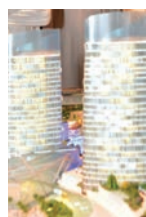




FRANCHISE EXPERTS BELIEVE MACAU NEEDS GLOBAL VISION
Experts from the European franchising industry think that Macau has a great advantage and offers many opportunities for businesses

P2



DUBAI TO BUILD WORLD'S BIGGEST SHOPPING CENTER
Dubai ruler has laid out plans for a project known as Mall of the World that will include a climate-controlled street network and a theme park

P7



SING MY SONG WORLD TOUR KICKS OFF IN MACAU

P18 PHOTOSHOP

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WORLD BRIEFS

INDONESIA A strong earthquake has hit off the coast of western Indonesia, but there were no immediate reports of injuries or damage. The U.S. Geological Survey says the magnitude-6.0 quake hit Saturday at a depth of 30 kilometers. It was centered 88 kilometers (55 miles) southeast of Sinabang, a town on the east coast of Simeulue Island, which lies off the west coast of Sumatra island. In 2004, a massive earthquake off Sumatra triggered a tsunami that killed 230,000 people in a dozen countries.



PHILIPPINES A strong typhoon was blowing over the Pacific Ocean in the northeastern Philippines and may induce heavy rains, but is too far off to hit land, officials said. Typhoon Neoguri was blowing with sustained winds of 185 kilometers per hour and gusts of 220 kph late yesterday about 840 kilometers off Cagayan, a rice- and tobacco-producing province. The storm is expected to blow northwest and will be about 500 kilometers northeast of Batanes province in the Philippines' northern tip today. It will then likely blow toward southern Japan later in the week.

More on backpage

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FINANCIAL TIMES

Last HK governor backs judges against Beijing **F1**

SAUTEDE'S CASE

Alumni petition: USJ 'betrayed its soul' . P5



New Macau leaders show divergences, president to be elected tomorrow **P4**

FRANCHISE EXPO

Industry experts believe Macau needs global vision and services

João Pedro Lau

EXPERTS from the European franchising industry think that Macau has a great advantage and offers many opportunities for businesses. However, the city needs a global vision and more experience, as well as services for both businesses and individuals. The specialists participated in a seminar included in the program of the Macao Franchise Expo (MFE), which concluded yesterday at The Venetian.

Fabrizio Fiori, legal counsel of Assofranchising (The Italian Association of Franchising), suggested that Macau should seek opportunities beyond the bigger European countries.

"What [Macau] is a bit lacking [in] is a more global vision. I think that the local institute for economic development is making a great work on this direction. But what is really needed is to look at other parts of Europe and the world and to have a global vision in Europe. This is because I think that there are plenty of companies from other parts of Europe that could come here or be interested in [doing so]."

He also said that some European countries, such as Poland, have growing economies. Enterprises in other European countries that have developed very strong economies, including Belgium and Germany, are likely to be interested in coming to Macau as well.

Moreover, Fiori claimed that Macau needs more experience rather than the know-how. "I don't think there is a big need of know-how [but] a need of experience... I have met a lot of very



Fabrizio Fiori

bright and young professionals who have studied abroad and have a very open-minded approach. What is needed is experience... not all avenues are explored here."

In terms of the advantages of Macau, Fabrizio Fiori said that Macau has a similar legal and tax system to continental Europe, which makes it easier for European enterprises to start businesses here.

He also believes that the city is a good testing site for products due to the number of visitors. "One of the key elements here is the number of tourists coming [to the city]. This is a perfect place to test a brand or a product to see if there is a possibility to export the product." He added that businesses and franchises can create a behavioral map of China by operating in Macau.

Furthermore, Mr Fiori argues that Macau is one of the least bureaucratic places in the world, which is beneficial for businesses. But the government has to learn how to receive businesses from other parts of Europe. "The population [in Macau] is very friendly. The administration is very cooperative... Maybe they need a little bit more experience because they don't have much chance to deal with companies coming from different parts of Europe. They probably have a lot of experience with Portuguese companies. But there are more in Europe."

Meanwhile, the vice president of Portuguese Franchise Association and the Co-founder of Onebiz Group, António Godinho, suggested that for enterprises wanting to expand into the Asian and European markets, Macau is a good testing place because of its size and development.

However, he commented that Macau needs services for residents. For example, Mr Godinho has mentioned an education brand operated by Onebiz that focuses on young children. He noted that Macau needs "more kindergartens and small schools for small children." He stated that services in health,

and in aesthetics and beauty, are also lacking.

As for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), he believes that they are not "well serviced in the city" because there are not many relevant services provided to them.

When asked what types of business Europe will welcome from Asia, Mr Godinho said that information technology is one of them. He believes that Asia can contribute a lot to Europe and the world when it comes to IT, such as bringing the concept of the Alibaba Group to non-Asian markets.

Fabrizio Fiori told the Times that if Chinese or Asian franchises want to expand their business to Europe, they will have to pay attention to the differences in the franchising laws

I have met a lot of very bright and young professionals who have studied abroad and have a very open-minded approach. What is needed is experience... not all avenues are explored here

FABRIZIO FIORI

of different countries. For instance, some countries only see the local partners of a franchise as its distributors. As a result, there may be a chance that the franchise will have to bear the indemnity of its partners.

In addition, he advised franchises not to rush into a market. Instead, it is more beneficial to first open a test shop. This allows franchises to discover potential problems and come up with solutions for their future local partners.

Both experts were commenting on the sidelines of the Forum on Chain and Franchise Business Opportunities of International Brands of the MFE 2014.

MFE REGISTERS NEARLY 14,000 VISITORS

IN ITS sixth year, MFE has attracted nearly 14,000 visitors, according to the organizers. A total of 167 exhibitors from 14 countries and regions participated in the three-day event. A total of 1,304 networking opportunities were arranged by the organizer. Fourteen exchange sessions took place, which were joined by 115 organizations. Six projects reached agreements on site, including franchises from the dining industry, branded product stores, cooperation between governments, and so on. The next MFE will be held in July 2015.

SÃO PAULO WANTS TO EXPAND FRANCHISE INTO MAINLAND

AS THE world's eyes are fixed on Brazil, host of the current FIFA World Cup finals, the 2014 MFE has organized a football demonstration with young players from the football school in Macau of São Paulo F.C. It gave them a chance to show off their skills. The school was established in April, and is

a franchise project involving local investors and the Brazilian club. Part of the negotiations on the partnership took place during last year's MFE, with the deal highlighting the event's role as a business platform for Macau and Brazil, the biggest of the Portuguese-speaking countries.

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TIME

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

Cut off at 16:00pm

時間

30公里挑戰線 於早上八時正開始 (登記時間：早上七時正)
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Attacked salesman suffers multiple injuries

A salesman working for a tobacco shop was attacked by an assailant with a knife last Saturday night after work. The victim is in a stable condition after medical treatment. The local resident Ho, 29 years old, was attacked while walking with his female friend near the border gate at around 7:30 p.m. last Saturday. A man with a cap suddenly emerged from behind and pushed the woman over. The suspect hit Ho with a stick, before attacking again with a knife measuring some 35 cm. Ho sustained injuries to his back, shoulder, arm and leg. The suspect then escaped toward Avenida de Artur Tamagnini Barbosa. The Judiciary Police (PJ) took the woman back to the bureau for questioning after collecting evidence. The police will look into the motivation and identity of the suspect. The victim was in a critical condition when sent to Kiang Wu Hospital. PJ announced yesterday morning that he is in a stable condition.

Galaxy announces charitable foundation

Lui Che Woo, chairman of Galaxy Entertainment Group (GEG), announced the establishment of "GEG Charitable Foundation," hoping to reinforce GEG's commitment to promoting a sustainable future for Macau through sharing its business success with the community. Lui Che Woo announced that the foundation has been established with HKD300 million, and said that another HKD1 billion would be committed to the foundation later on. According to a press release issued by GEG, the foundation "is committed to giving back to the society through helping young people develop positive moral and life values, foster patriotism and ethnic identity, as well as enhance their understanding of the country and Macau." It also aims to support young people in entrepreneurship and in attempting new endeavors. Lui Che Woo made the announcement during a gala dinner on July 4 to celebrate Galaxy's tenth year in operation, and the third anniversary of its Cotai property, attended by Chui Sai On and Edmund Ho.

Grace Yu

THE New Macau Association (ANM) elected their new council and board of supervisors yesterday, but the new head of the association has yet to be elected.

According to lawmaker Au Kam San, member of the new council, the meeting yesterday was an assembly to select the 11-member council and three members of the board of supervisors. "The newly formed council will call on another internal election to decide who will be the council's president," he told the Times.

The new leadership will be effective for two years. About fifty members cast votes yesterday.

Jason Chao, the outgoing president, is not on the new council's name list, but he said he is still a member of the association. He summarized his past two years as the president of the association:

"In the past two years, serving as the president of the association, I played in the role of transforming the association. In the past, the ANM would better be described as a supportive association of the lawmakers. Now the association plays a more important role in social activism and political engagement. I hope that the New Macau Association can remain progressive in their works in the two years ahead."

New Macau leaders show divergences, president to be elected tomorrow



Au Kam San previously commented on the overlapping roles of some ANM members who also participated in other associations. Au said it might confuse the public. In response, Chao said: "Macau residents have freedom of association. (...) You can talk about conflicts of interests or capacities in the case of profit businesses. But for NGOs, I think as long

as we share the same goal and same views, we should not discriminate against members on the grounds of their capacity in other organizations."

Neither did Chao agree that the overlapping roles of ANM members would confuse the public about the association leadership. He said Au and Ng are also leaders of another pro-democracy organization. "I don't

see that there is much conflict of interest or confusion about their capacities. But I think that the public now realize that people can speak in different capacities, and if you speak in that capacity, you represent that organization. I think it's totally fine."

Chao said yesterday that he supports Sulu So to be the next president. But he also stated two weeks ago, when asked if So is a suitable candidate, that So is "relatively new to the association" and "new to the political democratic movement in Macau." Chao explained yesterday: "I am open to everything. (...) We should see people from a perspective of [acknowledging] their capabilities rather than their years with the association. I believe that Sulu So has the capability to exercise the duty as the president."

Sulu So has been elected as a member of the new council. The election of NMA's new president will take place tomorrow evening.



THE Chief Executive, Chui Sai On, has vowed to meet the housing needs of the younger generations and develop diversified career opportunities. His remarks were made during a 90-minute talk with students from Kiang Peng Middle School and Kiang Wu Nursing College.

During the discussion, they talked about students' future paths and social issues, such as housing and education. Chui said the government would use the reclaimed lands to

CE promises youth to tackle housing demand and diversify industries

fulfill the housing demand of residents. "I know that everybody is concerned about the housing issue and we have to solve this problem. We will use the reclaimed lands that were approved by the central government to fulfill the current housing demand, so that everybody can have a stable life," said Chui.

Citing his 30 years of working experience as an example, the CE called on students to equip themselves well and form career plans for the future.

Chui stated that one of the most important factors in the government's policy of having a diversified economy is the provision of diversified working opportunities. "Therefore, we are actively promoting business development in namely Chinese

medicine, cultural and creative [industries], upgrades for traditional industries, and even new technology," said Chui. He believes that the cultural and creative industries, as well as technology, are new career trends for young people in Macau.

Chui also called on youths to develop critical thinking skills and to pay more attention to social affairs. Mr. Chui said: "You students will soon complete your non-tertiary education, and you should have developed critical thinking and being able to give constructive opinions."

Mr Chui also encouraged students to start their own businesses in the future, but he said it was crucial to have working experience before taking that step. **GY**

Ceiling falls from old building, five trapped

PART of the ceiling of an old building downtown fell yesterday, trapping five people. The accident occurred at a three-floor structure located on Rua Nova do Comércio near San Ma Lo (Avenida de Almeida Ribeiro). Fire services were called to the rescue. Five people were trapped in the building, but sustained no injuries.

More than one sixth of the cei-

ling collapsed, leaving two holes in the roof.

Most inhabitants of the building are tenants. One of them, Mr Ng, told TDM Chinese channel that the top floor of the building was divided into several partitioned flats, each measuring some 50 square feet. Another elderly tenant, surnamed Tseng, said he had rented one of these partitio-

ned flats for MOP70 per month for 70 years. Alleging that he informed the property owner many times about the building's safety concerns, the tenant argued that the owner told him that the building was not repairable, but that he could still live there if he wanted to. However, the property owner Mr Wong has another version of the events. He says that

he urged tenants to leave the building. "I've told them (tenants) not to live inside, since the building is so old. But they continue to live here."

The Fire Services Bureau said that the structure was not in immediate danger and informed the Land, Public Works and Transport Bureau so that it might follow up.

The Social Welfare Bureau has arranged for the six affected tenants to move into the Center for Victims of Disaster in Ilha Verde.

THE sacking of Eric Sautede continues to haunt the University of Saint Joseph (USJ).

Alumni of the university have handed a petition to the USJ administrators asking them not to turn the university into a tool to suppress dissident views, as well as solicit the reinstatement of the senior lecturer and political commentator.

The Times has also learnt that several prominent figures, including the head of the Tertiary Education Services Office (GAES) Sou Chiu Fai and Bishop D. José Lai may be among those who have pressured the university to axe Eric Sautede.

The petition submitted last Friday was undersigned by 143 people, 72 of them alumni and 45 current students. It said that the signatories are “shocked and angered” by the statement made by the USJ rector Peter Stilwell, who claimed that the termination of Eric Sautede’s contract was due to his political commentary on current affairs.

The USJ’s alumni consider their alma mater to have violated the scholar’s rights and the Basic Law, as well as damaging the public interest.

Three requirements are also listed in the petition, namely for the university to defend the freedom of speech, cease the suppression of dissident views, as well as reinstate any staff members who are sacked because of public intervention.

Rocky Chan, a USJ alumnus, accused the university of violating the labour rights of Eric Sautede. He also believes that it is reasonable for a scholar to comment on current affairs. “If a scholar has lost his teaching position due to [his commentary], it may create alarm within society. It is especially concerning in that other academics or intellectuals may only express their opinions in an atmosphere of fear in the future.”

A previous academic staff member of the university commented that Eric Sautede’s sacking is just one in a long line of terminations by the current management of staff with “inconvenient views or associations.” “It’s just that Sautede’s commentary and demise at this particular time were of interest to the general public. It’s a case of blatant betrayal of academic and social principals that had a broader public significance.”

Rocky Chan pointed out that academic freedom and the spirit of critical thinking are essential for a university. However, through this incident involving the sacking of a scholar, Chan believes that USJ has trodden on these principles.

The alumnus also mentioned the speculation that the incident is related to the construction of USJ’s new campus. But he suggested that students and staff would rather stay in a place where facilities are not totally satis-

ERIC SAUTEDE

USJ alumni demand reinstatement of sacked scholar

Alumni members think that their alma mater has violated the scholar’s rights and the Basic Law, as well as damaging the public interest



not receive any request to intervene in the case.

Our sources, who requested to remain anonymous, claimed that Bishop Lai is among those who pressured the university into making the decision. They also hinted that the head of GAES, Sou Chiu Fai, as well as members of the Catholic Foundation of Higher Education “may have exerted some pressure” on the rector too. “Let us say that if not involved they were at least supportive of the sacking.”

They singled out the bishop’s nephew, Dr Eric Chan Sau San 陳守信, a director at the Monetary Authority, who presides over the fiscal council of the Catholic Foundation and “has close links with Mr Lau Pun Lap, Director of the Policy Research Office.”

As for GAES, some scholars hinted in the media that the government bureau should intervene in these kinds of cases because academic standards are at stake. “Autonomy doesn’t mean giving a carte blanche [to the universities]. Autonomy implies accountability,” a scholar told

our newspaper on the condition of anonymity.

According to its by-laws, read by the Times journalists, the entity that oversees higher education in Macau has no specific powers concerning the hiring and management of human resources, as GAES stressed in response to our queries regarding Sautede’s case: “According to 11/91/M decree, higher education institutions in Macau enjoy administrative and financial autonomy, and the hiring of teachers is an internal matter of the institutions. MSAR never intervenes in the operation of higher education institutions in Macau and has always respected academic freedom and the autonomy of educational institutions.”

Eric Sautede was sacked on June 4 by Rector Stilwell on political grounds, and this will be his last week working at the university.

But the persecutory process started several months ago when he was released from his duty as Research Coordinator, managing public academic events at the Catholic-run university as it

factory than a well-built campus where people’s freedom of speech is suppressed.

“In this case, we think that the university [has betrayed or sold] its soul”, he remarked.

Rocky Chan then indicated that it is likely that they will write regarding the issue to the Catholic University of Portugal, which co-awards USJ’s diplomas and certificates. He called on the Macau Diocese to comment on the matter as well.

Bishop José Lai of the Macau Diocese, who is also the president of the Catholic Foundation of Higher Education that runs the university, told the local bi-lingual weekly newspaper, Plataforma, that while he recognized the freedom of scholars to express their opinions on political issues, the commenting, he claimed, has to be “done at the right time”.

José Lai also suggested that he respects the decision of the USJ rector and promised that he did

was recently exposed by Ponto Final. The Portuguese daily said it is believed that while he was organizing a public lecture with professor and published author Frank Dikötter, the university administration instructed him to suspend the event. An instruction Mr Sautede refused to follow.

Frank Dikötter is Chair Professor in Humanities at the HKU

We think that the university [has betrayed or sold] its soul

ROCKY CHAN
USJ ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

and has won several international book prizes. He is the author of “The Tragedy of Liberation: A History of the Chinese Revolution, 1945-1957”, the second installment in the “People’s Trilogy”, a series of books that document the impact of communism on the lives of ordinary people in China on the basis on new archival material. The first volume, entitled “Mao’s Great Famine: The History of China’s Most Devastating Catastrophe”, also published by Bloomsbury, won the 2011 Samuel Johnson Prize for Non-Fiction, Britain’s most prestigious book award for non-fiction.

It is worth mentioning that Frank Dikötter had already visited USJ twice in the past to talk and present his books during the tenure of the previous rector. **PC/JPL**

Bill Chou: UMAC contract yet to renew

PROFESSOR Bill Chou of the University of Macau (UMAC) said that he has taken the university’s disciplinary action against him to the Commission Against Corruption (CCAC) because of the lack of an appeal procedure available within the university. The scholar also claimed that the university has yet to sign a new contract with him.

The scholar claimed that the Chair of the University Council, Dr Tse Chi Wai, has informed Prof Chou that he does not have the authority to handle the appeal against the disciplinary procedure, which the scholar said means that there is no way to launch an appeal internally.

“Dr Tse Chi Wai has advised me to launch a legal action [against the disciplinary procedure]. After communicating with my lawyer, I decided to do this”, Bill Chou said.

The UMAC professor suggested that he has already referred his case to the CCAC and will give the Commission more information regarding the lack of a channel of appeal to determine whether there is a case of maladministration against UMAC.

He also mentioned the recent comments on the Internet and in local media that asked him to disclose the documents relating to the procedure. Bill Chou said that he is bound by university regulations and has to keep the documents confidential as long as he is a staff member of UMAC.

Furthermore, Bill Chou has reiterated that the accusations against him, including his coercing of students to take part in political activities and his discrimination against students, are false and baseless. He claimed that the public will come to their own conclusion that UMAC lau-

nched the disciplinary action against him because of his involvement in politics.

Moreover, Bill Chou revealed that UMAC has yet to renew his contract. According to the relevant regulation, a new contract should be signed around three months before the old one expires. Nevertheless, the scholar claimed that he and some of his colleagues who are seen to be more vocal are yet to receive their new contracts.

He refused to speculate on whether he is likely to have lost his position, only claiming that if he is no longer employed by the university, he will seek opportunities elsewhere.

If he is to win in any future legal battle against UMAC, Bill Chou stressed that he will not change his way of conducting himself at the university because he determined that there are no complaints to be found in his teaching methods. **JPL**

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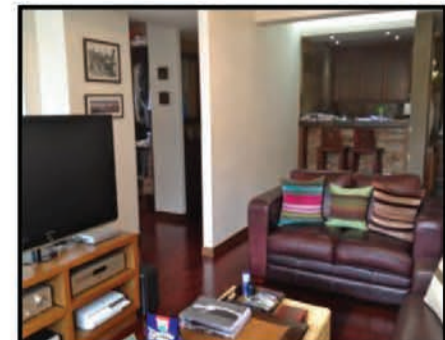


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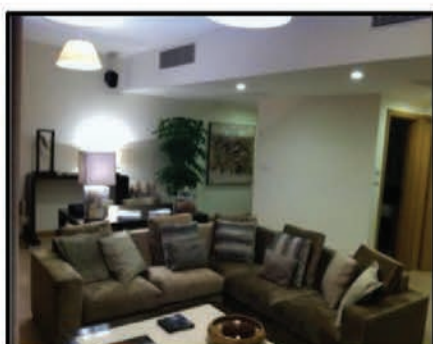
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1,840sq. ft. HKD 12.8M

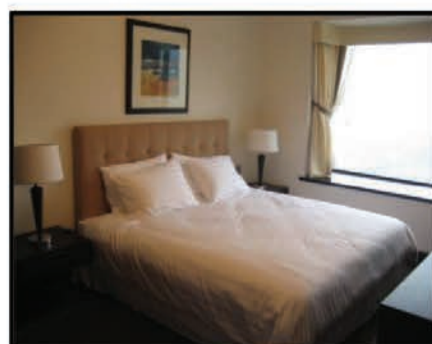
3 bedroom, 2 bathroom apartment in NAPE Macau. Good size sitting room, large kitchen, store room & maids quarters. Conveniently located, close to casinos and hotels, brand shopping malls and commercial areas.



One Central Tower 7 Penthouse, Macau

(Ref: 14045394)
2,300sq. ft. HKD 65M

Unique opportunity to live in an exclusive penthouse. Floor to ceiling windows across one wall makes the living / dining room bright and spacious. Unique in One Central this apartment has balcony albeit narrow a lovely feature. The living/dining room has been thoughtful designed making it comfortable



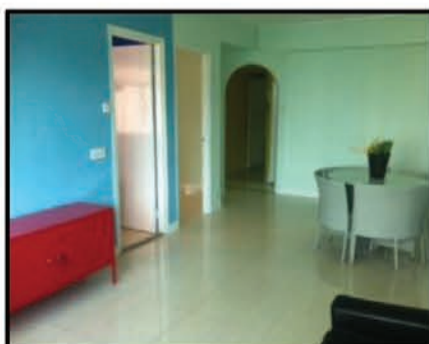
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1,720sq. ft. HKD 18M

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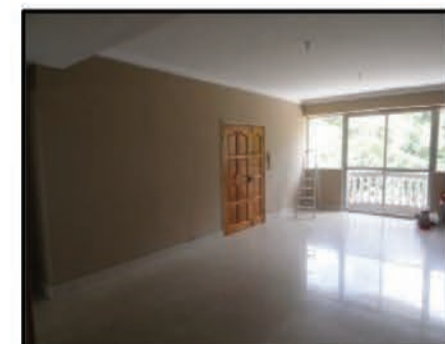
Asking Price: HKD 16M-without Car Park HKD18 million with 1 Car Park



Chuen Yuen Garden Taipa

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France says boosting use of euro is issue of 'global balance'

Mark Deen and Caroline Connan

FRENCH Finance Minister Michel Sapin said euro area governments need to look at ways of bolstering the use of the euro in international transactions as a matter of "global balance."

The remarks come a week after Paris-based bank BNP Paribas SA was slapped with a USD8.97 billion fine by U.S. authorities for transactions carried out in dollars in countries facing American sanctions. The fine spurred debate in France about the right of the U.S. in extending its regulatory reach beyond its borders.

"This is not a fight against dollar imperialism," Sapin said in an interview with Bloomberg Television in Aix-en-Provence, France. "We sell ourselves aircraft in dollars. Is that really necessary? I don't think so."

Euro area finance ministers will discuss ways of increasing the use of the euro tomorrow in Brussels, Sapin said. The French finance minister received support from Christophe de Margerie, head of French oil company Total SA, who said that he sees no reason for oil purchases to be made in dollars, adding that it makes sense to expand the use of other currencies in transactions outside the U.S.

"Nothing prevents anyone from paying for oil in euros," de Margerie said in Aix-en-Provence. "The price of a barrel of oil is quoted in dollars. A refinery can take that price and using the euro-dollar exchange rate on any given day, agree to make the payment in euros." **Bloomberg**

Dubai to build world's biggest shopping center

Adam Schreck, Hong Kong

THE shopping-loving city that is home to one of the world's largest shopping malls wants to build one even bigger. Dubai ruler Sheik Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum has laid out plans for a sprawling real-estate project known as Mall of the World that will include the 743,224 square meter mall, a climate-controlled street network, a theme park covered during the scorching summer months and 100 hotels and serviced apartments.

Other attractions planned for the site include a cultural and theater district drawing inspiration from New York's Broadway, shopping thoroughfares based on London's Oxford Street and a "wellness district" meant to attract medical tourists.

"The growth in family and retail tourism underpins the need to enhance Dubai's tourism in-



UAE Prime Minister and Dubai ruler Sheik Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, left, listens to Mohammed Abdullah Al Gergawi, center, Chairman of Dubai Holding during the presentation of a sprawling real-estate project known as the Mall of the World that is planned to include an 8 million square foot (743,224 square meter) mall, a climate-controlled street network, a theme park covered during the scorching summer months and 100 hotels and serviced apartments

■ Dubai Holding, a conglomerate controlled by the emirate's ruler, is developing the complex. It gave no details on the cost or the completion date

frastructure as soon as possible," Sheik Mohammed said in a statement announcing the project Saturday. "This project complements our plans to transform Dubai into a cultural, tourist and economic hub for the 2 billion people living in the region around us — and we are determined to achieve our vision."

Dubai Holding, a conglomerate controlled by the emirate's ruler, is developing the complex. It gave no details on the cost or the completion date.

The complex will be built near the Mall of the Emirates, which boasts an indoor ski slope, and a short drive from the Burj Khalifa, the world's tallest tower, and the adjacent

Dubai Mall. That shopping center is currently the emirate's largest and has attractions including a dinosaur skeleton, an indoor ice skating rink and a multistory aquarium.

Dubai has long used high-profile, big-ticket real estate projects to drive economic growth and establish itself as an international tourist destination. Its ambitions were slowed significantly with a crippling financial crisis that came to a head in 2009, forcing the delay or cancellation of some of the most outlandish projects.

Dubai Holding was not spared from the financial turmoil, and some of its divisions sought new repayment terms from len-

ders on a debt pile that reached into the billions of dollars.

The emirate's economy has rebounded strongly in the years since the crisis, driven by its trade, transportation and tourism-dependent economy.

Dubai is racing to develop additional infrastructure needed to accommodate a surge in visitors expected when it becomes the first Middle Eastern city to host the World Expo in 2020. Authorities expect the expo will generate USD23 billion between 2015 and 2021, and estimate it will cost \$8.4 billion to organize.

The new mall project alone is expected to create an additional 20,000 hotel rooms. **AP**

corporate bits

A NEW STYLE OF ENTERTAINMENT ON SAIPAN



CLUB C Saipan, a gaming and entertainment venue, located in the 4-star 200+ room Kanoa Resort Saipan, opened its doors on Saipan, the capital of the Northern Marianas. The facility is currently open from 11am to 3am daily, and features 8,000 square-feet of entertainment space, gaming machines

and stadium-style electronic table games with a seating capacity of 200. It will also offer a fusion of live entertainment and a state of the art digital music selection. A stellar international musical group from Macau will be headlining the opening of the Club. The club's opening comes on the heels of the introduction

of the E-Gaming Law signed last December 2013 on the Island of Saipan.

CLUB C Saipan's owners engaged an international management team from Macau, IGamiX Management & Consulting Ltd, headed by Ben Lee, to operate the Club to international standards and to provide a first class tourism facility. "We've invested USD4 million, or \$500 per square foot into this facility; we've provided 50 new jobs to locals including retirees; and we're getting ready to remit our first wave of gaming taxes to the government at 15% of our gross revenue. That's the second highest rate in all of Asia after Macau's 39.5% rate. We knew that Saipan's gaming tax was high as compared to other Asian nations but we pushed forward with confidence in the CNMI," said Lee.

To celebrate CEM's popular mascot Power Boy's 5th birthday together with the Macau community, CEM is organizing the Power Boy Buddies Design Contest. Co-organizers include the Macau Polytechnic Institute and the Macau Animation & Comic Alliance. Submission ended on 30 June and the response was overwhelming, with over 200 entries received.

The contest was divided into three groups: Open Group, Middle School Student Group and Primary School Student Group. Each group offers prizes for one champion, one first runner-up and one second runner-up respectively.

Public voting will be conducted online. Ten final entries selected by the judges from each group will be uploaded on CEM's "Ener-

CEM POWER BOY BUDDIES DESIGN CONTEST IS NOW OPEN



gizing Tour" Facebook fan page (www.facebook.com/Energizing.Tour). The public can vote for their favorite buddy by "liking" the entries. The winner of "My Favorite Buddy" who obtains the most

number of "likes" from public voting will be awarded an iPad mini. In addition, all voters will automatically enter the lucky draw and three of them will win cash prizes of MOP1,000.

ANGOLA

Public debt totals over USD33b at the end of 2012

THE Angolan state's total net debt, at the end of 2012, was USD33.314 billion or 29 percent of the country's gross domestic product (GDP), Angola's Finance Minister, Armando Manuel said in Luanda.

The figure was announced by the minister at the presentation of the General State Account for 2012 at the country's parliament.

According to information published on the Finance Ministry's website state debt at the end of 2012 "was the equivalent of 29.15 percent of the GDP and rose by 5.6 percent year on year, reflecting efforts made in the area of raising funds to finance the public investment program."

At the presentation to the Angolan parliament the minister also said that



Grey clouds hang over Luanda's bay

"net assets account" totaled 4.528 billion kwanzas (around de US\$46.3 billion).

The Finance Minister

also told members of parliament that the recommendations issued by the Court of Auditors on State Accounts for 2011 and

2012 "are being given the necessary treatment to prepare the General State Account for 2013."

MDT/Macauhub

European Union supports projects over next seven years

The European Union plans to provide funding of around 210 million euros for development projects in Angola over the next seven years, according to information published by the EU delegation in Luanda.

The funding is part of the new EU funding program in place until 2020 and essentially covers three main areas for projects in Angola, said a source contacted by Portuguese news agency Lusa.

Around half of this type of EU funding is earmarked for rural development and sustainable agriculture projects carried out in the country over the next seven years.

Around 65 million euros will be channeled into water and sanitation projects as well as to professional training and higher education.

The funding for the 11th community aid program, due to be signed by the European Commission and the Angolan government by the end of the year, is practically identical to the framework that is currently in its final phase of execution.

In the last National Indicative Program for Angola, for approval of projects between 2008 and 2013, the EU provided Angola with 214 million euros via the European Development Fund (EDF). MDT/Macauhub

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RELIGION

Court jails Christian pastor for 12 years

THE pastor of a Christian church in central China was sentenced to 12 years in prison in what supporters say is a crackdown aimed at curbing fast-growing religious activity, his lawyer said.

Zhang Shaojie of the Nanle County Christian Church in Henan province was convicted of fraud and of gathering crowds to disturb public order, according to lawyer Yang Xingquan.

Zhang's church is sanctioned by the Communist government, which allows worship only in state-monitored groups, but has been involved in a dispute with local authorities over land for a new building.

By official estimates, China has 23 million Christians. The country also has a large number of unsanctioned underground, or home, churches that have attracted millions of worshippers and have been targeted in repeated crackdowns. A report by the Washington, D.C.-based Pew Research Center said there were likely 67 million Christians in the country in 2010, including 58 million Protestants and 9 million Catholics.

The ruling party is wary of religion as a possible rallying point to challenge its rule and uneasy about the rapid spread of Chris-



tianity three decades after Beijing loosened social controls in pursuit of economic development.

In the eastern Zhejiang province, where Christianity has been particularly popular, local governments have been tearing down crosses on Christian churches, even if they have been officially sanctioned, on the grounds that they lack construction permits.

The crackdown on Christian churches could be an extension of an ongoing campaign to suppress the growth of civil society

in the country, said Prof. Fenggang Yang, a sociologist and expert on religion in China at Purdue University.

The churches might have become a target because Chinese Christians, perhaps emboldened by the growth in the number of followers around them, are more likely to assert their rights, Yang said.

"In China, Christianity or Protestantism is different from other religions somehow. One is that they have local congregations, they gather together regularly,

“The increasing number of Christians, perhaps, gives Christians more confidence to resist human rights violations and civil rights violations

PROF. FENGGANG YANG
PURDUE UNIVERSITY

showing support for each other spiritually, but that could spill over into social action," Yang said.

"The increasing number of Christians, perhaps, gives Christians more confidence to resist

human rights violations and civil rights violations. I think size does matter."

In Nanle, phone calls to the county court rang unanswered Friday. Yang, the lawyer, said Zhang had told the court that he would appeal.

Zhang was detained last year after the land dispute, but the lawyer said he was targeted due to his popularity in a region that has seen rapid growth in the number of Christians.

"In the eyes of the authorities, Christianity is growing too fast there, and Pastor Zhang was too influential," Yang said.

Zhang was convicted of instigating years-old disputes involving his congregation members, even though the disputes with a dentist, an insurance business and a family planning office were long dismissed, Yang said.

The pastor also was accusing of swindling money, but prosecutors failed to produce a key witness to testify, Yang said.

Bob Fu, president of the U.S.-based Christian rights group China Aid, said the verdict against Zhang was "totally unacceptable."

"This case shows the Chinese government continues to cover up religious persecution with fabricated criminal charges against an innocent church leader," Fu said in an emailed statement. **AP**

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CHINA OVERNIGHT

Xi new economy stocks selling off with the old

LAST year's most-profitable bets on the Chinese economy have turned into money losers in 2014 as policy makers send mixed signals on which industries will lead the country's expansion.

After surging at least 20 percent for the biggest gains in China's stock market last year, gauges of technology, health-care and consumer companies have all lost more than 6 percent. The companies, tied to what analysts have dubbed China's "new economy," are now falling in tandem with "old economy" stocks in state sectors such as commodities and finance that fueled growth in the last decade. All 10 industries in the CSI 300 Index sank in the first half, the broadest losses in four years.

The declines suggest investors may be doubting China's commitment to fostering a shift toward technology and services, putting at risk returns on smaller companies that have been the best in the past two years and the biggest among initial public offerings.

While President Xi Jinping said in May the nation must adapt to a "new normal" pace of growth, in which innovation plays an increasing role, the government has also sped up state spending and eased credit curbs as the weakening property market puts its 7.5 percent expansion target at risk.

"The market is now pricing in the risk that China won't make a successful transition," Wang Zheng, the Shanghai-based chief investment officer at Jingxi Investment Management Co., which oversees about USD120 million, said by phone on July 4. The shift "will be much more difficult."

New economy stocks had advanced as China's cabinet approved plans in 2012 to boost seven "strategic" industries, including technology. The government included in its five-year plan a target of lifting the proportion of service industries in the economy to 47 percent by 2015 from 46.1 percent in 2013.

Less than six weeks after Xi's comments, Premier Li Keqiang

“**[Chinese leaders] are following a two-step approach: buy time, and if the economy stabilizes, then they will focus more on the reforms**

SHEN MINGGAO
CITIGROUP INC

said in a speech in London that the government is "adjusting its economic operations to ensure the minimum growth rate is 7.5 percent." Policy makers have lowered reserve requirements for some lenders, sped up spending

of state funds and announced plans to build railways since April.

Leaders in the world's second-largest economy are trying to prop up growth amid a weakening property market that dragged down home prices for two straight months through June, the first declines in almost two years.

"The government won't be willing to take in the short-term pain, so they are following a two-step approach: buy time, and if the economy stabilizes, then they will focus more on the reforms," Shen Minggao, Citigroup Inc.'s head of China research, said by phone from Hong Kong on July 2.

Shen, who preferred new economy shares last year, now favors old economy stocks in part because they're cheaper and the nation's growth rate is stabilizing. China's manufacturing expanded in June at the fastest pace this year.

The CSI 300 Materials Index, whose biggest constituents include Anhui Conch Cement Co. and Zijin Mining Group Co., is valued at 15 times estimated earnings for the next 12 months while the index of financial companies has a ratio of 5.5. Benchmark gauges of technology and health care companies have multiples of 23 and 19, respectively.

The CSI 300 Index, which tracks China's biggest mainland-listed companies, has dropped 6.5 percent this year, while the Shanghai Composite Index declined 2.7 percent. The Bloomberg China-US Equity

Jonathan Garner, the chief Asia and emerging market strategist at Morgan Stanley in Hong Kong, said by phone on July 2 that he still favors companies in the consumer, technology and health-care industries while recommending underweight positions in materials and industrial companies.

Garner pointed to Chinese sales of the blockbuster "Transformers: Age of Extinction," which exceeded those from the U.S. in the film's opening days, as the latest evidence that China's new economy is still going strong. The nation's e-commerce purchases, auto sales and airline passengers have all been growing at double-

digit rates, he wrote in a July 2 report.

Some of the government's recent stimulus measures have also been targeted at businesses in the new economy. The People's Bank of China approved reserve-requirement cuts last month for banks that lend to smaller companies, which are prevalent in the technology and consumer-services industries. The banking regulator also changed the way loan-to-deposit ratios are devised to allow lenders to exclude loans to small enterprises, giving them greater capacity to extend credit.

The E Fund ChiNext Price Index exchange-traded fund, which tracks the benchmark gauge of the nation's small-capitalization stocks, has delivered the highest risk-adjusted return among 23 Chinese ETFs during the past two years as an 86 percent return compensated investors for bearing the highest volatility. The 50 smallest initial public offerings in the four years through June surged 151 percent on average, versus a loss of 22 percent for the largest deals, according to data compiled by Bloomberg.

Recent declines in new economy stocks signal investor skepticism that the transformation will be successful, according to Haitong Securities Co.

The CSI 300 Healthcare Index has dropped 11 percent this year after a 23 percent rally in 2013, while the technology gauge slumped 7 percent after surging 39 percent last year. The CSI 300 Consumer Discretionary Index has lost 6.9 percent, versus an 8.7 percent rally in the equivalent gauge for emerging markets. While the ChiNext index has climbed 8.2 percent this year, it's still down 9.4 percent from this year's high in February.

"We need to see economic growth accelerate, or the transformation of the economic structure succeed," Chen Ruiming, a Shanghai-based strategist at Haitong Securities who correctly predicted the Shanghai Composite's slide below 2,000 in 2012, said in a July 3 phone interview. "But neither of the two will materialize in three to five years and that'll be a long process." **Bloomberg**

17 coal miners trapped underground in west China

RESCUERS yesterday worked to free 17 miners trapped following a gas explosion at a coal mine in western China, the country's official news agency reported. The blast at the mine 120 kilometers from Urumqi, the capital of the sprawling Xinjiang region, happened on Saturday evening,

according to the Xinhua News Agency.

It said three other people working inside the mine at the time had been rescued. China has the world's deadliest mines, although the safety record has been improving in recent years as regulators have strengthened enforcement of safety rules.

Xinhua said the pit is mined by Dahuangshan Yuxin Coal Mining Co. Ltd., owned by the sixth agricultural division of the Xinjiang Production and Construction Corps. It is a paramilitary organization that was revived by the central government in the 1980s to aid the region's construction and development.



Miner Duan Xukang receives a treatment at a hospital in Fukang City

Hyung-jin Kim

Xi rebukes Japan for brutality in China, Koreas

THE leaders of China and South Korea expressed concern about Japan's recent reinterpretation of its war-renouncing constitution and its re-examination of a past apology for wartime atrocities, a South Korean official said.

Japan colonized the Korean Peninsula and occupied parts of China, often brutally, before and during World War II. Many people in China and South Korea still harbor a strong resentment against Japan, and there are concerns in both countries about growing nationalism in Tokyo.

Visiting Chinese President Xi Jinping and his South Korean President Park Geun-hye had "lots of discussions" about Japan, and shared worries about its "revisionist attitude" and reinterpretation of its constitution to allow its military a larger international role, senior South Korean presidential official Ju Chul-ki told reporters.

Both leaders also regretted Japan's recent review of its landmark 1993 apology for forcing Asian women into wartime prostitution because it was an apparent attempt to "disparage" the apology, Ju said, according to the presidential Blue House.



Chinese President Xi Jinping and first lady Peng Liyuan

Last month, a Japanese panel confirmed the validity of a study that led to the apology, but South Korea called the review unnecessary and said it included material that undermined the reliability of the apology.

Historians say up to 200,000

women from across Asia, many of them Koreans, were forced to provide sex to Japan's front-line soldiers. Japanese nationalists contend that the so-called "comfort women" were voluntary prostitutes, not sex slaves, and that Japan has been unfair-

ly criticized for a practice they say is common in any country at war.

Earlier Friday, Xi highlighted Japan's past brutality against China and Korea during a speech on the final day of his visit to Seoul.

"Our two countries had big su-

ffering when (Japan) launched barbarous aggression on China and Korea and annexed and occupied the Korean Peninsula in the first half of the 20th century," he said.

He noted that in the late 16th century a Chinese dynasty sent troops to help a Korean dynasty defeat invading Japanese troops.

"Both countries' nationals ... walked shoulder to shoulder to battle grounds together 400 years ago," Xi said, speaking through an interpreter.

China assisted North Korea and fought against South Korea during the 1950-53 Korean War, while American-led U.N. troops fought alongside South Korea.

South Korea and China established diplomatic relations in 1992. The countries now have booming trade ties and share concerns about Japan's military ambitions and what critics see as recent attempts by Tokyo to obscure its bloody past. **AP**

China gives rare glimpse at naval ships



Reporters and visitors walk aboard the Chinese People's Liberation Army Navy ship Haikou

Marco Garcia, Pearl Harbor

CHINA gave Western journalists a rare look aboard two People's Liberation Army vessels during the Rim of the Pacific naval exercises in Hawaii, showcasing a hospital ship with complex medical facilities and a destroyer flying U.S. and Chinese flags.

China is participating for the first time in the exercises, despite tensions with the United States and other countries — including territorial disputes with U.S. allies like Japan

and the Philippines.

Chinese naval nurse He Yun showed reporters around the hospital ship Ark Peace, with a trauma center, dental office and facility where acupuncture and other treatments can be performed. Examination rooms were spread over several floors.

The destroyer Haikou featured multiple hatches on its deck, a large cannon and a helicopter. Inside, where no photographs were allowed, glossy pictures of sailors' family and children lined the walls.

About a dozen other countries, including Japan, New Zealand, the United States and Colombia also offered ship tours as part of the 22-nation drills.

A Japanese naval official on Saturday gave a Chinese counterpart a private tour of its Japan Maritime Self Defense ship, the JS Ise. The Ise was docked at Pearl Harbor directly across the water from the USS Arizona Memorial, the ship that still rests at the bottom of a lagoon after the 1941 attack by Japan on Pearl Harbor. **AP**

Chinese patrol ships arrest 6 Vietnamese fishermen

CHINESE patrol ships arrested six Vietnamese fishermen in waters off China's Hainan Island, officials said, an incident likely to heighten tensions between the nations as they spar over a territorial dispute.

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Hong Lei said the arrests occurred Thursday 12 kilometers off the island, a location that would place the fisherman within China's territorial waters.

However, Nguyen Ky, an official in the district where the fishermen came from, said the arrests took place in disputed waters near the Gulf of Tonkin, which lies off Hainan. He said his information came from fishermen in a second boat that was briefly detained and reported the incident via radio.

Lei said Chinese authorities were handling the situation "according to the law" and urged Vietnam to "strengthen control over their fishermen ... and prevent similar incidents from happening again."

Vietnam's Ministry of Foreign Affairs didn't immediately return calls seeking comment.

Vietnamese fishermen have been detained by China before, but this is the first time since China deployed a large oil rig in early May close to the disputed Paracel Islands, causing a dangerous spike in tensions between the two nations.



A Chinese coast guard vessel, right, fires water cannon at a Vietnamese vessel off the coast of Vietnam

Hanoi protested the deployment and sent coastal patrol ships to try to force away the rig, which is protected by a large flotilla of Chinese ships. The Vietnamese ships have been unable to get close to the rig, and dozens have been damaged in collisions with larger, stronger Chinese vessels, according to Vietnamese officials.

China has increasingly sought to enforce its claims to disputed territories in the region as its military and economic strength have grown.

The territorial disputes are also causing tensions with the Philippines and Japan and prompting increased spending on military hardware.

Vietnam's government said Thursday it plans to spend US\$540 million on 32 new coast guard and fishery patrol vessels to boost its maritime muscle and surveillance capacities. **AP**

INDONESIA | ELECTIONS

Risks of Suharto dynasty rerun as son-in-law also rises

Sharon Chen and Jason Scott

SIXTEEN years after the overthrow of the dictator Suharto, Indonesia is turning back toward that regime as his former son-in-law pulls level in the race to run the world's third-largest democracy.

Prabowo Subianto, one of Suharto's youngest generals, who was fired from his post in the army in 1998 for his role in the abduction and torture of pro-democracy activists, has overtaken Jakarta Governor Joko Widodo in opinion polls less than a week before the July 9 election. Widodo, known as Jokowi, has squandered a lead of more than 30 points with a disorganized campaign that raised Prabowo's appeal as a potential strong leader.

"Prabowo Subianto represents, at the very least, the turning of the tide and the beginning of what might be a serious authoritarian reversal," said Edward Aspinall, a professor of politics at the Australian National University in Canberra. "He emerged from the very heart of the old authoritarian system."

Bankrolled by his tycoon brother, and with the support of allies including Suharto's old party, Prabowo, 62, has made no bones about his desire to roll back democratization and reinstate the supremacy of the president. After a decade of stagnation and widespread corruption, voters in the world's largest Muslim-majority nation are listening.

Pollster Roy Morgan said on June 30 the election is now too close to call after its latest survey showed Jokowi's lead has shrunk to 4 points, from 18 in May. Among the 17-30 age group, who mostly reached voting age after Suharto's overthrow, Prabowo is ahead, according to the poll. Late last year, a survey put Jokowi's lead as high as 33 points.

Outgoing President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono failed to meet his target of 7 percent annual economic growth during a 10-year rule even as Chinese demand sparked a commodities boom for his resource-rich country. While mining magnates piled up wealth, a failure to build roads and ports or curb bureaucratic corruption stifled development elsewhere in the economy.

Prabowo has capitalized on the sense of drift with a "get-things-done" message backed by better funding. With about USD150 million in assets, Prabowo is almost 60 times wealthier than his rival, the Corruption Eradication Commission said on July 1. His brother, Hashim Djojohadikusumo, has interests from mining to paper and was worth \$700 million in November, Forbes estimated.

"He's got powerful backing and he's got a message that resonates



Indonesia presidential candidates Joko Widodo and Prabowo Subianto attend the final debate before the election

with a lot of Indonesians and he's able to get in front of them and spread the word," said Tim Condon, Singapore-based head of Asia research at ING Groep NV, who worked for the World Bank in Jakarta from 1992 to 1996.

Spreading that word means reaching a population of about 250 million people across a 5,200-kilometer-long archipelago of more than 900 inhabited islands. Prabowo's platform of a firm grip over the nation offers a throwback to an era before political pluralism, when cartels, many run by Suharto relatives, dominated the economy.

■ The winner of the July 9 vote will need to steer Asia's fifth-biggest economy through major shifts in the region's trade patterns and geopolitics

Prabowo has made repeated references during his campaign to a return to the 1945 constitution, before post-Suharto reforms reduced the power of the president. In a debate on June 28 in the capital, he questioned whether the country even needs direct elections.

"How do we turn back the clock of history?" said Prabowo, likening direct elections to someone addicted to cigarettes. "It's been felt so good for so long, then asking him to stop, the process will be very difficult."

Jokowi said on July 3 that a return to indirect elections would be a "setback." On television station TVOne yesterday, Prabowo denied that he wants to be a dictator and said that, as a soldier, he had taken an oath "to guard the constitution."

The winner of the July 9 vote will need to steer Asia's fifth-biggest

economy through major shifts in the region's trade patterns and geopolitics. Chinese factories that drove Indonesia's mining boom are moving abroad, sparking a race to gain a bigger slice of manufacturing. Territorial disputes are brewing in the South China Sea. And Indonesia's rising population is straining the nation's ability to provide enough education and jobs amid a weak global recovery.

A victory for Prabowo would make him the sixth leader linked to Suharto, or the previous dictator he overthrew, Sukarno. After student protests culminated in Suharto's ouster in May 1998, the country was briefly run by B.J. Habibie, who served under the former dictator for 20 years. Then came a 21-month stint from religious leader Abdurrahman Wahid, a former Suharto ally, followed by Megawati Soekarnoputri -- the daughter of Indonesia's founding father Sukarno.

Jokowi, 53, a former furniture salesman, has cultivated a public image of his poor roots that is distinct from the nation's previous leaders. As governor of Jakarta, he built a reputation for attacking corruption, expanding free health care and tackling the city's transport problems.

The choice between a return to authoritarianism or further democratization comes after a decade of uneven economic gains under former general Yudhoyono, who is barred from running again after his second term in office.

Since 2004, the economy has grown an average 5.8 percent a year, state debt has declined, foreign investment has risen to a record and the country has gained an investment grade.

Much of that achievement was due to a boom in commodities, driven by Chinese demand. Resources such as oil, gas, gold and coal make up 65 percent of the country's exports, according to Finance Minister Chatib Basri.

"What we have achieved so far, at least for the greater part, is maybe by luck," said Adrianus Mooy, 78, a central bank governor for five years during Suharto's rule. "Indonesia is blessed with a lot of natural resources. But manufacturing is not growing, agriculture is not growing, or is

growing below average."

Indonesia's oil production, which began in the 1880s, led to another legacy of the dictatorship days: subsidized fuel -- a popular institution that this year may cost the government 246.5 trillion rupiah (\$20.7 billion).

"SBY's leadership put the country in a holding pattern," said David Hill, a professor of Southeast Asian Studies at Perth's Murdoch University, referring to Yudhoyono by his initials. A Prabowo victory could return Indonesia to a more closed society with a stronger military while Jokowi may foster an inclusive and open style of government, he said.

Prabowo is "beating the economic nationalist drum," said John McCarthy, Australia's ambassador to Indonesia from 1997 to 2000. "The Indonesians are tired of foreign investors coming in and taking a lot of money out, particularly in the mining sector."

Both candidates have pledged to boost growth and spend on infrastructure. Jokowi said he'll improve regulations to attract investment and cut red tape. Prabowo wants to raise more money from capital markets and tax, as well as spur economic expansion by doubling the rate of borrowing. "Jokowi's proposed changes are not so much in terms of economic reform, but in bureaucratic reform and improved service delivery," said Jeffrey Neilson, Indonesia coordinator at the Sydney Southeast Asia Centre at the University of Sydney. "A Prabowo victory would likely reinvigorate the inner circles of power that held sway under Suharto, and that would not be good for the economy."

Prabowo was fostered throughout his military career by Suharto, who ultimately appointed him head of the army's crack Strategic Reserve Command in Jakarta, the garrison Suharto himself commanded when he overthrew Sukarno.

■ Prabowo Subianto represents, at the very least, the turning of the tide and the beginning of what might be a serious authoritarian reversal

EDWARD ASPINALL
PROFESSOR
AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY

At a recent campaign debate, Prabowo's former wife Siti Hediati Hariyadi, known as Titiek Soeharto, was in the front row of the audience, fueling local media speculation that the two may get back together.

Prabowo's father was an architect of the economic programs in the late 1960s after Suharto took power.

A Prabowo win could weaken the currency on "concern that Prabowo may enforce nationalistic policies that may discourage foreign investment," Morgan Stanley analysts including Geoffrey Kendrick and Kewei Yang wrote in a note on June 26.

That's been reflected in the market as Prabowo closed the gap on his rival. The rupiah has slid 4.7 percent since March 31, the worst performance among 24 emerging-market currencies tracked by Bloomberg.

Stocks and the rupiah declined after Prabowo announced in May that Golkar, the country's second-biggest party, would ally with his Gerindra party.

Golkar kept Suharto in power for 32 years, during which Indonesia was often praised by the World Bank and other lenders for rapid economic growth and poverty eradication. The regime was also regularly voted among the most corrupt in Asia, which enriched Suharto's relatives and cronies and muzzled the press.

Government officials may have helped themselves to 20 percent of the total World Bank loans intended for the country from 1967 to 1997, an internal report showed.

While Jokowi's campaign has pushed his image as a self-made man, he has his own political ties to the past. His party is that of Megawati.

"There are big questions about what role Megawati is playing in his rise," said Jemma Purdey, a Melbourne-based research fellow at Deakin University and author of "Anti-Chinese Violence in Indonesia, 1996-1999." "She's clearly the kingmaker and you can't imagine that her role would stop once the election is over."

Many of the country's biggest investors will be watching for changes in the resources industry, which has attracted companies such as BHP Billiton Ltd., Freeport-McMoRan Copper & Gold Inc. and Newmont Mining Corp. In the past three years, the government has moved to decrease foreign-owned stakes in some mines and banned the export of ores to encourage more refining in the country.

"Indonesia is at a pivot point here, a real crossroads," said Murdoch University's Hill, author of "Journalism and Politics in Indonesia". "Regardless of who wins, Indonesia will probably become a different country." **Bloomberg**

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ISRAEL

Jewish attackers suspected in teen death



Israeli President Shimon Peres

ISRAELI authorities yesterday announced the arrests of several Jewish suspects in the death of a Palestinian teenager who was abducted and killed last week, marking a major breakthrough in a case that has sparked violent protests in Arab areas of Jerusalem and northern Israel.

In a joint statement, Israeli police and the Shin Bet security agency said the suspects were arrested early yesterday. They remained in custody and were being interrogated by the Shin Bet.

While the statement did not say how many suspects were in custody, an official speaking on condition of anonymity because the investigation was ongoing said they numbered six in total.

The announcement shed new light on a case that has gripped the country's attention since Muhammed Abu Khdeir, 16, was abducted outside his home in east Jerusalem early Wednesday and his charred remains were found in a Jerusalem forest shortly afterward. Palestinians immediately accused Jewish extremists of killing Abu Khdeir to avenge the earlier kidnapping and killings of three Israeli teens. **AP**

AP PHOTO



Shinzo Abe says the shift is intended to protect the lives and security of the Japanese people

JAPAN

Abe may use Australia speech to outline defense program

Jim McDonald

JAPANESE Prime Minister Shinzo Abe may use an address to Australia's parliament this week to outline plans for expanding his nation's military role to collective self-defense, a shift that's supported by the U.S. and opposed by China and a majority of Japan's people.

"Abe's speech to the Australian parliament will be of much broader significance than just its part in Australia-Japan relations," Greg Sheridan, foreign editor of The Australian newspaper, wrote in an editorial yesterday. "The whole world, or certainly the entire global strategic class, will be watching."

Abe will appoint a minister

to shepherd laws enabling Japan's Self-Defense Forces to support allies, he said in an interview with the Yomiuri newspaper published yesterday. The cabinet on July 1 approved a reinterpretation of Japan's pacifist constitution to allow military action in concert with other nations when Japan's security is at risk.

Since taking office in December 2012 Abe has sought to bolster Japan's security stance amid a territorial dispute with an increasingly assertive China and concerns about the strength of the country's alliance with the U.S. He increased the defense budget after 11 years of decline, passed an unpopular law toughening penalties for leaking state secrets, and loo-

sened restrictions on defense exports.

Mitsubishi Heavy Industries Ltd. may win approval to export to the U.S. sensors for use in missiles that would then be sold to Qatar, the Nikkei newspaper reported yesterday. During his Australia visit, Abe will sign trade and defense technology agreements that may include the sale of Japanese submarine technology.

Even as China expands its military presence in the region and claims huge swathes of the resources-rich East and South China Seas as sovereign territory, Abe's public remains concerned that a wider military remit might drag Japan into a conflict after almost 70 years of peace.

Two media surveys before the cabinet's move found half or more of respondents opposed collective self-defense, even as Abe repeatedly explained the rationale for the change. Support for the cabinet fell afterward, according to a Kyodo News survey, with a majority of respondents saying they opposed the reinterpretation.

U.S. Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel called Japan's openness to collective defense an important step that will make the security alliance between the two nations more effective. China expressed opposition, with its Foreign Ministry spokesman Hong Lei saying Japan's government had been "fabricating" a Chinese threat for domestic political purposes. **Bloomberg**

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UKRAINE

Gov't claims victory in rebel stronghold

Dmitry Lovetsky,
Yuras Karmanau, Slovyansk

UKRAINIAN troops forced pro-Russian insurgents out of a key stronghold in the country's embattled east on Saturday, a significant success that suggested the government may finally be making gains in a months-long battle against a spreading separatist insurgency.

As rebels fled from Slovyansk, vowing to regroup elsewhere and fight on, President Petro Poroshenko hailed the recapture of the city as "the start of a turning point" in a battle that has claimed more than 400 lives since April.

After a night of heavy fighting that saw heavy artillery fire from Ukraine's troops, government soldiers were in full control of rebel headquarters in Slovyansk, a city of about 100,000 that has been a center of the fighting between Kiev's troops and the pro-Russian insurgents.

Soldiers raised the Ukrainian flag over the city council building, while troops carried stockpiles of weapons out of the city's administrative and police buildings, which have been under rebel control since early April.

"It's not a total victory. But the purging of Slovyansk of these bands, made up of people armed to the teeth, has incredible symbolic importance," Poroshenko said in a statement posted on his official website.

Artillery fire on rebel forces

began late on Friday and lasted into the night. On Saturday, fighting could still be heard on the northern outskirts of the city.

Ukraine's newly appointed Minister of Defense, Valery Heletey, was milling around with troops in the city center. He said that three planes with food and other supplies will soon arrive in Slovyansk.

A spokesman for the National Security and Defense Council said earlier that mopping-up operations were continuing.

"Slovyansk is under siege. Now an operation is going on to neutralize small groups hiding in buildings where peaceful citizens are living," Andriy Ly-senko told journalists in Kiev.

Andrei Purgin of the separatist Donetsk People's Republic told The Associated Press that rebels were evacuating, but claimed the army's campaign had left the city "in ruins."

The capture of Slovyansk represented the government's biggest victory since it abandoned a shaky cease-fire this week and launched an offensive against the separatists. Until now, the Ukrainian army had often appeared feckless in the months-long campaign against the rebels. On Thursday Poroshenko shook up his defense team, appointing Ukraine's third defense minister since the former president was ousted in February.

It was not yet clear whether the latest advance has permanently crippled the rebels, many of whom are relocating to



An Ukrainian government army soldier stands in front of the government building with a Ukrainian flag on the roof in the city of Slovyansk

other cities.

In the city of Donetsk, streets were deserted on Saturday as local officials urged people to stay at home. They said a battle was ongoing near the Donetsk city airport, but did not provide details.

"Militants from Slovyansk and Kramatorsk have arrived in Donetsk," said Maxim Rovinsky, spokesman for the city council. Purgin claimed 150 fighters injured in Slovyansk were in Donetsk for treatment.

"More than a hundred militiamen have been killed in the last three days," said Viktor, a 35-year-old Slovyansk native who had a shrapnel wound in his leg. "The mood is very bad. It seems that we've lost this

war. And Russia isn't in a hurry to help."

Alexei, a driver and local Slovyansk resident who would not give his last name for fear of reprisal, told the AP by phone that he heard bombing throughout the night. When the bombing stopped in the early morning, he left his house and saw that all the rebel checkpoints were abandoned. He said there was some damage to buildings in the center of the city, but said much of the rest of the city had been left untouched.

A rebel commander who would only give his nom de guerre as Pinochet told the AP that rebels had relocated to the nearby town of Kramatorsk, 20 kilometers south of Slovyansk. But

outside Kramatorsk, an AP reporter saw an abandoned checkpoint and several hundred rebels, armed and in uniform, driving in minibuses in the direction of Donetsk.

Some rebels played down the significance of Ukraine's advances. Pavel Gubarev, the self-described governor of the Donetsk People's Republic, wrote online that the rebels had staged a tactical retreat.

"Kutuzov also retreated, as that was the plan," he wrote, referring to the 19th century general Mikhail Kutuzov who is credited with defeating Napoleon's forces in Russia. "In general, Russians only retreat before a decisively victorious battle."

Others in the rebels' ranks pleaded publicly with Russia to assist the rebels in their cause. In a video posted online late on Friday, Igor Girkin, the self-described "commander in chief of the Donetsk People's Republic," said his men had "lost the will to fight."

"They want to live in Russia," said Girkin, also known by his nom de guerre, Igor Strelkov. "But when they tried to assert this right, Russia doesn't want to help." He said he believed the troops had only "two or three weeks" before they were defeated if Russia did not step in.

The Russian Foreign Ministry said it was bolstering efforts to deliver medical aid to those in eastern Ukraine, but made no mention of the rebels' defeat in Slovyansk or plans to provide military aid. **AP**

AT least 50 alleged insurgents were killed during clashes with Nigerian soldiers as security forces repelled an attack on a military base in the northeastern state of Borno, the Defense Ministry said yesterday.

Six soldiers, including the commanding officer, died in the assault on Friday on the base and a nearby police station in the town of Damboa, a statement from Defense Ministry spokesman Maj. Gen. Chris Olukolade said.

The daring move appeared to be a reprisal attack after a punishing air raid 24 hours earlier caused Boko Haram Islamic extremists to suffer heavy casualties, according to an officer who requested anonymity because he is

NIGERIA

Soldiers repel attack on military base, 50 insurgents allegedly killed



not allowed to give information to reporters.

Modu Gwasha, mem-

ber of a civilian defense group that fought alongside the soldiers, alleged

that Boko Haram extremists burned several military vehicles during the assault, including two tanks. He added that he saw the corpses of at least 10 soldiers and five police officers.

Security forces have recently come under fire from some Nigerians who accuse the government of doing nothing to curb the increase in violence. Previous attacks on military bases in the northeast have sent soldiers fleeing for safety.

Boko Haram attracted

international condemnation for its April abduction of more than 200 schoolgirls, and the Nigerian military and government have been criticized for their failure to rescue the girls taken from Chibok town.

The Kibaku Area Development Association, a local residents' association, on Friday called for the United Nations to protect the people of Chibok and the wider region, where it says 19 villages have fallen under siege

since the April 15 mass abduction, with over 229 people killed during that period.

"Security and defense is mainly provided by the local vigilante (who are ill-equipped) and the police while the soldiers in Chibok sit by and watch villagers being helplessly massacred in their homes, farms and in places of worship," the association said in a statement.

In 90 percent of cases, there had been advance warning of attacks, the group added, and yet the military has taken no action.

More than 2,000 people have died so far this year in the 5-year-old Islamic uprising, compared to an estimated 3,600 in the four previous years. **AP**

what's ON



FACE OF LIGHT ART EXHIBITION
– STEPHEN BENNETT PORTRAIT PAINTER
TIME: 11am-8pm
UNTIL: August 3, 2014
VENUE: Level 3, The Venetian Macau
(close to Venetian Ballroom)
ADMISSION: Free
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2882 8888

MACAU ANNUAL VISUAL ARTS EXHIBITION
2014 - WESTERN MEDIA CATEGORY
TIME: 10am-7pm
UNTIL: August 17, 2014
VENUE: Old Court Building
ADMISSION: Free
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2836 6866

MACAU SCIENCE CENTRE
ADDRESS: Avenida Dr. Sun Yat-Sen
ADMISSION: Exhibition Centre: MOP25
Planetarium (Dome/Sky Shows): MOP50
Planetarium (3D Dome/3D Sky Shows): MOP65
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2888 0822

L'ART CHINOIS
TIME: 24 Hours
UNTIL: October 12, 2014
VENUE: L2 Showcase, MGM Macau,
Av. Dr. Sun Yat Sen, NAPE
ADMISSION: Free
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2836 6064

WE ARE FRIENDS:
ARTWORK EXCHANGE EXHIBITION
TIME: 12 noon-7pm (closed on Tuesdays)
UNTIL: August 3, 2014
VENUE: Ox Warehouse, corner of Avenida Do
coronel Mesquita and Avenida Almirante Lacerda
ADMISSION: Free
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2853 0026

TRANSFORMERS 30TH ANNIVERSARY EXPO
TIME: 11am-8pm
UNTIL: October 5, 2014
VENUE: Hall F, Cotai Expo
ADMISSION: MOP100
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2882 8818

Offbeat

FINNISH COUPLE WINS QUIRKY
'WIFE CARRYING' RACE

A Finnish couple has narrowly won the 19th World Wife Carrying Championships – a quirky competition in which men race to be the fastest while carrying a female teammate.

Ville Parviainen and Jannette Oksanen

cleared the grueling 253.5 meter obstacle course in 63.75 seconds on Saturday, less than a second ahead of Britain's Rich Blake Smith and Anna Marguerite Smith.

Thirty-six couples from a dozen countries including Australia, Japan, and the United States took part in the race, which was held in the central Finnish municipality of Sonkajarvi, north of the capital, Helsinki.

The rules stipulate that the woman must be over 17 years of age and weigh at least 49 kilograms. Despite the event's name couples don't have to be married, and organizers say male contestants could "borrow a neighbor's wife" if they didn't have a female companion.

TV canal macau

13:00	TDM News
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:30	RTPi Live
18:00	The Life We Lead (Repeated)
19:20	Non-Daily Portuguese News (Repeated)
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	TDM Sports
22:10	The Life We Lead
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Sports
23:45	Non-Daily Portuguese News
00:15	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
00:45	RTPi Live

cinema

CINETEATRO

03 Jul - 09 Jul

TRANSFORMERS: AGE OF EXTINCTION

ROOM 1

2.30, 9.00 pm (2D)

6.00pm (3D)

Director: Michael Bay

Starring: Mark Wahlberg, Nicola Peltz, Jack Reynor,

Li Bingbing

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 97min



HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON 2

ROOM 2

2.15, 4.00, 7.30 pm (2D)

5.45 pm (3D)

Director: Dean DeBlois

Language: Cantonese (Chinese)

Duration: 102min

TRANSFORMERS: AGE OF EXTINCTION

ROOM 2

9.15 pm (2D)

Director: Michael Bay

Starring: Mark Wahlberg, Nicola Peltz, Jack Reynor,

Li Bingbing

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 97min



SON OF GOOD

ROOM 3

2.30, 4.45, 9.30 pm

Director: Christopher Spencer

Starring: Diogo Morgado

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 138min

MALEFICENT

ROOM 3

7.30 pm

Director: Robert Stromberg

Starring: Angelina Jolie, Elle Fanning, Sharlto Copley

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 97min

MACAU TOWER

03 Jul - 16 Jul

TRANSFORMERS: AGE OF EXTINCTION (3D)

2.15, 4.45, 7.15, 9.45 pm

Director: Michael Bay

Starring: Mark Wahlberg, Nicola Peltz, Jack Reynor,

Li Bingbing

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 97min

this day in history



2005 BOMB ATTACKS ON LONDON

A series of bomb attacks on London's transport network has killed more than 30 people and injured about 700 others.

Three explosions on the Underground left 35 dead and two died in a blast on a double decker bus.

The first three bombs went off at 0850 on underground trains just outside Liverpool Street and Edgware Road stations, and on another travelling between King's Cross and Russell Square.

The final explosion was around an hour later on a number 30 double-decker bus in Tavistock Square, not far from King's Cross

Foreign Secretary Jack Straw said the bombings had "the hallmarks of an al-Qaeda-related attack".

Prime Minister Tony Blair promised the "most intense police and security service action to make sure we bring those responsible to justice".

Mr Blair, who flew back to London from the G8 summit in Gleneagles, condemned the terrorists and paid tribute to the stoicism and resilience of the people of London.

"They are trying to use the slaughter of innocent people to cow us, to frighten us out of doing the things that we want to do," he said in a televised statement from Downing Street.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

In total 52 people lost their lives in the London bombings, 700 people were injured.

The attacks were carried out by four suicide bombers.

The presumed ringleader, Mohammed Siddique Khan, had recently visited Pakistan and was later found to have made a video message in which he claimed British foreign policy was oppressing Muslims.

Al-Qaeda issued a videotaped statement in September claiming it was behind the London bombings.

On July 21 there were four more attempted bombings in London. None of the devices exploded.

On 22 July 2005, police shot dead a man, Jean Charles de Menezes, they mistook for one of the bombers.

Five men were later arrested and are due to face trial in September 2006.

A decision is still awaited on whether any charges will be brought over the de Menezes shooting.

YOUR STARS

Aries Mar. 21-Apr. 19 Now is a good time to check in with that one troubled friend or relative...

Taurus April 20-May 20 A minor health complaint inspires something big and bold and wonderful...

Gemini May 21-Jun. 21 Romance is a definite possibility today - whether you're single or not...

Cancer Jun. 22-Jul. 22 Try to open up to that new person in your life - at work, at home or wherever...

Leo Jul. 23-Aug. 22 Today is great for making decisions about technical equipment - whether you're buying, repairing or reconfiguring...

Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22 You can't quite make up your mind about something or someone today - and there's nothing wrong with that...

Libra Sep.23-Oct. 22 Your energy level is tremendous today - so make good use of it! You can tackle any issue you want, and should be able to deal with it more easily than you had feared...

Scorpio Oct. 23 - Nov. 21 You're feeling a bit introverted today - and there's nothing wrong with that, of course! If you can just shut your door and work on your own, that's optimal...

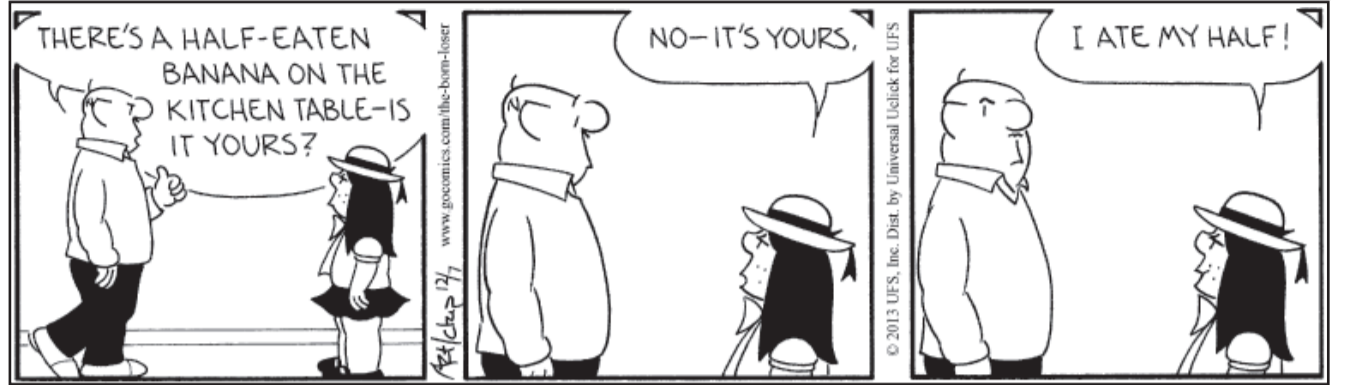
Sagittarius Nov. 22-Dec. 21 It's a fun day for you and your people, so make sure that you're sharing as much as you can with as many people as possible...

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19 A fresh challenge asserts itself early today - and you may be alarmed or excited about this. Just let yourself face it directly and see what your nimble brain comes up with...

Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 18 Your amazing personal energy is helping you to see the truth behind whatever is really going on these days - so make sure that you're open to almost anything...

Pisces Feb.19-Mar. 20 How is your cash flow? Now is the time to really think about your relationship with money, and it may be somewhat easier for you to deal with things like budgets and investments...

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Sudoku puzzles categorized by difficulty: Easy, Easy+, Medium, and Hard. Each category contains a 9x9 grid with some numbers pre-filled.

WEATHER

Weather forecast table with columns for MIN, MAX, and CONDITION. Rows include CHINA (Beijing, Harbin, Tianjin, etc.) and WORLD (Moscow, Frankfurt, Paris, etc.).

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Destroy by fire; 9- Blending of two companies; 15- Intensified; 16- Ampit; 17- Mercy; 18- Duty; 19- English public school; 20- Desist; 22- Red Bordeaux; 26- Stroll; 27- Barcelona bear; 29- Brian of Roxy Music; 30- Cornerstone abbr.; 31- Disown; 33- Out of favor; 38- Tangle up; 39- Blast furnace input; 41- Crucifixes; 42- Minter; 43- Sugar amt.; 46- Dawn Chong; 47- Devoted follower; 48- Kuwait, e.g.; 52- Mistake; 54- Denying; 56- Window ledge; 59- Cobra, e.g.; 60- Aeschylus trilogy; 64- Roaming; 65- Forced; 66- Jumpy; 67- Small box for holding tea leaves;

DOWN: 1- Twiddling one's thumbs; 2- Encounter; 3- Less rapidly; 4- Express a viewpoint; 5- Bruce ___ was a famous kung-fu movie star; 6- Abby's twin; 7- Shamus; 8- Breyers rival; 9- Light cotton fabric; 10- One who carries out a death sentence; 11- Split radially; 12- Brag; 13- Beethoven dedicatee; 14- Less common or less cooked; 21- Employ; 23- Tending to devastate; 24- ___ about (approximately); 25- Hood worn by monks; 27- Baltic feeder; 28- Prefix with Tibetan; 32- Not to mention; 34- Vane dir.; 35- Beau; 36- Bailiwick; 37- "Jurassic Park" actress; 39- Nagy of Hungary; 40- Loud, deep utterance, especially used by lions; 44- Dull plodder; 45- For each; 48- Diciembre follower; 49- Breakfast fruit; 50- ___ at the office; 51- Swift; 53- Port of old Rome; 55- Baseball's "Walking Man" Eddie; 57- Fibbed; 58- Gentlewoman; 61- Hwy.; 62- Important time; 63- Pouch

Friday's solution crossword grid with filled-in letters.

Large crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1-67 indicating starting points for clues.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

- Emergency calls 999
Taxi (Yellow) 28 519 519
Fire department 28 572 222
Taxi (Black) 28 939 939
PJ (Open line) 993
Water Supply - Report 1990 992
PJ (Picket) 28 557 775
Telephone - Report 1000
PSP 28 573 333
Electricity - Report 28 339 922
Customs 28 559 944
Macau Daily Times 28 716 081
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



FOR SALE and FOR RENT advertisement for JML Property, including website and contact info.

Real estate listings for various properties in Macau, including Edf. Kam Lai Kuok, Manhattan E Unit, Chuen Yuen Garden, Hellene Gardens Car Park, Nam Van Peninsula, Hellene Garden, The Praia Tower 3, and A Unit, Fu On.

JML Property logo and contact information, including '卓雅物業' and 'Since 1994'.

SING MY SONG

Chinese music talent show opens concert tour at Cotai Arena



One of Sing My Song celebrity mentors Yang Kun (center) performs



Tanya Chua performs as part of 2014 Sing My Song World Tour in Macau



One of Sing My Song celebrity mentors Wakin Chau performs at The Venetian Macao's Cotai Arena



CELEBRITY MENTORS and contestants from mainland China's highly rated reality talent show, Sing My Song, took the stage at The Venetian Macao's Cotai Arena yesterday night for the opening concert of the Sing My Song World Tour.

The three mentors of Sing My Song – Wakin Chau, Tanya Chua, and Yang Kun – performed their signature tunes for the delighted audience at the Cotai Arena. In doing this, they led a group of 10 singer-songwriters from the studio-based talent show in a performance of some of their original songs in various genres, as well as brand-new special cover versions of some of the greatest songs of all time.

Fans saw Chau, Chua and Tang perform their hit tunes on stage, including "Unfaithful," "The Tamed Elephant," and "The Abandoned City" respectively. The Sing My Song contestants, including Wang Siyuan, Wang Jinlin, Hu Shasha and Zhou San, also performed "Love Dilemma," "Love Song," and "Time to Wake Up," among many other songs. Xiang Yahong and Zhang Hexuan, contestants from another highly popular TV talent show, The Voice of China, also performed a duet for the audience.



John Leicester,
Rio de Janeiro

ROUNDUP

Neymar injury casts a pall over Brazil cup win

THE fireworks celebrating victory had barely subsided when the disastrous news came through for Brazil: Neymar is out. The star who lit up the World Cup with his skill and sunny temperament fractured a bone in his back. The only way for Brazil to win now will be without him.

The home side muscled past Colombia 2-1 into the semifinals. But making the step from there to the July 13 final will be much harder for Brazil without its 22-year-old goal scorer.

Team doctor Rodrigo Lasmar said Neymar fractured his third vertebra when he was kneed in the back by Colombia defender Juan Camilo Zuniga. Brazil has shown grit under the intense pressure of home expectation. But getting past its next opponent — Germany — will be a big task without the genius of Neymar.

“He will not be in condition to play, he will need a few weeks to be fit again,” Lasmar said. “He is very, very sad.”

After swashbuckling, end-to-end games in earlier stages of football’s showcase, Friday’s quarterfinals

were like having to eat one’s greens. Neither match will be remembered as a classic. But they were instructive. The enduring image will be that of Neymar being gingerly rolled onto a stretcher and carried away in pain.

Incredibly for teams that have won eight World Cups between them, the Germany-Brazil semifinal next Tuesday in Belo Horizonte will be just the second time the nations have met at the showcase tournament. Brazil won the first meeting; 2-0 in the World Cup final of 2002.

As well as Neymar, Brazil will also be missing Thiago Silva, its captain, after he picked up his second yellow card of the tournament for fouling Colombia goalkeeper David Ospina.

Before word of Neymar’s injury filtered through from the coastal city of Fortaleza, there had been sighs of relief across South America’s largest nation as Brazil sent



Brazil’s Neymar screams out after being fouled

home one of the most exciting teams and its electric young talent, James Rodriguez.

On Rio’s Copacabana beach, joyful fans jumped and screamed.

“It was so much suffering, but I’m very happy!” said 61-year-old Vera Regina, decked out in Brazil’s yellow, green and blue colors. “My heart is beating so fast!”

While Brazil’s match was a scratchy, high-octane affair, Germany’s 1-0 victory over France at Rio’s Maracana Stadium was cagey and methodical. Germany is desperate for the trophy after more than a decade of just missing out on success.

Defenders scored three of the four goals Friday. France’s forward line came up empty and Brazil-Colombia didn’t quite live up to its billing as a battle of Rodriguez

versus Neymar.

Mats Hummels headed in Germany’s winner in the 13th minute. Brazil’s center-back pairing of Thiago Silva and David Luiz got the goals that meant they have still yet to lose when coach Luiz Felipe Scolari has started them together. Luiz’s goal was the most spectacular of the day — a free-kick Brazilians call a “dry leaf,” because it arched over Colombia’s defense and back down past Ospina. Silva’s opener for Brazil came off his knee in the seventh minute.

Rodriguez put Colombia on the score sheet and made the last 15 minutes uncomfortable for Brazil with a calmly-taken penalty that took his tournament-leading tally of goals to six.

Germany lacked zip in beating a France team that lacked self-belief. Heat and

also a cold bug that swept through Germany’s team after it beat Algeria 2-1 to reach the quarterfinals appeared to take its toll. Coach Joachim Loew earlier said one-third of his players complained of sore throats and Hummels ran a fever.

Sticky humidity and early afternoon sun made the cauldron of the Maracana feel hotter than FIFA’s temperature reading of 26 degrees. Fans in a large section not shaded by the overhanging doughnut-shaped roof were slow to return to their seats for the second half.

“Brutally hot,” said German captain Philipp Lahm.

At a World Cup where substitutes have starred, scoring a tournament-record 29 goals so far, France got no spark off its bench

Germany made a big statement with a 4-0 humbling of Cristiano Ronaldo’s Portugal in its opening game. Since then it hasn’t really wowed and its defense was farcical against Algeria, a problem it fixed against France.

Like Brazilians, German players have said anything but victory in the final would amount to failure. As well as the 2002 final, Germany also lost the 2006 semifinal to Italy and the 2010 semifinal to Spain after playing dazzlingly in earlier games. It also lost to Italy in the semifinals of the 2012 Euros and in the 2008 final to Spain. In short, since it won Euro 1996, Germany’s record at major tournaments can be best described as close but no cigar.

The way Loew’s players closed out the win against France showed they have learned victory tastes better than playing beautifully.

“We’re playing the kind of football which will give us a chance to win,” said Hummels. “You can’t always score two more goals than your opponent in a World Cup.” AP

BRAZIL BEAT

THE SON of FIFA senior vice president Julio Grondona denied claims he illegally sold a World Cup ticket for profit. Brazilian police are investigating a ticket scalping operation and have made 11 arrests this week, bringing the issue to

public attention. Rescue workers recovered the body of a 25-year-old man crushed beneath tons of concrete and steel of an unfinished overpass that collapsed in Belo Horizonte, killing two people and injuring 22.

RESULTS

Brazil	2 - 1	Colombia	
France	0 - 1	Germany	
Netherlands	0 - 0	Costa Rica	4 - 3 PS
Argentina	1 - 0	Belgium	

Messi guides Argentina into semis, Dutch scrape in



Argentina’s Lionel Messi (10) and his teammates

John Pye

THE Argentines didn’t need a late winner from Lionel Messi this time, settling in to protect a 1-0 margin against Belgium that earned them a

first trip to the World Cup semifinals in 24 years.

The Netherlands could have used a late goal from Robin van Persie or Wesley Sneijder or Arjen Robben but didn’t get one, only edging Costa Rica

4-3 on penalties to set up a semifinal against Argentina.

The 2010 finalists lit up the tournament with 12 goals in four matches but couldn’t find the net in regulation or extra time against rank underdog

Costa Rica. Captain van Persie wasted chances to break the 0-0 deadlock, and Sneijder smashed an 80th-minute free kick into the post and a stoppage-time shot into the crossbar, setting the scene for replacement goalkeeper Tim Krul to be the unlikely hero.

Krul went on in the last minute of extra time — coach Louis van Gaal considering him a better option in the shootout than No. 1 Jasper Cillessen — and made two crucial saves.

“We had a lot of chances but it didn’t go in,” Krul said on Dutch television. “Then I come in, stop two penalties and here we are.”

The flood of goals from the group stage slowed to a trickle in the knockout rounds, with the four quarterfinals yielding just five goals. Brazil’s 2-1 win over Colombia on Friday night was relatively high-scoring compared with the 1-0 results by Germany against France and Argentina against Belgium.

The low-scoring quarterfinals were slightly overshadowed anyway in the host nation, where millions were still coming to terms with the fact that a back injury knocked star striker Neymar out of the tournament. AP

SEMIFINALS MACAU TIME

Wed Jul 9 04:00	Brazil V Germany	Belo Horizonte
Thu Jul 10 04:00	Netherlands V Argentina	Sao Paulo

opinion

Insight
Paulo Barbosa



IT'S EVERY MAN FOR HIMSELF

The law establishing a minimum wage for security guards and cleaners working for property management companies was approved in general terms by the AL and will now be subject to a detailed analysis and new vote. "This is a positive step," Secretary for Economy and Finance Francis Tam remarked during the parliamentary debate conclusion, when he argued for no need for further consultation (the usual argument used by the local lawmakers when they want to stall a legislative process) and stated that the law is the first step toward a universal minimum wage.

Under the new legislation, a minimum wage of MOP30 per hour or a minimum monthly salary of MOP6,240 is set. The amount is subject to annual review and can be adjusted according to economic conditions.

As expected, lawmakers opposed to a minimum wage used many demagogical arguments during the debate at the AL. Some of them raised inflationist fears and asked how the SMEs would cope if they were to pay an increased wage. Others even claimed that the legislation could cause "social conflict," since not all workers benefit. The champion of bad taste was Fong Chi Keong, who asked the government not to rely on studies made by universities. He used an old Chinese proverb to illustrate why: "Most of the scholars are liars," he said. He went on to say that there are "different levels of people" in society and that some of them are satisfied by eating a loaf a day.

Fong Chi Keong is a lawmaker appointed by the Chief Executive. In the previous legislature he was already famous for his coarse remarks. In many parliaments around the world, such statements would be taken for what they are: classism, or discrimination on the basis of a social class, perhaps even on the basis of a different race.

Mr Fong's allusion to scholars sounds like an invitation for ignorance and arbitrary decision-making. However, the CE appointed him, hence I suppose that Chui Sai On thought that the lawmaker could contribute to the political debate...

The resistance to introduction of a minimum wage shows how local society is extremely conservative and lacks community values. Many here think it's every man for himself.

The World Bank has just revealed that Macau has overtaken Switzerland to become the world's fourth richest territory per person. The region recorded a per capita gross domestic product of USD 91,376 in 2013, behind Luxembourg, Norway and Qatar. I'm well aware that this is an average and most of the money stays in a few gaming hands, but when a society can afford to use prestige cars as utilitarian vehicles it also should be able to pay a reasonable minimum wage.

In Switzerland, where unemployment is almost nonexistent (like in Macau), the minimum wage is not written into law, but collective bargaining agreements between workers and employers cover almost the entire population, implying that the minimum salary of skilled workers ranges from 2,800 to 5,300 Swiss francs (MOP25,000 to 47,400), while that of unskilled workers is between 2,200 to 4,200 Swiss francs (MOP16,670 to 37,550.) In a recent referendum, they discussed the establishment of a unique minimum wage equivalent to MOP 36,000. The proposal was rejected. It would have been the highest minimum wage in the world.

I'm not saying that we could have a salary like this in Macau (you wish!) but we must give some thought to whether it is sustainable – human, even – to pay as little as MOP2,500 to domestic helpers who take care of our families and perform an essential job, allowing many locals to keep the balance between home and work. The government can't turn a blind eye to the issue by using the simplistic reasoning that those low paid workers are legally speaking "non-residents."

If the workers' condition isn't improved we are not so far from the black workers' ordeal under the apartheid regime, as described in a book by Melanie Verwoerd, an Afrikaner who turned against the system: "They [black township workers] had no formal hours and had to be on call 24 hours a day. Their average salary was less than R200 per month, and if anything broke, it was deducted from their pay. They rarely had leave. (...) They had to send their baby away to their family in the rural areas – they rarely saw them afterwards – while they were raising the white family's children. I was appalled. It was the early 1990s, not the 1700s!"

Rings a bell?

THE BUZZ STUDENTS REFUSE TO TAKE UM'S SPECIAL OFFER

Two high school graduates from Jiangxi province in the mainland have been the focus of public attention since they helped to subdue an attacker on a bus. Both failed to attend the National College Entrance Examination. The University of Macau (UM) made an excep-

tional offer to both of them earlier. However, the two students turned down the offers and both chose universities in the mainland instead. One of the students reasoned that he's not doing well in English, and the daily costs in Macau are too high for his family to bear.

US officials barred from American's trial in China



U.S. diplomats will be barred from the trial in China of an American investigator for GlaxoSmithKline and her British husband who are charged with improperly selling personal information, a spokesman for the U.S. Embassy in Beijing said.

The arrest of Yu Yingzeng and husband Peter Humphrey last year coincided with a Chinese investigation of accusations British pharmaceutical company GlaxoSmithKline paid bribes to doctors and officials to use its medications.

Glaxo said it hired Yu and Humphrey last year to investigate a security breach involving a top manager.

The Sunday Times reported that several top executives at the company received anonymous emails about the bribery allegations as well as

a secretly recorded video of the firm's general manager in China, Mark Reilly, having sex with his girlfriend. The report said the company suspected a former employee was behind the emails.

U.S. Embassy spokesman Nolan Barkhouse expressed concern diplomats would be barred from the August trial. He gave no reason for the ban.

Barkhouse said consular officials are permitted to attend such trials under a 1982 agreement between China and the U.S. He said diplomats had been allowed to visit Yu as recently as Wednesday.

A British Embassy official in Beijing declined to say whether its diplomats would be allowed to attend the trial but said British officials were talking to their Chinese

counterparts about the issue.

Reilly has been detained by Chinese authorities on charges he had GlaxoSmithKline salespeople pay millions of dollars in bribes to doctors, hospital administrators and others to encourage use of its drugs. Four Chinese employees also have been detained and a police official said in May that dozens of people were implicated, though he gave no details.

Humphrey, a former reporter with the Reuters news agency, and Yu ran the Shanghai-based corporate intelligence and consulting firm ChinaWhys Ltd.

Last year, the Shanghai police department said several dozen reports prepared by them for corporate clients contained information that "seriously violated the legitimate rights of citizens."

That included home addresses and information on family members, real estate and vehicles, police said. They were sold to clients including manufacturers, law firms and financial institutions.

In August, Humphrey was shown handcuffed on Chinese state television apologizing to the government that they "obtained personal information, sometimes through illegal ways." AP

'Transformers' could earn record China box office



A child stands on a barricade fence looks at a replica model of Transformers character Bumblebee on display in front of Qianmen Gate

THE latest "Transformers" movie, which features Chinese locations, actors and products, has so far earned almost as much in China as in the United States, driven by a record number of screenings for a foreign movie.

"Transformers: Age of Extinction" has made an estimated USD149 million in the U.S. and \$134 million in China, the world's

biggest and second-biggest movie markets, respectively, according to figures from box office tracking website Box Office Mojo.

Director Michael Bay's film, which was released June 27 in both markets, heavily courted the Chinese audience by employing Chinese stars, basing part of the action in cities in China and showing Chinese products such as liquor and milk. A reality TV show to choose four people to play roles in the film helped to drum up publicity.

Observers say "Transformers" is on course to beat "Avatar" as the biggest earner at the fast-growing Chinese box office. "Avatar" earned \$218 million in China in 2010.

More than half of China's more than 20,000 screens showed the fourth in the "Transformers" blockbuster franchise.

Hou Tao, vice president of leading entertainment consultancy EntGroup, said Sunday that on average 55 percent of screens were set aside for the movie at the start, which had dropped to 46-48 percent in the last few days. He said that it was a record for foreign movies, which would normally be lucky to be shown on 40 percent of screens.

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

SOURCE: DSMG

WORLD BRIEFS

IRAQ A man purporting to be the leader of the Sunni extremist group that has declared an Islamic state in territory it controls straddling Iraq and Syria has made what would be his first official appearance, delivering a sermon at a mosque in Iraq's second-largest city, according to an online video. The move comes as the group moves to consolidate its hold over the area of its self-declared caliphate.

NIGERIA Thirteen people have been killed in overnight attacks by gunmen in two counties on the Kenya coast, where last month al-Qaida-linked militants claimed responsibility for killing 65 people, the Kenya Red Cross says. More on Nigeria on p15

SWITZERLAND Olympic leaders meet today to decide which cities make the cut in the race for the 2022 Winter Games. It should be an easy choice. After a series of voter rejections and city withdrawals, only three contenders are left standing – and the future of one remains uncertain. The International Olympic Committee executive board is expected to keep all three remaining candidates: Almaty, Kazakhstan; Beijing; and Oslo. Also on the agenda for the three-day meeting in Lausanne is an update on Rio de Janeiro's delayed preparations for the 2016 Olympics and possible venue changes for the 2020 Tokyo Games.



ENGLAND Lewis Hamilton won a crash-hit British Grand Prix to cut Mercedes team-mate Nico Rosberg's lead in the drivers' championship from 29 points to just four after the German had his first non-finish of the season. Hamilton, the 2008 champion, started sixth on the grid. The British driver leapt to fourth on the opening lap before it was red-flagged, and suspended for an hour, following a crash involving 2007 champion Kimi Raikkonen of Ferrari and Felipe Massa of Williams. Hamilton then took the lead after 29 laps as Rosberg retired with gearbox failure. Hamilton came home 30 seconds clear of Finn Valtteri Bottas of Williams, who started 14th.