a 16 de Junho de 2017.

A Directora,
Ao Leong U

ADVERTORIAL

SANDS CHINA NEWS

Professionalism Training for Gaming Practitioners: Graduating Class Honoured and New Cohort Inaugurated

Co-organised by Macau Federation of Trade Unions, Labour Affairs Bureau and Sands China Ltd.

Sands China's first group of team members to graduate from the Professionalism Training for Gaming Practitioners programme were honoured June 15 at The Venetian Macao, at a ceremony that also inaugurated its next class of students. Co-organised by the Macau Federation of Trade Unions (FAOM), the Labour Affairs Bureau (DSAL) and Sands China Ltd., the training programme launched in July of last year as the first course of its kind in Macao for gaming employees – creating a three-way partnership between the government, union and employer.

The coursework in last year's programme focused primarily on occupational professionalism. This year, the course has been expanded to cover an overview of the gaming industry, civic education, occupational professionalism and responsible gaming. New materials in this year's course include an introduction to the current development of the country, the Belt and Road initiative, Macao's development path, and the impact of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge to Macao's gaming and tourism industry.

Sands China is committed to having 3,000 of its team members trained in two years, and aims to train 7,500 in five years – representing half of the company's total gaming workforce. The ceremony recognised the first set of Sands China team members to have completed the training, and also welcomed the programme's newest cohort. The 600 team members participating in the first round of the programme attended 14 hours of training over the course of two full days, in classes of 30 team members, held at Sands Macao. The latest round of training began June 5.

In contrast to last year's programme, which was open to dealers only, this year's cohort comprises team members from departments such as table games, slots, cage, international marketing, market development, loyalty marketing and security. It thereby allows more gaming practitioners to participate and improve their occupational professionalism.

Officiating guests at the ceremony were Huang Huagai, Director of the Social Work Department and Deputy Secretary-General of the Liaison Office of the Central People's Government in the Macao SAR; Teng Nga Kan, representative of the Macao SAR Secretary of Economy and Finance and Chief of Office; Wong Chi Hong, Director of the Labour Affairs Bureau; Chan Kam Meng, President of the Macau Federation of Trade Unions; Paulo Martins Chan, Director of the Gaming Inspection and Coordination Bureau; and Dr. Wilfred Wong, President of Sands China Ltd.

Sands China offers its team members various courses to enhance their professional skills, including courses on communication skills, effective time management, advanced social etiquette for professional success, and service emotional intelligence, among others. Sands China considers their development to be crucial to Macao's transformation into a world centre of tourism and leisure. The Professionalism Training for Gaming Practitioners programme is one of the company's many investments into its local team members.



Photo Caption: Sands China Ltd. holds a ceremony June 15 at The Venetian Macao honouring the first group of team members to graduate from the Professionalism Training for Gaming Practitioners programme.



Photo caption: Officiating guests present certificates to representatives of graduating team members at the joint graduation-inauguration ceremony for Sands China's Professionalism Training for Gaming Practitioners programme after the officiating moment.



Photo caption: Two of the programme's graduates, one of the course lecturers, and a director of Sands China's gaming department share their experiences on stage.



Paulo Reis



Vânia Vieira

SÃO JOÃO FESTIVAL

Latest edition records more visitors than ever before

Daniel Beitler

THE annual São João festivities were held over the weekend in the St. Lazarus district, welcoming hundreds of locals and tourists alike to socialize and sample traditional and authentic Portuguese products.

The festival, now in its 11th edition since the restart of a centuries-old tradition, is a cherished event in the city where some of the best of Portuguese folklore music, food and drinks are on offer.

Those the Times interviewed were in agreement that this year was busier than last, even though the 2016 edition had had an unprecedented number of visitors and stall operators.

"The number of visitors is increasing every year. My indication of this is that every year the [vendors] are increasing the quantity of products on offer," said Maria Amélia António, president of the House of Portugal (Casa de Portugal) Association, one of the event's main organizers. "On Saturday night, many of them told me that they had sold out."

"I can feel more people this year [at the festival]," said Paulo Reis, a teacher at the House of Portugal. "Yesterday was full of people; today not so many, but still more than [the same day] last year."

In total, there appeared to be around two dozen stalls and as many as 200 people across several streets of the St. Lazarus district by the late afternoon yesterday.

The House of Portugal teacher was managing a stall displaying and selling his ceramic works. His intention was to first and foremost to provide a place for his artworks to be seen, but he also sees the festival as a good opportunity to recruit more students for his class.

"I am selling some pieces, but my [priority] is to show my

work to everybody," Reis told the Times. "We can show [artwork] everywhere; not only in galleries and museums."

Another vendor, Vânia Vieira, who was overseeing a stall affiliated with Portuguese shop, Mercaria Portuguesa, said it was "very nice to have the community come together like this. It's a very traditional summer party in Portugal."

The number of visitors is increasing every year.

MARIA AMÉLIA ANTÓNIO
HOUSE OF PORTUGAL

They have been running a stall for about four years said Vieira, and offer products sourced from Portugal such as coffee, Madeira cake, sardines, Ginjinha (cherry liqueur) and pumpkin, tomato and other flavored jams.

This year's edition was nearly cancelled due to a disagreement between the organizers and the Transport Bureau (DSAT). Eventually, the negotiations were set back on track and the festival was given the green light earlier this month.

What could not be negotiated, however, was the closing time of 10 p.m., which is enforced by local authorities so as to respect a law on noise control in the district.

"For the Saturday, it doesn't justify such an early [closing] time. It is not a high-density residential area," said António. "The few people that live in that area will not be disturbed. I met some of the people who live there and they are very [appreciative] of the festival. They told me, 'For one day of the year I can see people happy and enjoying themselves in this neighborhood.'"

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For Rent



Riveira H Unit, Tower 1

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Coloane, 4 Storey Commercial Building

(Ref: 17040646)
4,003sq. ft. HKD 198,000

The property is a licensed commercial space spread over 4 floors including a basement, ground floor retail, and two upper floors in the heart of the unique Coloane village situated next door to the famous 'Lord Stow's Bakery'. The property features an elevator and staircase to access all floors, and is perfectly suited for a wide range of commercial activities.



Soi Cheung, Taipa Village

(Ref: 15090530)
700sq. ft. HKD 13,800

Cute one bedroom apartment situated in the centre of Taipa village only 15 minute from Cotai. Wonderful private terrace furnished with modern outdoor furniture, built in store and outdoor washing machine. Lovely living area with a largebespoke TV cabinet and 2 metre sofa. Open plan kitchen with sleek white cabinets incorporating a built in cooktop and small oven, good size free standing fridge/freezer. Separate shower room with plenty of built in storage.



Macau, One Central Residences

(Ref: 16050589)
1,819sq. ft. HKD25,000

Fully furnished. 3 Bedroom apartment. Full club facilities. Fantastic views over Nam Van lake and back across Macau city. Central location next to Wynn & MGM Resorts in Macau. Available for tenancy with a 2 year agreement.

For Sale



Sakura Court, Hellene Gardens, Coloane

(Ref: 17065521)
2,063sq. ft. HKD 11.5M
Rate: HKD 5,574sq ft

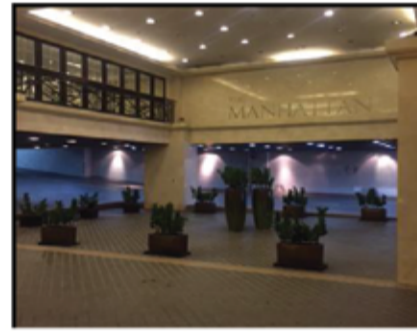
This medium size apartment in the complex of Hellene Gardens, is spacious, bright, with every room enjoying a beautiful leafy green view of the surrounding mountains and countryside. Nicely renovated throughout the living rooms balcony is built in with floor to ceiling windows making the room feel even larger. Two of the three bedrooms are doubles with the third generally used as a single roomer home office.



Hellene Gardens, Buttercup Court, G Unit

(Ref: 17055520)
1,663sq. ft. HKD 7.98M
Rate: HKD 4,798sq ft

Stunning apartment with open view across towards the back of Hac Sa Beach. Renovated five years ago to a very high standard. The owner opened up the kitchen making a wonderful entertainment area for both living and dining, off the living room is a great size balcony for Al Fresco dining. Further renovations not required.



The Manhattan - Taipa

(Ref: 17035515)
2,305sq. ft. HKD 18.209M
Rate: HKD 7,900sq ft

4 bedrooms apartment in an excellent location, in the 5-star residence: The Manhattan. High quality finishes and furnishings. Club House facilities include gymnasium, outdoor swimming pool & sun deck, golf simulator, children door & outdoor play areas, bbq facilities, lounge/party room with private kitchen. Perfectly located, close to super markets, restaurants, cafes, shops and walking distance to the Cotai Strip. High floor with sea view, overlooking the Friendship Bridge.



Mandarin Residences Serviced Duplex

(Ref: 17065522)
3,487sq. ft. HKD 88M
Rate: HKD 25,236sq ft

The property comes tastefully designed with elegant, high-grade furnishing and floor-to-ceiling windows that provides a breath-taking panoramic view of the sea and Macau. The modern galley kitchen on the first floor comes fully-fitted with high-grade and stylish appliances from Miele and plenty of space, and the private study room offers the quiet that you need to complete your business affairs.



Kam Lai Kuok

(Ref: 17035512)
1,380sq. ft. HKD 8.88M
Rate: HKD 6,434sq ft

Central Macau, wonderful three bedroom apartment with two bathrooms and modern great size kitchen.

Spacious balcony although as been built in could easily be opened up again very easily. The living room is approximately 500 sq ft including the allocated dining area.

Carpark available separately at HKD1.8M.



Cattleya Court, Ocean Gardens, Taipa

(Ref: 16095497)
1,503sq. ft. HKD 10.78M
Rate: HKD7,172sq ft

Very nice 3 bedroom + Maids room apartment in the Ocean Gardens complex, Taipa. This building continues to be one of the premier buildings in Taipa, and is much sought after by both locals and ex-pats. The apartment offers easy access to shops, taxis and the Cotai strip in a popular complex where property is in high demand. The building has a supermarket as well as multiple shops, and a well presented modern lobby area. The current tenants are leaving the apartment during the month of October, and viewings are available from November onward. An accompanying Car Park is also for sale, and may be purchased together with the property.

Email: Info@JMLProperty.com



Roof Top Apartment, Macau

(Ref: 15055441)
799sq. ft. HKD3.98M
Rate: HKD4,981sq ft

Loft style apartment with concrete floor which includes a good size double bedroom, great size separate bathroom, open plan fitted kitchen, lovely bright & spacious dining area with floor to ceiling windows and cosy living area with small picture window of the view. The wooden staircase leads to the second floor open area which could be great to use as a second bedroom, or office, yoga studio or entertainment area. The roof top terrace is wonderful; a great place to entertain friends and family with its open view across the roof tops of the Chief Executives office and beautifully manicured gardens towards Taipa. This property is unique with a view that unlike most in Macau will not change for many years to come.

To view call us now on 2835 2699.



Wan Yu Villa, D Unit, Macau

(Ref: 17035513)
1,800sq. ft. HKD 11.5M
Rate: HKD 6,388sq ft

Beautifully furnished, bright and spacious 3 bedroom furnished apartment. Large open plan living/dining room with a long balcony off the living area. 3 double bedrooms, master bedroom has an en-suite bathroom.

Reverse cycle air con in both the living room and master bedroom. Western style kitchen with oven. Great location with supermarkets, restaurants, bars and ferry terminal within walking distance.

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Air bag maker Takata bankruptcy expected today

DRIVING in a sea of lawsuits and recall costs, Japanese air bag maker Takata Corp. is expected to seek bankruptcy protection in Tokyo and the United States today.

Takata was done in by defective air bag inflators that can explode with too much force, spewing out shrapnel. They're responsible for at least 16 deaths and 180 injuries and have touched off the largest automotive recall in U.S. history. So far 100 million inflators have been recalled worldwide including 69 million in the U.S., affecting 42 million vehicles.

Rival Key Safety Systems, based in suburban Detroit, will buy most of Takata's assets for USD1.6 billion and take over its manufacturing operations to make seat belts, air bags and other automotive safety devices, according to two people briefed on the matter.

Some remnants of Takata will be folded into an entity with a different name to keep manufacturing inflators used as replacement parts in recalls, said the people, who didn't want to be identified because the bankruptcy terms have not been made public.

The recalls, which are being handled by 19 affected automakers, will continue.

At least \$1 billion from the sale will be used to satisfy Takata's settlement of criminal charges in the U.S. for concealing problems with the inflators. It was unclear what the rest of money paid by Key will be used for. Key is owned by Ningbo Joyson Electronic Corp. of China.

One of the people briefed on the filings said that Key would get Takata's assets "free and clear" of past or future liabilities. That makes it unclear whether anyone injured by inflators in the future would have any legal recourse against either company.

Takata's troubles stem from use of the explosive chemical ammonium nitrate in the inflators to deploy air bags in a crash. The chemical can deteriorate when exposed to hot and humid air and burn too fast, blowing apart a metal canister.

In February, Takata pleaded guilty to fraud and agreed to the \$1 billion settlement. Lawyers acknowledged in court that the company would have to be sold to fund the settlement. Automakers would get \$850 million in restitution for recall costs and a \$25 million fine would be paid to the government. Takata already has paid \$125 million into a fund for victims.

Attorneys for those injured by the inflators worry that \$125 million won't be enough to fairly compensate victims, many of whom have serious facial injuries from metal shrapnel. One 26-year-old plaintiff will never be able to smile due to nerve damage, his attorney says.

Takata wouldn't comment on a bankruptcy filing. As recently as last week it maintained the possibility of keeping the company in operation. A committee set up to explore restructuring has made a recommendation with Key as a suitor, but Takata's board had not decided on that last week, Takata said in a statement. **AP**

US bans Brazil beef after blood clots, bone found in meat

Alan Bjerga, Tatiana Freitas and Megan Durisin

THE U.S. suspended all fresh beef imports from Brazil after finding shipments that included meat containing blood clots and lymph nodes, reigniting concerns over supplies from the world's second-largest producer three months after a food-safety scandal.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture said last week that the ban followed "recurring" safety concerns and will remain in place until satisfactory corrective actions are taken. It said the USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Service rejected 1.9 million pounds of fresh Brazilian beef imports since March, or 11 percent of the total, compared with 1 percent of shipments from other nations.

Consignments rejected for entry into the U.S. included meat containing the clots, lymph nodes as well as bones and, in one case, potentially harmful bacteria, according to a U.S. government official briefed by USDA officials who asked not to be identified as the information hasn't been published. No one at the agency was immediately available to comment on the details. Brazil's Agriculture Minister, Blairo Maggi, and a national industry group said the meat was rejected after abscesses were found.

"Although international trade is an important part of what we do at USDA, and Brazil has long been one of our partners, my first priority is to protect American consumers," U.S. Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue said in a statement. "That's what we've done by halting the import of Brazilian fresh beef."

Brazilian beef and poultry was



temporarily banned by nations including China in March after federal authorities said they were investigating allegations that domestic producers bribed government inspectors to approve the sale of meat, even when it was spoiled. The fallout dented the country's meat shipments and hurt the earnings of JBS SA, the world's largest meat producer, which has denied any wrongdoing.

The U.S. is a minor importer of Brazilian beef, buying only 2 percent of the country's shipments this year through May, according to Brazilian exporter group Abiec. The U.S. is the world's top beef producer.

Still, shares of Brazilian meat companies fell Friday. JBS dropped as much as 2.5 percent in Sao Paulo while Marfrig Global Foods SA, the country's second-biggest meatpacker, slid 2.8 percent and Minerva SA 2.4 percent.

Abiec said U.S. authorities found abscesses that stem from the reaction to components of a foot-and-mouth disease vaccine. The industry had already notified the U.S. about the issue, Abiec President Antonio Jorge Camardelli said in a telephone interview.

"Unfortunately, industry and producers are penalized for a problem that does not originate in production and industry," he said.

Brazil's Agriculture Ministry will seek to reverse U.S. suspension, minister Maggi said on the agency's Facebook page. He said corrective measures are being taken and Brazil is still committed to increasing exports.

"We have to understand we're exporting meat to our largest competitor and there has been a big pressure by American producers since the time the U.S. Decided to allow imports of Brazilian fresh beef," he said separately in an audio message shared by an Agriculture Ministry press officer.

On June 21, Brazil suspended five meatpacking plants from exporting to the U.S., including facilities owned by from Marfrig, JBS and Minerva.

Marfrig Global Foods, Brazil's second-biggest meat company, said in an emailed response to questions that it's taking all the necessary measures to meet U.S. requirements in order to resume exports. JBS, the top producer, declined to comment while Minerva, which ranks third, didn't immediately comment on the matter.

Producers in the U.S. applauded USDA's decision. "We urge them to avoid similar circumstances in the futures by following more rigorous importation standard," the National Farmers Union said by email.

Bloomberg

corporate bits

JACKY CHEUNG TO PERFORM AT THE VENETIAN



Hong Kong actor and singer Jacky Cheung will perform on August 11, 12, 18 and 19 at The Venetian Macao as part of "Sun City Group Presents: A Classic Tour Jacky

Cheung World Tour Macau." Dubbed the Cantonese "God of Songs", Cheung has sold more than 25 million records. He is regarded as one of the "Four Heavenly

Kings" of the Chinese music industry, according to a press release issued by The Venetian.

His last tour was five years ago, which set Guinness World Records for the highest number of tickets sold and for the most concerts held by a Chinese singer within a single tour.

For his upcoming tour, Cheung plans to combine his past, present and future to create a new international extravaganza of Chinese music. He plans to use fire as a major visual element in symbolizing eternity, as well as representing his own classic songs.

Tickets go on sale today at Cotai ticketing box offices and are priced at MOP1680, MOP1280, MOP780 and MOP380.

GOOGLE WILL STOP READING YOUR EMAILS FOR GMAIL ADS



Google is stopping one of the most controversial advertising formats: ads inside Gmail that scan users' email contents. The decision didn't come from Google's ad team, but from its cloud unit, which is angling to sign up more

corporate customers.

Alphabet Inc.'s Google Cloud sells a package of office software, called G Suite, that competes with market leader Microsoft Corp. Paying Gmail users never received the email-scanning

ads like the free version of the program, but some business customers were confused by the distinction and its privacy implications, said Diane Greene, Google's senior vice president of cloud. "What we're going to do is make it unambiguous," she said.

Ads will continue to appear inside the free version of Gmail, as promoted messages. But instead of scanning a user's email, the ads will now be targeted with other personal information Google already pulls from sources such as search and YouTube. Ads based on scanned email messages drew lawsuits and some of the most strident criticism the company faced in its early years, but offered marketers a much more targeted way to reach consumers.



Billionaire Li Shufu



A Lotus Group International Ltd. Esprit automobile

Billionaire says Lotus car may be domestic-produced

Choong En Han

CHINESE billionaire Li Shufu said his Zhejiang Geely Holding Group will consider producing Lotus sports cars in China after agreeing to purchase stakes in Malaysian carmaker Proton Holdings Bhd. and its British unit. Geely signed a final deal to acquire 49.9 percent of Proton and 51 percent of Lotus Cars from Malaysia's DRB-Hicom Bhd., and expects to complete the transaction in three months, the Chinese automaker said in a statement in Kuala Lumpur on Friday. It will then form a core management team recruited from a pool of

global candidates to ensure the smooth operation of Proton, the company said.

Li said the priority will be to make Proton and Lotus profitable and to sustain growth while embracing new technology trends of electrification, vehicle lightweighting and artificial intelligence. Geely, which bought Sweden's Volvo Cars in 2010, said the acquisition will help the automaker to be a major player in Southeast Asia and achieve a sales target of 3 million units by 2020.

"The deep regional knowledge we gain from Proton and Lotus through this transformative partnership, coupled with our techno-

logical expertise and leadership in innovation, opens the door for Zhejiang Geely to become a major player in the Asean market," Li said in the statement. "We will work together to make the most of our respective strengths."

Lotus, whose cars were featured in the James Bond movies "The Spy Who Loved Me" in 1977 and "For Your Eyes Only" in 1981, has floundered under Proton management since being acquired for 51 million pounds in 1996. In all of 2016, it sold just 339 cars in its home country, according to registration data from the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders in London.

Geely will own a majority stake in Lotus Cars, Etika Automotive will hold 49 percent of the British carmaker. DRB-Hicom said last month that it's selling Lotus for 100 million pounds (USD130 million) with each paying proportionately. Malaysian tycoon Syed Mokhtar Al-Bukhary controls both DRB-Hicom and Etika Automotive.

The Proton deal will include an investment of 170.3 million ringgit (\$40 million) by Geely. In addition, the Chinese company will provide Proton with its Boyue sport utility vehicle platform, a transaction valued at 290 million ringgit, Syed Faisal Albar, group managing director of DRB-Hicom, said at press conference in Kuala Lumpur.

DRB-Hicom will transfer Proton's non-automotive assets, valued at 1.2 billion ringgit, to itself and these will then be pledged to the Malaysian government in lieu of the loans borrowed for Proton, said Syed Faisal. The car-

maker will also repay 567 million ringgit taken from DRB-Hicom, he said.

The Malaysian carmaker will get 1.1 billion ringgit reimbursement from the government for part of the money it spent over the past few years on research and development as incentives to spur investments by companies in Malaysia. Proton will get the final disbursement of 250 million ringgit, as part of the total 1.5 billion ringgit loan from the government, said Syed Faisal.

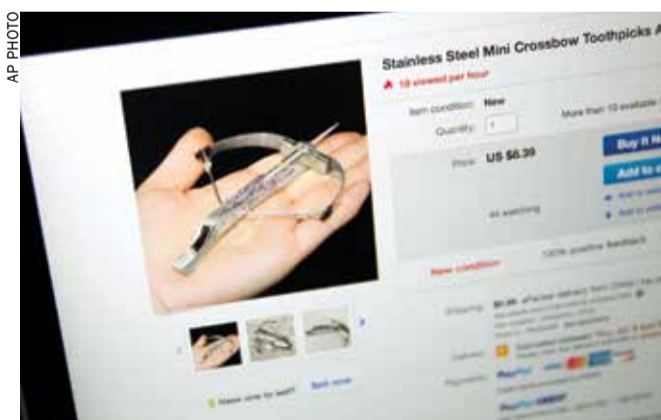
Proton was set up in 1983 by former Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad to steer the Southeast Asian nation's industrialization plan. The deal marks the end of a lengthy sale process for the carmaker, which had to seek a foreign partner as part of conditions for a government rescue loan. For Geely, the purchase comes about seven years after it bought Volvo Cars from Ford Motor Co. for \$1.5 billion. **Bloomberg**

Parents alarmed by miniature crossbow craze

POWERFUL miniature crossbows that shoot toothpicks and needles are the new must-have toy for schoolkids across China — and a nightmare for concerned parents and school officials.

Several cities including Shenzhen and Qingdao have reportedly banned sales of the palm-sized contraptions, which sell for about USD1 and are powerful enough to puncture soda cans, apples and cardboard, depending on the projectile.

The fad appears to have sprung out of the southwest city of Chengdu but quickly spread to China's east coast and even across the border to Hong Kong. In Macau, police issued a warning last week that using the crossbows might consti-



tute a criminal offense.

Although there have not yet been widespread reports of serious injuries, parents across China have raised concerns with schools, with many circulating petitions on social media in support of a nationwide ban.

"People getting blinded will become commonplace, must ban!" said one user on the

messaging forum hupu.com while another asked: "What was the inventor of this thing thinking?"

Taobao and JD.com, China's two most popular e-commerce sites, have responded in recent days by blocking sales. Searches for "crossbow" or "toothpick crossbow" now return empty. **AP**

Li Ka-Shing: Hong Kong handover created beneficial ties

Jeanny Yu

HONG Kong's return to Chinese rule almost 20 years ago set the stage for a smooth transition that paved the way for a mutually beneficial relationship, according to billionaire Li Ka-shing.

"Not only did it provide stability for Hong Kong, its people and its businesses to thrive and evolve in an intensifying competitive environment, our 'front row seats' offered unparalleled views into the opportunities and changes in an advancing Chinese economy," Li, Hong Kong's richest man, said in comments posted on the website of the Li Ka Shing Foundation in response to questions from the Xinhua News Agency.

China's "one country, two systems" framework for Hong Kong "epitomi-

zed the creativity and the flexibility of the Chinese leaders" and China's continued commitment to the framework is critical to Hong Kong's ability to flourish, Li said.

The comments come as Hong Kong prepares to mark the 20th anniversary of the former British colony's return to Chinese rule, with July 1 marking the first time Chinese President Xi Jinping will visit the city since taking office. Other business tycoons, including K. Wah Group Chairman Lui Che-Woo and Tencent's Pony Ma, have also voiced their views about Hong Kong recently.

"If we cherish freedom and opportunities, we need to be mindful of the essence of mutual tolerance and respect" under the framework, Li said.

Hong Kong must also

"uphold its part, to be respectful and safeguard the foundation of law and order and to stand and fight against the corrosive force of corruption," he said.

Looking ahead, Li expressed confidence that Xi's Belt-and-Road Initiative will be an important conduit of growth and that the city's incoming administration will be able to build on Hong Kong's strengths. The city's Chief Executive-elect Carrie Lam will begin her five-year term on July 1.

When asked how to diversify the city's heavy reliance on property and finance to drive economic growth, Li said Hong Kong should step up efforts in investment, education and reforms. Developing the technology industry is important to the future of Hong Kong, he added. **Bloomberg**

10 bodies found, scores missing in massive landslide

Han Guan, Didi Tang

RESCUERS recovered 10 bodies and were still searching for 93 other people yesterday, a day after a massive landslide buried a picturesque mountain village in southwestern China.

More than 2,500 rescuers with detection devices and dogs were looking for signs of life amid the rubble of huge boulders that rained down on Xinmo village in Sichuan province early Saturday.

As of yesterday afternoon, only three people, a couple and their month-old baby, had been rescued from the disaster site.

Sitting on the eastern margin of the Tibetan Plateau in Aba prefecture's Mao County, Xinmo has in recent years become a tourism destination for its picturesque scenery of homes in lush meadows tucked between steep and rugged mountains. But after the landslide, the village was reduced to a vast area of rubble.

As heavy machines removed de-



AP PHOTO
A woman tears up as she clutches paper offerings upon arriving at the site of a landslide in Xinmo village

bris and men scoured the rubble for survivors yesterday, relatives from nearby villages sobbed as they awaited news of their loved ones.

"It was as if strong winds were blowing by, or a big truck rumbled by," Tang Hua, a 38-year-old woman from a nearby village, told The Associated Press. "The houses were shaking, as if there were an earthquake. We rushed out and saw massive smoke. With a thundering sound, the smoke suddenly

lifted. We realized it was a landslide."

"As we ran for safety, we looked this way and saw the village flattened," she said.

Tang has relatives in Xinmo, but she said little could be done at this point. "The whole village is done for," she said.

The landslide carried an estimated 18 million cubic meters of earth and rock, equivalent to more than 7,200 Olympic-sized swimming pools, when it slid down

from steep mountains. Some of it fell from as high as 1.6 kilometers.

It buried 1.6 kilometers of road and blocked a 2-kilometer section of a river as it completely wiped away the village, which was once home to 46 families comprising more than 100 people.

The Sichuan provincial government said yesterday that 10 bodies had been found, lowering an earlier figure of 15 that had been reported by state media. It also lowered the number of missing to 93, saying 15 people on an initial list of the missing were accounted for.

There were 142 tourists in the village around the time the landslide hit, and all were alive, said Xu Zhiwen, executive deputy governor of Aba prefecture.

Three members of a family from the village were rescued five hours after the landslide struck on Saturday. Qiao Dashuai, 26, told state broadcaster China Central Television that he and his wife awoke to cries from their 1-month-old son at around 5:30 a.m.

"Just after we changed the baby's diaper, we heard a big bang outside and the light went out," Qiao said. "We felt that something bad was happening and immediately rushed to the door, but the door was blocked by mud and rocks."

Qiao said his family was swept away by water as part of a mountain collapsed. He said they struggled against the water until they met medical workers who took them to a hospital. His parents and other relatives were among the missing.

A government-run news outlet said that Qiao and his wife were in stable condition yesterday and that their infant was sent to an intensive care unit with pneumonia induced by mud inhalation.

Experts on state media said the landslide was likely triggered by rain. The mountainous region has been prone to geological disasters. In May 2008, a magnitude 7.9 earthquake killed nearly 90,000 people in Wenchuan County, 40 kilometers from Mao County.

Scientist He Siming told the state-run Beijing News that the 2008 quake could have done structural damage to the mountains flanking Xinmo. He said the rain could have been the external cause of the landslide.

In 2014, a landslide in the same county killed 11 people when it struck a section of a highway. AP

HKSAR 20TH ANNIVERSARY

Hong Kong needs close China ties to prosper, next leader says

Ting Shi, Betty Liu

HONG Kong's importance to the global economy will increase due to integration with China, Chief Executive-elect Carrie Lam said, dismissing concerns that Beijing was undermining the city's autonomy.

President Xi Jinping's Belt-and-Road Initiative - along with a plan to create a Silicon Valley-like innovation haven by linking Hong Kong and neighboring Macau with the southern manufacturing powerhouse of Guangdong - would benefit the financial hub, Lam said in an interview in Hong Kong on Friday.

"We're now even more relevant," Lam, 60, told Bloomberg Television on the sidelines of the Wharton Global Forum. "We will not only benefit from this deepening and opening up, we'll actually be able to contribute to these major initiatives."

Lam's five-year term begins on July 1 - the 20th anniversary of the former British colony's return to

Chinese rule - in a ceremony that Xi is expected to attend. She faces growing concern that Beijing is eroding Hong Kong's reputation as a bastion of free speech and the rule of law rather than preserving the "high degree of autonomy" it promised for 50 years after regaining stewardship in 1997.

People now seem to be making all sorts of allegations about the tightening grip of central authorities on Hong Kong.

CARRIE LAM

In the interview, Lam brushed off such worries, saying that calls for independence, which gained traction in last year's legislative elections, were a "sensitive flash point" that contravened China's "one country, two systems" framework for Hong Kong.

"People now seem to be making all sorts of allega-

tions about the tightening grip of central authorities on Hong Kong," Lam said. "I will always ask, just give us the evidence, what are the incidents that lead people to have those sort of allegations, and then we can discuss."

Incidents cited by pro-democracy activists inclu-

de the 2015 abductions of Hong Kong booksellers who published works critical of the Communist Party. Last year, China also instructed judges how to interpret local law in a case that resulted in the ouster of two pro-independence activists elected to the legislature.

National People's Congress Chairman Zhang De-

jiang, China's top official for Hong Kong affairs, said in a speech last month that Beijing was ready to invoke as-yet utilized powers to "supervise" the patriotism of public officers.

Besides political divides, Hong Kong's first female leader inherits a city with the biggest wealth disparity in Asia and the most unaffordable housing in the world. Apartments the size of parking spots cost USD500,000 and median wage earners would have to save for 80 years to buy a home.

"The ultimate solution is provide more land and build more housing," said Lam, who called the issue her top priority. "We need to take stock of what we already have in Hong Kong and try to optimize the use of all these things."

She takes office with an average approval rate of 49 percent, according to the University of Hong Kong's Public Opinion Programme, compared with outgoing Chief Executive Leung Chun-ying's 20 percent. Support from Beijing helped



Lam -- Leung's former No. 2 -- overcome a more popular rival in March to win a vote among a committee of 1,194 business and political elites, an electoral system at the center of pro-democracy rallies three years ago.

Lam has pledged to focus on economic growth rather than controversial proposals that have prompted waves of protests and frustrated the current administration. Hong Kong's economy is projected to expand 2.5 percent this year, according to the median estimate of 26 analyst estimates compiled by Bloomberg. That compares with 2 percent last year.

The city's gross domestic product has grown almost 50 percent to \$309 billion since the handover, although its importance has diminished as China grows and opens to the world. Its share of the national economy has shrunk to 3 percent from

19 percent during the same period.

Lam wouldn't say whether she would attempt to enact national security laws required by Hong Kong's charter but feared by democracy advocates who see them as a tool to curb civil rights. Pro-Beijing officials have in recent months renewed calls for the legislation, which has been stalled since half a million protesters took to the streets in 2003.

Reiterating her campaign pledge, Lam said she would "work very hard to create the necessary environment that will be conducive to a rational debate" on the legislation.

"The question now lies in what sort of legislation we're going to enact that would strike the needed balance and assure of the freedoms and the rights that they will continue to enjoy," she said.

Bloomberg

MONGOLIA

Pro-IMF party looks to consolidate power over populists

Michael Kohn

THE head of Mongolia's ruling party could consolidate power in today's presidential election. First, he must survive one of the ugliest campaigns in the country's history.

Parliament Speaker Enkhbold Miyegombo has found himself battling leaked tapes and corruption claims as two veteran opponents vie for the last elected office not held by his Mongolian People's Party. His main challenger, Battulga Khaltmaa of the Democratic Party - which now controls the presidency - has brushed aside questions about his own finances to promote a populist agenda, including greater controls on the developing nation's vast mineral resources.

Lost in the mudslinging has been debate about the MPP's plan to open more mines and generate enough revenue to recover from the biggest commodity downturn in a generation. The presidency could provide a platform to contest policies that underpin a USD5.5 billion International Monetary Fund-led bailout package announced in February, which is expected to stay in place no matter who wins.

"It's getting pretty dirty," said Mogi Badral Bontoi, head of Cover Mongolia, the Ulaanbaatar-based market intelligence firm. "They should be talking about the economy, jobs and the wealth gap but no one is proposing solutions. They are just saying who is going to be worse for Mongolia."

In Mongolia, the parliament controls the government. The president can veto legislative decisions and is responsible for appointing some key posts, par-



The Mongolian Parliament building

ticularly the head of the anti-corruption division.

The MPP has enjoyed broad support from the business community since economic frustration helped it secure a supermajority in the Great Hural last year. In April, S&P Global Ratings projects that the economy, which grew by an average of more than 10 percent annually before last year's slowdown, will contract by 0.2 percent this year before stabilizing.

S&P affirmed its stable outlook for Mongolia's B- long-term credit rating, saying that large mining projects could improve country's sovereign debt profile. Those projects include the \$5.4 billion Oyu Tolgoi site operated by Rio Tinto Group, which will be one of the world's largest gold-and-copper mines, and a proposed \$4 billion coal project ope-

rated by the Mongolian Mining Corp., China Shenhua Energy Co. and Sumitomo Corp.

No reliable public opinion polls have been released in the nation of 3.1 million people since the candidate list was approved May 17. It's possible that another populist contender, former Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party lawmaker Ganbaatar Sainkhuu, who promises to "take back the natural resources for each citizen," garners enough support to force a run-off.

Battulga, 54, says the mining sector, which accounts for more than four-fifths of Mongolia's exports, should be developed "in accordance with national security." Meanwhile, Enkhbold has proposed to "promote transparency and the inclusion of citizens interests and get projects moving as fast as possible."

“They should be talking about the economy, jobs and the wealth gap but no one is proposing solutions.”

MOGI BADRAL BONTOI
HEAD OF COVER MONGOLIA

"It's interesting times, it's exciting times," said Ganhuyag Chuluun Hutagt, a businessman and Enkhbold supporter in Ulaanbaatar. "Here we have the case of Brexit, Trump and Marine Le Pen happening in Mon-

golia, the rise of populism is not only contained to America and Europe."

None of the candidates have been spared from scandal during a three-week campaign that comes amid months of debate about the offshore holdings of local officials. They may finally have a chance to confront the claims during a televised debate Saturday. That is, if Battulga, a judo-star-turned-businessman, doesn't cancel for a third time.

Among the campaign's surprises was the release of a three-year-old audio recording that reports say show Enkhbold and two MPP colleagues discussing payments for senior government positions. The MPP denied the allegations and said the tapes were edited to take the remarks out of context.

MPP lawmakers have also accused Battulga of misappropriating mining contracts and called on him to answer questions about online allegations he had large overseas holdings. The Battulga campaign has said both claims were untrue.

Oyungerel Tseveddamba, a Democratic Party member and former tourism, sports and culture minister, said Battulga would improve the economy by building plants to process Mongolia's minerals at home and railways to haul them to buyers in Russia and China.

"Battulga's passion is noticeable by herders and ordinary people because he has been talking about it for 10 years," Oyungerel said. "He has a long history of fighting for major projects that will bring trade balance."

Others, such as internet entrepreneur Tanan Bat-Erdene, of Ulaanbaatar, argued that it was better to give the MPP more power to continue with its economic plans.

"If we want the economy to stabilize the choice is Enkhbold," Tanan said. Other candidates "would be political upheavals," he said. **Bloomberg**

INDONESIA

Militants hit police; 1 officer, 1 attacker dead

TWO suspected militants attacked a provincial police headquarters in western Indonesia yesterday, leaving an officer and an assailant dead during Islam's most important holiday, an official said.

Wielding a knife and a machete, the men stormed the police headquarters in North Sumatra's provincial capital of Medan and stabbed to death an officer who was at his post, said National Police spokesman Setyo Wasisto.

Responding officers shot

the two attackers, killing one and seriously wounding the other, he said.

The attack came when most Indonesians were celebrating the first day of the Eid al-Fitr holiday, which marks the end of the fasting month of Ramadan.

Wasisto said the attackers were allegedly part of an extremist group that has pledged allegiance to Islamic State group militants in Syria. He did not identify the group by name, but said police arrested three members

who were plotting an attack.

"They want to execute an Islamic State command that tells their followers to carry out attacks anywhere with whatever they have," Wasisto told reporters in the capital, Jakarta.

Indonesia, the world's most populous Muslim nation, has carried out a sustained crackdown on militants since the 2002 Bali bombings that killed 202 people, but a new threat has emerged from Islamic State group sympathizers. In recent

years, smaller and less deadly strikes have been targeting the government, mainly police and anti-terrorism forces.

North Sumatra police spokeswoman Rina Sari Ginting said police searched the attackers' houses and seized a black flag of the Islamic State group, a document planning the attack, a picture of IS leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, a laptop computer, a jihadi video and machetes.

Twin suicide bombings last month killed three officers in the deadliest mi-



A police officer stands guard near a bomb disposal truck at the entrance to the North Sumatra Regional Police headquarters in Medan

litant attack in Jakarta in a year. Police announced Thursday that they had arrested 41 suspected militants following the bom-

bing, allegedly carried out by members of Jemaah Anshorut Daulah, which is affiliated with the Islamic State group. **AP**

PAKISTAN

Overturned oil tanker explodes, killing 148

Iram Asim, Bahawalpur

AN overturned oil tanker burst into flames in Pakistan yesterday, killing 148 people who had rushed to the scene of the highway accident to gather leaking fuel, an official said.

The death toll could rise further as another 50 people are still in critical condition, said Dr. Mohammad Baqar, a senior rescue official in the area. There were dozens of other injuries of varying degree, he said.

Local news channels showed black smoke billowing skyward and horrific images of scores of burned bodies, as well as rescue officials speeding the injured to hospital and army helicopters ferrying the wounded.

Saznoor Ahmad, 30, whose two cousins were killed in the fire, said the crowd of people screamed as the flames engulfed them.

"The fire moved so fast," he said. When the flames subsided the field was strewn with bodies, and



nearby were the charred shells of motorcycles and cars that the villagers had used to race to the scene.

As the wounded cried out for help, residents wandered through the area looking for loved ones.

Zulka Bibi was searching for her two sons.

"Someone should tell me about my beloved sons, where are they? Are they alive or are they no longer in this world? Please tell me," she pleaded.

The disaster came on the eve of the Muslim holiday of Eid al-Fitr, which marks the end of the fasting

month of Ramadan. While Saudi Arabia and most other Muslim countries celebrated the holiday yesterday, Pakistanis will celebrate today.

The tanker was driving from the southern port city of Karachi to Lahore, the Punjab provincial capital, when the driver lost control and crashed on the national highway outside Bahawalpur.

A loudspeaker atop a local mosque alerted villagers to the leaking fuel, and scores raced to the site with jerry cans, said Rana Mohammad Salim, deputy com-

missioner of Bahawalpur.

Highway police moved quickly to redirect traffic but couldn't stop the scores of villagers who raced to collect the fuel, spokesman Imran Shah told a local TV channel.

When the fire erupted, the same mosque loudspeaker called on the remaining villagers to help put it out.

Mohammed Salim ran toward the smoke carrying buckets of water and sand, but said the heat was too intense to reach those in need.

"I could hear people screaming but I couldn't get to them," he said.

Abdul Malik, a local police officer who was also among the first to arrive, described a "horrible scene."

"I have never seen anything like it in my life. Victims trapped in the fireball. They were screaming for help," he said.

When the fire subsided, "we saw bodies everywhere, so many were just skeletons. The people who were alive were in really bad shape," he said.

Eyewitnesses said about 30 motorcycles that had carried villagers to the accident site lay charred nearby. Eight other vehicles were destroyed, they said.

Some of the most badly burned were evacuated by army helicopters to Multan, about 100 kilometers away.

The dead included men, women and children. Many were burned beyond recognition, Baqar said, and will have to be identified using DNA testing. AP

Cable car crashes in tourist resort

Police say four Indian tourists and a local resident died when a cable car came crashing down from a height of at least 30 meters after derailing from a pulley in the tourist resort of Gulmarg in the Indian portion of Kashmir. Senior police officer Imtiyaz Hussain says that four other people were injured in the accident yesterday. One of the injured was in critical condition. Hussain said the dead included a New Delhi couple and their two children

Vietnam exiles dissident

Vietnamese authorities have deported a dissident after stripping him of his Vietnamese citizenship, drawing criticism from international human rights groups. The California-based Vietnam Reform Party, or Viet Tan, said its member Pham Minh Hoang was forcibly taken from his home in southern Ho Chi Minh City on Friday evening and placed on a flight to Paris on Saturday.

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War and waste: Cautionary tales as US ponders Afghan boost

Robert Burns, Washington

ONE shirt, one pair of pants. Those are the basics for outfitting an Afghan soldier. But in that simple uniform combination are the threads of two troubling stories — one about the waste of millions in American taxpayer dollars, the other about the perils of propping up a partner army in a seemingly endless war.

Together these tales help explain why some in Congress question the wisdom of investing even more resources in Afghanistan, nearly 16 years after the United States invaded the Taliban-ruled country in response to the al-Qaida attacks of Sept. 11, 2001. The Army general who runs the U.S. war effort in Afghanistan calls it a stalemate. Defense Secretary Jim Mattis says the U.S. is “not winning,” and he vows to “correct this as soon as possible.”

The Trump administration is searching for an improved approach to achieving the goal it inherited from the Obama administration: to get the Afghan government to a point where it can defend itself and prevent its territory from being a haven for extremists. Mattis has said he expects to have that revised strategy ready for Congress by next month. This coming week he will be consulting with NATO allies in Brussels on troop contributions and other Afghan issues.

The long war has generated repeated examples of wasted funds, which may be inevitable in a country such as Afghanistan, where the military has been built



from scratch, is plagued with corruption and relies almost completely on U.S. money for even the most basic things, including salaries and uniforms. Among the costs rarely noted publicly: The Pentagon has spent USD1 billion over the past three years to help recruit and retain Afghan soldiers.

The money wasted on uniforms is small potatoes by comparison with other U.S. missteps in Afghanistan, but it is emblematic of broader problems.

The Pentagon has not disputed the gist of findings by its special inspector general for Afghanistan, John Sopko, that the U.S. spent as much as \$28 million more than necessary over 10 years on uniforms for Afghan soldiers with a camouflage “forest” pattern that may be inappropriate for the largely desert battlefield. In a report released this past week, Sopko’s office said the

Pentagon paid to license a proprietary camouflage pattern even though it owns patterns it could have used for free. The choice, it said, was based on the seemingly offhand fashion preference of a single Afghan official.

■ Since 2002, the U.S. has spent USD66b on Afghan security forces alone

“This is not an isolated event,” Sopko said in a telephone interview. The U.S., he said, has been “in a mad rush to spend money like a drunken sailor on a weekend furlough.” It reflects a pattern, he said, of spending too

much money, too quickly, with too little oversight and too little accountability.

Sopko’s office is still investigating the camouflage uniform contract process, which it found “questionable.”

“This was more than just a bad fashion move,” he said. “It cost the taxpayer millions of dollars” more than might have been necessary.

Money is rarely part of the debate over what the United States should do differently or better in Afghanistan, and thus the accumulating costs are often overlooked.

Since 2002, the U.S. has spent \$66 billion on Afghan security forces alone. In recent years this spending has grown, even though President Barack Obama’s stated goal was to wean the Afghans from U.S. military help after he formally ended the American combat role there three years

ago. U.S. spending on Afghan forces rose from \$3.6 billion last year to \$4.2 billion this year, and President Donald Trump’s proposed 2018 budget asks for \$4.9 billion.

Stephen Biddle, a professor of political science and international affairs at George Washington University, said the money wasted on camouflage uniforms is symptomatic of a broader problem of official corruption that has sapped the strength and spirit of too many Afghan soldiers.

“The real problem in Afghanistan is not, ‘Can we get a rational decision about which camouflage design it should be.’ The real problem in Afghanistan is that cronyism and corruption in the government and the security forces saps the combat motivation of the soldiers,” Biddle said in an interview.

“That’s why they’re having such a problem holding onto a stalemate,” he added. “That’s why they can’t retake ground, even though they have vastly more forces in the field than the Taliban does.”

Even keeping Afghan troops in uniform — any uniform — is a problem. The army is chronically about 20,000 soldiers short of its authorized total of 195,000. The U.S. has about 8,400 troops there to train and advise the Afghans and to hunt extremist groups, down from a peak of 100,000 in 2010-2011.

Trump has delegated to Mattis the authority to decide how many troops the U.S. should have in Afghanistan, and Mattis is expected to send nearly 4,000 more this summer. That would be in line with a standing request by U.S. commanders, who say it would address a shortfall in troops to train and advise Afghans. A small percentage of the additional troops would be designated for a related U.S. mission of fighting al-Qaida and other extremist groups there. **AP**

MOZAMBIQUE

Debt probe sees USD500 million in unexplained loans

Matthew Hill,
Borges Nhamire

MOZAMBIKAN state companies have failed to account for about a quarter of the proceeds of USD2 billion in loans being investigated, according to a report by Kroll LLC that creditors said was needed for debt restructuring talks to start.

“At least \$500 million of expenditure of a potentially sensitive nature remains unaudited and unexplained,” Kroll said in the report, commissioned last year by Mozambique’s attorney general. Credit Suisse Group AG and VTB Bank PJSC were paid al-

most \$200 million in fees for arranging the loans, the New York-based investigator said.

The International Monetary Fund, which has said the probe was necessary for it to resume funding to the country, noted “information gaps” on how the money was used but otherwise welcomed the release of the audit. “These documents constitute an important step toward greater transparency regarding the loans,” it said in a statement Saturday.

The summary of the audit into three government loans could help pave the way for restructuring talks with owners of the debt

and mend relations with the IMF. The fund halted payments to the world’s ninth-poorest nation in April last year, when the government revealed it guaranteed two previously hidden loans by state-owned companies totaling more than \$1 billion. Attorney-General Beatriz Buchili received the thrice-delayed report from Kroll last month, and planned to review it before announcing the findings.

While the three companies, Ematum, ProIndicus and MAM, had been forecast to generate total operating revenues of \$2.3 billion by December 2016, their sales are negligible,

Kroll said. The firms rely on financial support from the government to make debt repayments, it reported.

An IMF team will visit the country for nine days from July 10 to discuss the results of the probe and reassess the macroeconomic situation, the fund said. It will also talk to government about Mozambique’s budget for next year.

“The report summary provides useful information on how the loans were contracted and on assets purchased by the companies,” the IMF said. “However, information gaps remain, in particular on the use of the



Local workers sweep up rice grains and fill sacks in a rice processing plant in Mozambique

loan proceeds.”

Mozambique’s Finance Ministry announced in October it can’t afford to service its commercial dollar debt, and defaulted on its \$727 million Eurobond at the start of the year. It’s also missed payments on two state-guaranteed loans. Arrears for all three

loans total about \$490 million.

A group of bondholders have said they’ll only start debt restructuring negotiations once the audit is published and they’ve seen the outline of a new economic program between the government and the IMF. **Bloomberg**

what's ON



CONSTELLATION - WORKS BY NICOLAS DELAROCHE
TIME: 10am-9pm
UNTIL: October 8, 2017
VENUE: Tap Seac Gallery
ADMISSION: Free
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2836 6866

NOCTURNE - SOLO EXHIBITION BY FILIPE DORES
TIME: 12pm-8pm, 3pm-8pm on Mondays
UNTIL: July 9, 2017
VENUE: Albergue SCM
ADMISSION: Free
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2836 1601

DEBRIS - WORKS BY ALEXANDRE FARTO AKA VHILS
TIME: 10am-7pm
UNTIL: November 5, 2017
VENUE: Navy Yard No. 1
ADMISSION: Free
ENQUIRIES: (853) 8399 6699

KUNG FU PANDA ADVENTURE ICE WORLD - ICE WORLD EXHIBITION
TIME: 11am -8pm (Last admission at 7:30pm)
UNTIL: July 9, 2017
VENUE: The Venetian Macao, Cotai Expo Hall F (temperature is -8°C inside the venue, thus hooded coats will be provided free of charge in limited quantities and sizes for children and adults)
ADMISSION: MOP120 (for one adult and one child aged 3 to 12),
MOP312 (for three family members and one child aged 3 or above)
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2882 8818

Offbeat

AL CAPONE SONG, POCKET WATCH
FETCH OVER USD100K AT AUCTION

Artifacts connected to some of the nation's most notorious gangsters sold for more than USD100,000 at auction Saturday.

A diamond pocket watch that belonged to Al Capone and was produced in Chicago in the 1920s, along with a handwritten musical composition he wrote in Alcatraz in the 1930s, were among the items that sold at the "Gangsters, Outlaws and Lawmen" auction. The watch fetched the most — \$84,375 — according to Boston-based RR Auction.

The winning bidder of the watch was not identified. The buyer is a collector who has an eye for interesting American artifacts, said RR Auction Executive Vice President Bobby Livingston. He was among about 30 internet, telephone and in-person bidders.

Capone's musical piece entitled "Humoresque" sold for \$18,750. The piece shows Capone's softer side. It contains the lines: "You thrill and fill this heart of mine, with gladness like a soothing symphony, over the air, you gently float, and in my soul, you strike a note."

Livingston told The Associated Press he wasn't surprised that lyrics written by a man better known for organized crime than his musical talents sold at the auction because of the way Capone "resonates in the American imagination."

"The musical artifact gives insight into who this man was," Livingston said. "It humanizes him, and shows that he had an imagination and creativity. These people had talents and they used those talents, unfortunately for criminal endeavors."

Livingston was referring not just to Capone, but to infamous couple Bonnie and Clyde. An autographed "So Long" letter written by Bonnie Parker and signed by Clyde Barrow just before their deaths sold for \$16,250. A pair of Texas arrest warrants fetched \$8,125.

Parker's silver-plated, three-headed snake ring fetched \$25,000. The ring was not made by Barrow — a skilled amateur craftsman who engaged in jewelry making, woodworking and leathercraft behind bars — as originally believed, according to RR Auction's website.

Clyde Barrow's nephew, Buddy Barrow, and Bonnie Parker's niece, Rhea Leen Linder, were in attendance.

"I asked Buddy Barrow what his uncle would be thinking about the auction, he felt that Clyde would have said 'make as much money as you can'," Livingston said.

A letter written by John Gotti, the reputed head of the Gambino crime family in New York, didn't sell. The 1998 letter to the daughter of a mob associate urges the recipient to tell her father "to keep the martinis cold."

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)
18:20	Non-Daily Portuguese News (Repeated)
19:40	Soap Opera
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	TDM Sports
22:10	Now Generation
23:00	TDM News
23:50	Miscellaneous
00:25	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
01:05	RTPi Live

cinema



CINETEATRO

22-25 JUN

TRANSFORMERS: THE LAST KNIGHT

ROOM 1

2:00, 4:45, 9:30pm

Director: Michael Bay

Starring: Mark Wahlberg, Anthony Hopkins, Josh Duhamel

Language: English

Duration: 148min



RESIDENT EVIL: VENDETTA

ROOM 2

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

Director: Takahiro Nozue

Starring: Orion Acaba, Erin Cahill, Darin De Paul

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 93min



A FAMILY MAN

ROOM 3

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

Director: Mark Williams

Starring: Alison Brie, Gerard Butler, Willem Dafoe

Language: English

Duration: 118min

MACAU TOWER

22 JUN - 5 JUL



TRANSFORMERS: THE LAST KNIGHT

ROOM 1

2:00, 4:45, 9:30pm

Director: Michael Bay

Starring: Mark Wahlberg, Anthony Hopkins, Josh Duhamel

Language: English

Duration: 148min

this day in history

1986 BRANSON ON COURSE
FOR BLUE RIBAND

Entrepreneur Richard Branson has set off on his second attempt to claim the transatlantic crossing record for Britain.

Mr Branson and his team left New York at dawn on their 72 ft powerboat Virgin Challenger II for the 4,828 km voyage.

If they reach Bishop's Rock, off the Isles of Scilly, by 2100 BST on 29 June they will recapture the Blue Riband for the UK - held by liner SS United States since 1952 for a crossing in three days and 10 hours.

The millionaire businessmen tried to break the record last year, but his boat sank just 222 km from the British coast.

Mr Branson told the BBC he was confident they would succeed this year.

"The boat's ready, the crew are ready and the weather forecast is reasonable - hopefully we'll be there for Sunday lunch," he said.

A spokesman at the Virgin Challenger London headquarters said the team had almost reached Nova Scotia for the first of three refuelling stops at 2100 BST and was two hours ahead of schedule.

After taking on more fuel, the £1.5m boat will head across the ocean on the "great circle" route - the quickest course across the Atlantic.

BBC Tomorrow's World presenter Peter Macann is on the Challenger and said conditions had been perfect for the first stage of the voyage.

"The only point of excitement was when I was driving and a whale surfaced about 50 m from the boat - I just managed to swerve to avoid it," he said.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

The Blue Riband was established by shipping magnates in 1838 as an informal competition.

Richard Branson broke the record, but the Hales' trustees refused to award him the trophy because his boat did not have a commercial maritime purpose and he had stopped to refuel.

The SS United States' record was not broken until 1990, when the 74m (243ft) catamaran Hoverspeed Great Britain completed the crossing with an average speed of 36.65 knots.

In 1987 Mr Branson abandoned the sea and took to the air. His Virgin Atlantic Flyer hot air balloon was the first to cross the Atlantic that year, and in 1991, he broke the Pacific record by crossing from Japan to Arctic Canada.

YOUR STARS

Aries Mar. 21-Apr. 19 You are trying to move ahead and everyone else is trying to hold you back.

Taurus April 20-May 20 You have a lot of good energy surrounding you right now. Romance happens if you let it -- in fact, you might not be able to stop it.

Gemini May 21-Jun. 21 Pay close attention to details, especially when dealing with communication issues. Keep in mind that people who speak with their hands offer a unique map of a mind in motion.

Cancer Jun. 22-Jul. 22 Try not to worry so much about how you present yourself to others. Be yourself and the rest will follow.

Leo Jul. 23-Aug. 22 No matter what anyone else tells you, you really know what's best for you. Your friends and family mean well when they give you their opinions, but in the end, it's up to you.

Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22 Even if you are already a full-blown technophile, you still have a lot to learn. Everything is changing on a daily basis! Go full speed ahead into the information age.

Libra Sep.23-Oct. 22 It's no secret that you're easily delighted, but that doesn't mean you have to settle for less than you deserve. Force yourself to look for the substance beneath a fabulous offer.

Scorpio Oct. 23 - Nov. 21 Don't let anyone else's comments discourage you from performing the task at hand. Despite what other, more critical people may think, you are ultimately the one in control.

Sagittarius Nov. 22-Dec. 21 Sometimes the siren song of a good party is just too hard to resist, but you just might have to do that in this case. Face it: You have too much to do and too many things to think about.

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19 Go for the elegant instead of the excessive right now. When it comes to stating your feelings, you have all the right words at your command. Do with them what you will.

Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 18 Some things are simply out of your control. The sooner you accept that fact, the better off you'll be. Don't be surprised if an administrative glitch or a hardware failure throws a stumbling block in your path.

Pisces Feb.19-Mar. 20 No thought is too complex or powerful to express. Make sure you have a pen and some paper nearby so you can write down every idea that comes to mind, even if it seems unimportant.

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Easy

9x9 grid for Easy Sudoku puzzle with some numbers filled in.

Easy+

9x9 grid for Easy+ Sudoku puzzle with some numbers filled in.

Medium

9x9 grid for Medium Sudoku puzzle with some numbers filled in.

Hard

9x9 grid for Hard Sudoku puzzle with some numbers filled in.

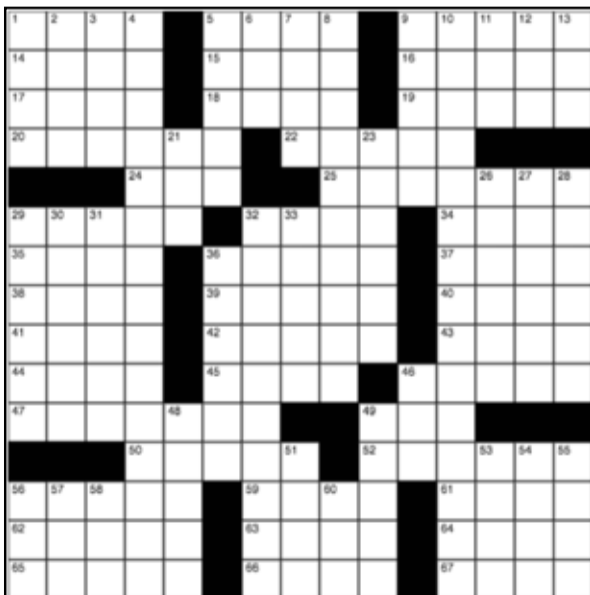
WEATHER

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

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- all-time high; 5- Univ. recruiting group; 9- Autocratic Russian rulers; 14- Manhattan neighborhood; 15- Switch ending; 16- Furry swimmer; 17- ___ first you don't...; 18- Profound; 19- Town near Bangor; 20- Underground electric railroad; 22- "Our Gang" girl; 24- Strong feeling of anger; 25- Dwells; 29- Singer Bonnie; 32- Ornamental fabric; 34- Knee; 35- O.T. book; 36- Floating bombs; 37- Web address starter; 38- Tax experts; Abbr.; 39- Sheeplike; 40- Maryland athlete, for short; 41- Slant; 42- Ascends; 43- Gratis; 44- Met solo; 45- Steven Chu's cabinet dept.; 46- Difficult question; 47- Inclination; 49- Deface; 50- Portals; 52- Continuously; 56- Cleft; 59- Evict; 61- Suit to ___; 62- Place to sweat it out; 63- Seine tributary; 64- Horse shade; 65- Tiny branches; 66- Range; Abbr.; 67- Grime;

DOWN: 1- Garage sale sign; 2- Bean curd; 3- Pequod captain; 4- In spite of; 5- Color anew; 6- Bauxite, e.g.; 7- Nailed obliquely; 8- Joint heir; 9- Implements; 10- Direct; 11- From ___ Z; 12- Cartoon Chihuahua; 13- B'way hit sign; 21- Singer Garfunkel; 23- ___ Pieces; 26- Scares off; 27- Dinner course; 28- Evening meal; 29- Type of thermometer; 30- Have high hopes; 31- Roma's land; 32- Parlor; 33- Licorice-like flavoring; 36- "West Side Story" Oscar winner; 46- Bud; 48- Little bits; 49- Ships' officers; 51- Interview-wear; 53- Yours, in Tours; 54- Age unit; 55- Posted; 56- Concorde, e.g.; 57- Animal foot; 58- Him, to Henri; 60- Common ID;



Crossword puzzles provided by BestCrosswords.com

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

- Emergency calls 999
Taxi 28 939 939 / 2828 3283
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
S. J. Hospital 28 313 731
Kiang Wu Hospital 28 371 333
Commission Against Corruption (CCAC) 28326 300
IACM 28 387 333
Tourism 28 333 000
Airport 59 888 88



AD

Real estate advertisement for JML Property, featuring 'FOR SALE' and 'FOR RENT' sections with details on various properties in Macau, including Mandarin Residences, Nam Hong Studio Apartment, St Pauls Ruins, and Cattleya Court.



BBAM holds annual ball



Lynn and Mike Jacobson with daughter Shannon



Andrew Billany and Jennifer Liao



Circus divas




Rachel, Dora and Kathy



Alemay Fernandez (right) from Singapore



The New Romance from Maryland, USA

 The British Business Association of Macau (BBAM) held its annual ball at StarWorld on June 17, with the theme of "Life's a Circus". The ball raised funds for community projects, though BBAM's statement did not specify which projects or how much was raised.

"When the Master of the Ring opened the evening with a circus parade for all of our guests, we knew they were in for an amazing night of entertainment and fun," said ball chairperson Lynn Jacobson in a statement.

"Our guests made an outstanding contribution to making the night one full of circus fun," added Jacobson.

"The funds raised will make a real difference to people in need in our community."



The most colorful table



BNU table



The Master of the Ring



Vivek Nair



Eddie and Jessica

TENNIS

Mellow now, John McEnroe wants today's players to get mad

Brian Mahoney, New York

JOHN McEnroe wants more anger in tennis. Not the kind of racket-smashing, profanity-flying tantrums he threw as a player, when he could go from the sport's best player to its baddest boy in the same service game.

He wants to see players get fed up that they can't break through against Roger Federer and Rafael Nadal, that they remain stuck behind Novak Djokovic and Andy Murray heading into Wimbledon.

"Those are the two greatest players that ever played in my opinion right now, Nadal and Federer, but I'm amazed that guys aren't hungrier or angrier about sort of their lack of success," McEnroe said. "I mean, these guys are tremendous and better than the guys for the most part, but not every single day. You've got to come at these guys with everything you've got."

That helped fuel McEnroe's rise to the top of tennis. While he says he's always had a good relationship with Bjorn Borg, whom he considers probably his greatest rival, the hatred of losing to Jimmy Connors and Ivan Lendl lasted from the center court at Grand Slams to the locker room during senior exhibitions.

He thinks players now might get along too well with Federer, who won his record 18th Grand Slam at



John McEnroe

the Australian Open, or be too in awe of Nadal, who added his 15th at the French Open.

"And you don't have to, like, disparage a guy," McEnroe said, "you've just got to have this hunger and will to try to — when I played Connors for example, I tried to get myself to think like, 'Am I trying as hard as this guy, do I want it as bad as him?' And most of the time it feels like it wasn't, but I tried to and it feels like that's what you've got to do against these guys."

"You've got to bring everything you've got every single point or else they'll just walk all over you,

and it seems like a lot of the guys have, to some extent, have let that happen."

Life after his tour career is the focus of McEnroe's new book, "But Seriously," in which he details the ups and downs of his many roles outside of tennis: frustrated actor, amateur musician, art collector, remarried husband, proud parent. He still plays some, but without the interest level in the U.S. to really do a senior tour right, he knows that at age 58, he's close to that ending.

"When I feel pretty good, like there's certain days, one out of

three days, where I'll feel pretty good physically and that elevates my game," McEnroe said. "I try to feel good every time, but it doesn't work out that way where things start clicking. So that's something that's more fleeting and frustrating, so that's why, I mean that's why you walk away from the sport in the first place. I didn't feel like I could win a major anymore, so I just didn't feel like I could keep playing, or that I wanted to keep playing when I really felt like I had no chance of winning."

He was only 25 when he won the last of his seven majors. He's since

found entertainment opportunities through his friends on both coasts, though the game show and talk show he hosted were both short-lived. He's stayed involved in tennis as one of the sport's top commentators, through his John McEnroe Tennis Academy in New York and a little coaching, helping guide Canadian Milos Raonic to the Wimbledon finals last year.

Perhaps his own career would have been different had he played now. The top four on the men's side are all 30 or over, and none is slowing down the way players did at that age when McEnroe played.

"They've got way more knowledge of how to recover, what to eat, how to train off the court as well as on the court, all those things," McEnroe said. "It's not like we had no idea, but it's almost like a science now, so from that standpoint there's no question I feel like I'd be different."

"And then the other obvious one, the amount of energy I wasted sort of complaining on line calls or whatever it is. They have this challenge system, so that's sort of taken that out of the equation, so I think I would have been a 20 percent better player but probably quite a bit, even more than maybe 40 percent more boring, because you wouldn't have had that whole thing."

But he now appreciates his playing career more, as whatever frustrations he's had in other pursuits in the years since have given him a perspective he didn't have then.

"I don't think there's anything you do when you fail at it that you're happy when it happens. I think the key is always to sort of learn from it," he said. "If it helps you find your way or you head in a direction that's better served, it's OK." AP

F1 Ricciardo wins chaotic Azerbaijan GP; Vettel leads overall



Daniel Ricciardo steers his car during the race

RED Bull driver Daniel Ricciardo profited from the chaos to win the Azerbaijan Grand Prix yesterday, while Sebastian Vettel extended his championship lead over Lewis Hamilton.

The Australian secured his fifth career win, while Mercedes driver Valtteri Bottas overtook 18-year-old Canadian Lance Stroll's Williams in the closing meters to take second place.

Vettel steered his Ferrari into fourth, just ahead of Hamilton's Mercedes.

In a stop-start race, the safety car came out three times in quick succession before a red flag stopped the race

near the midway point because debris littered the track.

Shortly before that, Hamilton and Vettel were involved in an incident that threatens to sour their good relations.

Hamilton appeared to stop his car right in front of Vettel, causing Vettel to collide into him. An irate Vettel then

accelerated alongside Hamilton and appeared to deliberately swerve back into him.

Vettel was given a 10-second stop-go penalty, but Hamilton lost valuable time changing a loose headrest at the same time that Vettel served his time penalty. AP

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opinion

Views on China

David Fickling, Bloomberg

CHINA'S TAKEOVER TYCOONS RISK HITTING A CASH WALL

To understand China's crackdown on the financing of acquisitive giants HNA Group Co., Fosun International Ltd., Dalian Wanda Group Co. and Anbang Insurance Group Co., take a look at Apple Inc.

Shares in companies associated with the first three plunged in Hong Kong and China Thursday. The China Banking Regulatory Commission has asked some banks to provide information on overseas loans to the firms, people familiar with the matter told Bloomberg News. That raises fears of a political attack on the businesses, and the tycoons who run them.

What would happen if Tim Cook's bankers suddenly turned off his access to Apple's finance capital? The iPhone maker would barely miss a beat. Barring a few wrinkles around tax and liquidity, Cook could pay off Apple's USD99 billion of debts with bank deposits and marketable securities tomorrow and still have \$158 billion of cash left over to fund driverless cars and tweaks to the next mobile update.

Even after Apple broke a four-decade tradition in 2013 by starting to take on significant debts to pay off its shareholders, financing cash outflows over the past five fiscal years have come to almost \$94 billion - mostly money leaving Cupertino in the form of dividends and stock buybacks.

Apple's aversion to leverage is perhaps an outlying case - but the Chinese giants' love of borrowing is equally exceptional, if at the opposite extreme. A look at the cash flows of the past year's most acquisitive Western companies illustrates why.

Qualcomm Inc., Blackstone Group LP and Johnson & Johnson have undertaken the most cash takeovers in the U.S. over the past 12 months, with a collective \$123 billion of deals announced, pending or completed. Have a look at those firms' finances and you notice a common theme: Free cash flows are almost always in the black.

That's the standard and sensible way to run a company. If you're going to be laying out large amounts of money on takeovers, you want to ensure that underlying operating and capital costs are covered by normal revenue to avoid digging yourself into an ever deeper debt hole.

Now take a look at the big three Chinese companies (excluding Anbang, which doesn't publish financial statements):

Free cash has been consistently negative, and often by enormous sums. The number doesn't even include the cash spent paying for M&A itself, so if anything, it flatters the trio's performance.

That should be concerning to anyone lending to these businesses, including the growing number of non-Chinese institutions joining the club.

The real engine of these firms isn't the drudge-work of making profits from selling goods and services, but the art of persuading financiers to fund their investment ambitions. The show will go on for as long as bankers - and particularly the key Chinese state lenders - keep the cash spigots open.

Once that dries up, China's takeover tycoons will be left with a lot of plates in the air. If they fail to keep them all spinning, watch out for a crash.

THE BUZZ CHINA'S IMPORTS FROM NORTH KOREA SLUMP IN MAY

China's imports from North Korea dropped almost 32 percent in May to USD123.75 million from a year earlier, after the world's second-largest economy stopped buying coal from the regime in February in response to Pyongyang's nuclear program.

Shipments in the first five months of this year are down 10.7 percent to \$722.1 million, according to China Customs data released on Friday. The slump came in the wake of Beijing's move in February to ban coal imports from Kim Jong

Un's regime until end of the year, in compliance with United Nations Security Council resolutions over North Korea's nuclear program.

China, North Korea's main ally and trading partner, previously bought the commodity under exemptions that allowed trade for "livelihood" purposes. The sales accounted for more than 50 percent of North Korea's exports to China last year and about a fifth of its total trade, according to Yang Moo-jin, a professor at the University of North Korean Studies in Seoul.

In world's largest refugee camp, youth are drawn to football

Rodney Muhumuza, Uganda

THE football field is littered with sharp stones, but the girls who attack the ball with their bare feet play on.

Here in what has become the world's largest refugee settlement, youth from South Sudan are drawn to football, a rare source of entertainment in an otherwise dreary existence.

In a bid to keep young people busy, the International Rescue Committee and other aid groups are hosting inter-village competitions meant to forge unity among the refugees, most of whom recently fled to Uganda to escape civil war.

"If they were not playing football now, they might be doing other things which could be detrimental in their lives," said Moses Opio, a Ugandan in charge of community services for the IRC. "Some of them would be playing cards, others would be smoking and others would be planning to do nasty things."

Football fields can be found across Bidi Bidi settlement and even more are being created, underscoring the importance of sport in a community trying to forget the horrors of war. Many here have lost close relatives since



the start in December 2013 of South Sudan's conflict, which has often been waged along ethnic lines and in which tens of thousands of people have been killed.

Bidi Bidi is now home to over 270,000 refugees, most of them women and children, according to the United Nations refugee agency. They are among nearly one million South Sudanese now sheltering in Uganda, most having arrived in the past year.

Uganda's government and the U.N. are appealing for USD8 billion to deal with what has been called the world's fastest-growing refugee crisis.

As thousands of refugees continue to arrive, local authorities and aid workers must constantly improvise to make life as normal as possible.

"The idea of football days

gave me happiness. I felt like I was going to restart building my passion for football," said Steven Batali, who used to teach mathematics before he fled the border town of Yei to avoid forced conscription into an armed group.

One recent afternoon, young men with rakes and hoes worked to level the site of a new football field, saying the land had been a forest not long ago.

A man with a salt-and-pepper beard named Emily Bronte said he was proud of the community's efforts toward having a standard football field of its own.

"A lot of our young children want to play football to forget what happened in South Sudan," he said. "In sport you can play and forget everything, and then at night you eat food and sleep." AP

THE DECISIVE MOMENT

Xinhua/Tian Xiaohui



Tourists walk in rain on a bridge across fog-enveloped Tuojiang River in the Phoenix (Fenghuang) ancient city, in central China's Hunan Province.

Station	Air quality	
Roadside	5-25 Good	😊
High Density Residential Area	20-40 Good	😊
Ambient	20-40 Good	😊

SOURCE: DSMG

WORLD BRIEFS



INDIA Four Indian tourists and three local residents died yesterday when a cable car came crashing down from a height of at least 30 meters in a tourist town in the Indian portion of Kashmir. More on p13



ITALY The government is making USD5.8 billion of resources available to keep operative two banks that the European Central Bank last week had deemed "failing or about to fail," sending them into insolvency procedures.



TURKISH police have prevented people from gathering in large numbers for LGBT pride in Istanbul as small groups continue to make ad hoc demonstrations despite a ban issued by the governor.

UK Six people, including three children, were injured after a car ran into pedestrians outside a Newcastle sports center where people were reportedly gathered to celebrate the Muslim holiday of Eid al-Fitr. Police said the incident was not believed to be terror-related.

ALBANIANS were voting yesterday in a general election that follows a landmark agreement between the country's two biggest political parties to look past their bitter differences and back efforts for Albania to eventually join the European Union.