



**FT ANALYSIS:  
DARK  
CLOUDS  
HANG OVER  
GAMING  
INDUSTRY**

P2



**LEGENDARY PIECE OF MUSICAL  
THEATRE RETURNS TO MACAU**  
Celebrated on the stages of Broadway and the West End, the musical Cats will return to the Venetian Theatre in March. Tickets go on sale today

P6



**POPE ARRIVES ON ASIAN TOUR**  
Pope Francis brought calls for reconciliation as well as justice as he arrived yesterday in Sri Lanka at the start of a weeklong Asian tour

P11

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# Times

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"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN'"

## WORLD BRIEFS

**CHINA** Exports rebounded in December but imports shrank in a sign of weak domestic demand. Total trade in 2014 grew just 3.4 percent, well below the official 10 percent target. More on p10



**MALAYSIA's** top court sentences two police officers to death by hanging, after overturning their acquittal by a lower court over the killing of a Mongolian woman who had an affair with a friend of the prime minister. The verdict ends an 8-year saga surrounding the high-profile case that the opposition has repeatedly sought to link to Prime Minister Najib Razak.

**PAKISTAN** A hardline cleric in northwest Pakistan leads a memorial service for the two brothers who attacked the satirical newspaper Charlie Hebdo in Paris, praising their assault.

More on backpage

Starting 1st January  
**2015**  
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**BARS**

衛生局  
Serviços de Saúde

# Domestic violence law approved amidst doubts

P5



# Locals more enthusiastic about learning foreign languages

P3 MDT REPORT

## FT ANALYSIS

# Dark clouds hang over local gaming industry

Josh Noble, Hong Kong

**L**AST October, casino mogul Steve Wynn told analysts on an earnings call that it was unclear if Macau's unexpected summer lull in revenue growth was a "squall or the rainy season".

Three months on, the answer is clearer: the dark clouds for the gaming industry in the southern Chinese territory look like they are here to stay.

Macau's explosive decade-long boom appears to have run out of road thanks to Beijing's anti-corruption campaign. High rollers have been scared off, double-digit revenue growth has gone firmly into reverse and casino shares have switched from darlings to duds. Few analysts expect the situation to improve soon.

Gambling has been a way of life in the small sea front city since it was legalised in 1847, and Macau still hosts major events in horse, harness and greyhound racing.

More recently the city of around 600,000 people has become the world's top spot for casino gambling. In 2013, gross gaming revenue in the former Portuguese colony topped \$46bn, having grown 18 per cent year on year and tripling since 2009. Punters now bet seven times more in Macau than they do on the Las Vegas Strip.

Investors went along for the ride, with gaming stocks consistently among Asia's best performers from the start of 2012



to the end of 2013. During that period shares in SJM Holdings doubled in value, Sands China trebled, and MGM China soared by 265 per cent.

At the start of last year, the good times were expected to roll on - consensus forecasts were for a 20 per cent increase in revenues.

But last summer, Macau's lucky streak finally ran out, both for the gaming companies and their shareholders. Monthly gaming revenue growth slipped into negative territory for the first time in June and slid heavily through the rest of the year. "The street underestimated policy risk," says Billy Ng, gaming analyst at Bank of America Merrill Lynch, adding that "visibility is still very poor".

December was Macau's worst month for total revenue since 2011, having fallen by 30 per cent, increasing the likelihood of another disappointing earnings season from the sector. The most recent numbers from

Wynn Macau showed revenue fell 5.6 per cent in the third quarter.

The equity market has been unforgiving in the face of stalled growth. Shares in Galaxy Entertainment have halved over the past 12 months, while Macau Legend - one of the smaller players in the sector - has dropped by two-thirds.

Revenues are pointing even lower during the first half of 2015, says Mr Ng, who predicts a 10 per cent drop for the full year.

Macau's slowdown is just one side-effect of Beijing's high-profile anti-corruption campaign. Under Xi Jinping, who took over as president in March 2013, Chinese authorities have targeted officials and businessmen alike, from the most powerful "tigers" to the lowliest of "flies".

According to research from the Polytechnic Institute of Macau, around half the VIP gamblers in 2010 were either gover-

ment officials or executives at state-owned enterprises.

"The biggest issue that caught everyone by surprise was the anti-corruption campaign", says Michael Ting, a gaming sector analyst at CIMB. "The ultra high-end guy isn't coming to Macau any more."

The reliance on high-rolling punters has left casinos sorely exposed to government policy. Mr Ting expects "no let-up" in the graft campaign and says it is likely to remain the "biggest cloud over the sector" this year, a view echoed by lawyers familiar with such issues.

Macau also faces other challenges, including tighter visa rules that shorten the amount of time Chinese visitors can stay and lengthen the gap required between trips. That further deters VIP clients, many of whom had been making monthly trips to Macau, say analysts.

The introduction of a smoking ban on mass market gaming floors - something likely to be extended to VIP rooms this year - may also have deterred

## Casino operators cannot just make money from the little-ticket guys

JOOHEE AN

punters.

Along with falling revenue, casino operators have had to contend with rising labour costs. Staffing expenses rose 19 per cent in the first half of last year compared to 2013, according to CIMB estimates, eroding margins. A chronic shortage of workers meant companies had little choice but to meet demands through share awards or additional cash payments in order to stave off strikes.

Joohee An, portfolio manager at Mirae Asset, is positive on Macau over the long-term but expects the coming year to remain tough.

"The new government is very, very decisive. This is not a short-term trend," says Ms An, referring to the impact of the corruption campaign. "It will get better eventually, but it will take time."

There is a hint of a silver lining to the grey clouds. A bridge linking Macau with Hong Kong, due to open next year, could help increase visitor numbers, while any improvements in the Chinese economy should boost tourism and bet spending.

In the second half of this year, a handful of new casino developments are due to open, adding much-needed hotel space. Occupancy rates on the key gaming strip have been running close to 100 per cent over the past year. The hope is that, as with previous debuts, new rooms will generate new demand.

But while analysts expect the new hotels to fill up fast, the key question is, "what kind of player will fill that room?" says Mr Ting. "The low-end guy will stay in the hotel room, but he's not going to have the same losses on the gaming floor."

Or as Ms An puts it: "Casino operators cannot just make money from the little-ticket guys." **MDT/Financial Times exclusive**

**CITIGROUP** has stated that Macau's Gross Gaming Revenue (GGR) for the first eleven days in January amounted to MOP 8.7 billion, as revealed by industry sources. The total daily run rate over the last week was 743 million, lower than the first four days of January (948 million). If the GGR maintains this current level in the remaining days of the month, January's GGR will be

## Citi: Casino revenue may reach MOP23.8b in Jan, down 17pct y-o-y

MOP 23.8 billion. According to analysts from Citi, this will exceed the conservative forecast of MOP 23 billion.

Meanwhile, Moody's Investors Service says the drop in gaming revenue

in Macau is problematic for the government, taking into account the gaming industry's "central role in public financing." "The gaming industry comprises nearly half of the economy, and

is critical to its overall health," Moody's said in a report earlier this week.

"Although the sector's rapid expansion has underpinned exceptionally strong economic growth performance, with real

GDP [gross domestic product] growth averaging 14.3 percent over 2009-13, the narrowness of Macau's economic base poses a high degree of vulnerability to adverse developments in the ga-

ming industry".

However, Moody's maintains an Aa2 credit rating for the Macau government, previously assigned in March 2014, and regards the outlook as "stable."

The gaming regulator (DICJ) on January 2 reported that GGR for 2014 fell 2.6 percent year-on-year to MOP351.52 billion (USD44.0 billion), following a record 30 percent y-o-y decline in December. **PC**

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João Pedro Lau

**W**ITH a rapidly growing economy, more residents are aware that they have to remain competitive by engaging in advanced studies. Many have thus chosen to improve their linguistic knowledge, picking up a “second language” of which they have already learned the basis, or even learning up a new one altogether.

In Macau, English is the default second language for many schools, and graduates of local secondary schools are guaranteed to at least possess basic English communication skills. Therefore, many will look to other languages for post-graduate studies.

The Times has spoken to the directors of the Portuguese Institute of the Orient (IPOR) and the Alliance Française in Macau to assess whether there is an increasing interest in learning Portuguese or French. Both directors said that they have witnessed a surge in the number of people who want to study those languages.

João Laurentino Neves, the director of IPOR, told the Times that there are more than 4,300 students taking different Portuguese language courses offered by the Institute. “The basic motivation for people to come and learn Portuguese is that they find it useful for their daily work,” the director said.

Mr Neves also pointed out that some IPOR students want to pick up a new language because they think it will enhance their career paths and create future travel opportunities. “This is mostly for young people. They feel that if they learn a new language, it is not because they can use it at work already. They feel that [learning Portuguese] is an excellent option they have been given. And as Macau is now pretty much working as a platform [for communication] between China and the Portuguese-speaking countries, people feel that, somehow, there is

# Many locals try to improve language skills

**“The basic motivation for people to come and learn Portuguese is that they find it useful for their daily work**

JOÃO LAURENTINO NEVES

an opportunity in there – that [Portuguese] is the language for the future.” Mr Neves added that it is encouraging for IPOR to see young people, such as secondary school students, deciding to study Portuguese because they see it as the second language they should know besides English.

The director also suggested that there are students who want to learn Portuguese because of changes in their current workplaces that require them to use the language.

In terms of the performance and attitude of the students, Neves said that he “has a lot of respect for people” who study in IPOR, especially for those who attend classes after work. “People coming to us at that time of the day after a day’s work, it requires a lot of courage,” he said. “They come here because they really want to. [Students] put their effort into it... We have people here [in IPOR] that are giving us some of their precious time, and they do it with enthusiasm because they really want to learn Portuguese.” Neves believes that this gives IPOR a major responsibility, which not



João Laurentino Neves

only requires the Institute to teach people the language, but to render them competent.

Commenting on the revival and growing popularity of the Portuguese language in Macau, director Neves thinks that a major factor behind the phenomenon is the Chinese central government’s decision to put the Portuguese language and the Portuguese-speaking countries on the political agenda, as well as Macau’s historical and geographical conditions. Although he observed that the Portuguese learning in Macau is mostly linked to practical uses for it, the director said that it is still a good phenomenon. “I don’t see any problem if the main motive for people to learn Portuguese at this moment is for business and commerce and corporate use,” he said.

Currently, the intensive cou-

se offered by IPOR is covered by the Continuing Education Scheme of the Education and Youth Affairs Bureau (DSEJ). The director said that the Institute and the authorities have discussed the possibility of including all their general courses within its coverage. However, the scheme has specific requirements of the duration of the courses that it supports, and the length of IPOR’s general courses is longer than the limit stipulated by the scheme. Neves said that they will continue to discuss the issue with the Bureau.

Apart from Portuguese and English, French is another foreign language that is popular among Macau residents. Since its establishment in 1987, the Alliance Française of Macau (AF Macau) has been the major French language education provider in town. And according to Xavier Garnier, the AF Macau director, the number of people learning French in Macau has been increasing in recent years. “In the recent years, [the number of students in AF] does increase actually. In 2014, I think we have more than 800 students and last year (2013) it

was more than 700,” he said. Garnier attributed the increase in student numbers to the fact that some of the French courses at AF had been covered by the DSEJ Continuing Education Scheme as of around two years ago.

The director also suggested that people want to learn French for various reasons. Some of them want to travel to France while others learn for pleasure. There is also a rising number of students in AF Macau who are from the mainland and want to study in France in the future.

In light of the increasing interest in travelling to France, AF Macau has rolled out a package to allow students to study in the AF in France for two weeks, in cities such as Nice or Vichy.

Garnier said that it is not true that people only study French for pleasure. “For most of the students, they have a goal, either to study in France or to travel there. It can be for personal reasons as well. They might want to communicate with French people. For example, they may have a French friend or partner. So, they are not only studying French for fun,” he said.

Speaking about the benefits of learning French, the AF director said that French is an international language and is still spoken in many countries. Thus, the language is not only useful in France but also in Francophone countries, such as Canada and those in Africa.

In terms of the performance of the students in AF, Garnier said that since the Macau students who want to learn French are usually those who can speak a decent level of English, it is easier for them to learn French. “In the beginning [of a course], the teacher may use some English or Chinese. But very soon, maybe in three months, the teachers would be able to conduct the class in French,” he said.

Moreover, he said that people are not only trying to learn the French language; they also want to know more about the culture. “We organized concerts of French singers and it was really successful. Many people came. We also organized exhibitions, masterclasses and workshops. So it’s not only about language. People coming here are also interested in the culture,” he said. Garnier added that AF Macau also wants to emphasize French culture, and to promote it through language education. “Macau has a European atmosphere. So I think that in the AF Macau, it’s a good place to feel the European culture,” he said.

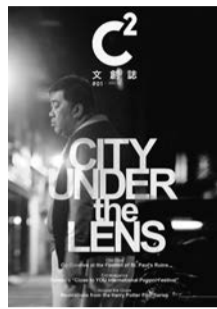
**“Most of the students have a goal, either to study in France or to travel there**

XAVIER GARNIER



Xavier Garnier

## Cultural Affairs Bureau launches online magazine



A local online magazine about cultural and creative industries was launched this weekend. Titled C2, the magazine

will cover the latest local and global industry trends and illustrate the challenges and opportunities the region is facing. The hope is to boost the development of local and regional cultural and creative industries. According to a press release issued by the Cultural Affairs Bureau, the trilingual magazine (in Chinese, Portuguese and English) will be published online on the first Monday of each month, and will include articles, videos and PDF files. The title C2 is a combination of "Culture" and "Creativity", a platform for the exchange of cultural and creative information. The magazine is published by the Cultural Affairs Bureau and produced by the Companhia do Desenvolvimento Cultural e Criativo 100 Plus Limitada. It can be accessed at the following address: [www.c2magazine.mo](http://www.c2magazine.mo).

# Restaurant workers dispute over employer's alleged exploitation

Brook Yang

A group of Food & Beverage (F&B) workers from the Palácio Lisboa food court made a collective complaint to the Labor Affairs Bureau (DSAL) yesterday, claiming they'd been exploited by their employer through working overtime and having work on public holidays without compensation.

One of the complainants, Ms Chong, told the media that she has been working in the same restaurant for 17 years but has never been compensated for overtime work. "We work for 8.5 or 9 hours a day, which includes the half-an-hour lunch time," she said. "Also, when our monthly days off happen to be scheduled on a mandatory public holiday, we don't get a compensated day off. We feel that we've been exploited."

As to why they haven't spoken out until now, Ms Chong explained



Ms Chong was one of the workers' representatives

that everybody has been deterred, fearing they might receive punishment from the company when showing an interest in filing a complaint. "But the situation hasn't changed; we

simply can't stand it anymore. We think that if the company keeps treating us like this, there's nothing left for us to stay [for]," she stressed.

Lawmaker José Pereira Coutinho, who accompanied twenty workers in their appeal to the DSAL, explained that the complaints were made by a total of 105 employees from the restaurant. Not only did they not receive transportation allowances for working night shifts, but they also had not received a fund account from their employer.

The lawmaker listed several instances in which the employer hadn't approved elderly workers' retirement requests. "The oldest worker there has reached the age of 71 but if he chooses to resign, he will lose all of his retirement compensations," he said.

The workers had a meeting with the head of the bureau's Labor Inspection Department,



where they gave more details and appealed for acceptable compensation from their employer. They also appealed for an annual bonus equal to a month's salary.

"We just want to get back our eligible rights and interests," said Ms Chong, adding that resentment is aroused among her colleagues every time they see a pay hike for casino workers in the Hotel Lisboa, within which their restaurant is located.

According to Coutinho, last year he received hundreds of complaints about working overtime without compensation. Those complainants came from government departments, casinos and the banking sector.

The Times tried to clarify details on the ownership of the Palácio Lisboa restaurant, but the matter remains unclear. According to Ms Chong, the restaurant has nothing to do with Hotel Lisboa, whereas Mr Coutinho suggested that Hotel Lisboa is "indirectly related" to its ownership. "You can't run a business inside Hotel Lisboa but not be related to Hotel Lisboa," he said, adding that the restaurant is owned by "a group with many owners [shareholders]." He further revealed that "STDM owns the restaurant." "STDM contacted me inquiring about the issue, which means they are interested in this," he told the Times.

AD

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Alexis Tam pictured yesterday at the AL

# Lawmakers pass domestic violence law amidst doubts

João Pedro Lau

**T**HE Legislative Assembly (AL) has debated and passed the government's proposed Domestic Violence Prevention and Correction Law in yesterday's plenary session. Lawmakers continued to question the government's decision not to include same-sex couples in the legislation, as well as the definition of "mild domestic violence cases."

After the Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture, Alexis Tam, read the introduction to the lawmakers, Ng Kuok Cheong raised the first question, regarding the fact that the protection of people in same-sex relationships was not covered the legislation. The government previously stated that one of the reasons same-sex couples were not mentioned was because Macau does not recognize same-sex marriage. Ng suggested that while neighboring regions like Hong Kong and Taiwan do not recognize same-sex marriage, the domestic violence legislation in both places covers same-sex relationships.

"Why is Macau so special that we have to be different and exclude same-sex relationships from the protection of the law? The consultation documents have already explained that this involves the concept of 'family members,' which is related to the Penal Code, and something has to be done with it. But the question

**Why is Macau so special that we have to be different and exclude same-sex relationships from the protection of the law?**

NG KUOK CHEONG

is why Hong Kong and Taiwan can legally handle this matter while we cannot?" he said.

Moreover, the lawmaker is concerned with the possible confusion caused by the definition of "mild cases" in the legislation. While it has listed domestic violence as a public crime, the bill proposed that a case be treated as a semi-public crime – where the victim can decide whether to pursue charges – if the perpetrator's action has only mild consequences.

"Some front-line workers who usually deal with domestic violence cases were concerned that if there is this [exception] and a new definition, how are the front-line police officers going to determine the case?" he said. "The legislation has already

included several procedures, including the support for victims, a mediation mechanism and the mechanism to terminate legal pursuit against perpetrators... Therefore, even if we are to treat all cases as public crimes, it is very unlikely that innocent people will be wrongfully prosecuted. Then why is there still a gray zone like this?"

Ng's concern with the definition of mild cases is echoed by several of his colleagues, who have urged the Secretary and the government officials to provide them with a clear explanation. Song Pek Kei also suggested that the authorities should differentiate between cases where domestic violence is carried out intentionally from those unintentional acts, although they can both be incidental and have only mild or no consequences.

Other lawmakers have offered government representatives their concerns and queries about the bill as well. Some asked the officials to detail the government's supports for victims who depend on the perpetrators either financially or legally. Wong Kit Cheng asked what the authorities would do if the victim is applying for residency through their relationship with the perpetrator. Melinda Chan is concerned with the situation of accommodation for the victim being provided by the perpetrator. She wants to know whether the restriction order

proposed by the legislation can prevent the perpetrator from selling the accommodation, which would effectively leave the victim homeless.

In response to lawmakers' questions and concerns, Alexis Tam stressed that the government adopts a zero-tolerance policy on domestic violence. On the lack of protection for same-sex couples, Tam said that the issue is related to several articles in the Civil Code, such as those on marriage. Legal Affairs Bureau deputy director Leong Pou Ieng said that the government highly valued the opinions of the LGBT community. "We have been studying the issue for a long time [and found that] there is no regulation on same-sex relationships in the Civic Code, the Code of Administrative Procedure and the Penal Code...We are not sure

if it is appropriate to regulate same-sex relationships in this legislation without reaching a social consensus on the issue. We think that the discussion should be carried out when there is an amendment to the Civil Code", she explained. As for the domestic violence legislation in Hong Kong and Taiwan, Leong said that although both listed same-sex partners as family members, this definition only extended to some civil or administrative procedures, not to criminal matters. This means that even if domestic violence took place in a same-sex relationship in Taiwan, it is still treated as a semi-public crime there.

As for the controversies over introducing the notion of "mild cases", the deputy director said that they have heard some totally contradicting opinions during the preparation for the bill. As a result, the government decided to take the middle ground and allow the victim to decide whether to legally pursue the perpetrator in some cases. She also said that the government has an open attitude on this issue and is willing to negotiate with the lawmakers when the bill is discussed in the AL Standing Committees.

Furthermore, the government has taken this bill as an opportunity to amend a section in the Criminal Code and to change several types of sexual violation against persons under 16-year-old from semi-public crimes to public crimes. Leong Pou Ieng said that this action is triggered by the opinions that question why it is a public crime to sexually assault a minor family member while the sexual assault against other minors is not. "In terms of sexual assault against minors, we are especially advocating for the strengthening in child protection. Therefore, we would like to take this chance to make this amendment", she explained.

After the legislation is passed, the Social Welfare Bureau (IAS) president Iong Kong Io predicted that the department will be struggling to handle future domestic violence cases due to constrained manpower. But he said that IAS will be formally collaborating with non-governmental organizations.

## FONG CHI KEONG ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

**GOVERNMENT-APPOINTED** lawmaker Fong Chi Keong, infamous for his controversial comments in the AL, has again caused a stir in the legislative chamber by arguing that the Secretary should not promote the idea of zero-tolerance against domestic violence. "I really disagree [with] the secretary's advocacy for zero-tolerance. You cannot clap with only one hand. It always takes two hands. [In cases where] the wife is chewing the husband's ear off,

if the wife did not talk back when the husband reprimanded her, the husband would not have beaten her," he said.

Fong also said that he did not understand the concept of sexual assault between couples. "They are already married. Why would there be sexual assault? For me it is a need. Isn't it to satisfy that need [that marriage exists]? If the husband wants and the wife says she's busy there is going to be a problem."

# Cats: a legendary piece of musical theatre returns to town

JEREMY BRENINGSTALL



in Switzerland.

Since 2007, the musical has played in 24 Asian cities, including Macau, where it premiered in 2007 at the Macau Cultural Center.

The show is based on T. S. Eliot's *Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats* (1939), which Andrew Lloyd Webber has recalled as a childhood favorite. It tells the story of the 'Jellicle Cats' who come out to play at night in a rubbish dump.

It's the night of the annual Jellicle Ball when their leader, Old Deuteronomy, is set to make an announcement. While they wait, the cats amuse themselves, and their audience, by singing and performing stories about famous cats of the past and present. When dawn comes, Old Deuteronomy gathers the Jellicle Cats together for his announcement: the name of the cat chosen to be reborn on the other side.

The Cats performances are scheduled at 8 p.m. Monday to Friday and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday from Mar. 6-15, 2015 (no show on Mar. 9). Tickets are priced at HKD/MOP680 (A Reserve), 480 (B Reserve) and 280 (C Reserve).

**ELIOT, ONE OF THE MOST INFLUENTIAL POETS OF THE 20TH CENTURY**

**THOMAS STERNS** Eliot was born in St Louis, Missouri, on September 26, 1888. He was educated at Harvard, at the Sorbonne in Paris and at Merton College, Oxford. Eliot's book of poems, *Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats* appeared in October 1939. 'Possum' was Eliot's alias among his friends. His other works include *Sweeney Agonistes*, *The Rock*, *Murder in the Cathedral*, *The Family Reunion* and *Four Quartets*.

**C**ELEBRATED on the stages of Broadway and the West End, the musical *Cats* will return to the Venetian Theatre in March. Tickets go on sale today at Cotai Ticketing, according to a press release issued yesterday by Sands China.

Composed by Andrew Lloyd Webber, *Cats* premiered in London on 11 May 1981 at the New London Theatre, and has come to be known as one of the most exhilarating and innovative musicals ever staged. The following year it premiered

## ■ Cats held the title of longest-running musical on Broadway history for almost ten years

at Broadway's Winter Garden Theatre.

The musical remained on

Broadway until 10 September 2000, having been performed 7,485 times. *Cats* held the title of the longest-running musical in Broadway history for almost ten years, before being overtaken in 2006 by *The Phantom of the Opera*.

*Cats* toured extensively in America (where it played for a combined total of sixteen years and two months) and worldwide. Since its premiere, the musical has been presented in twenty-six countries and in over three hundred ci-

ties. Over 73 million people have seen the show worldwide.

It has been translated into 15 languages, including German (three versions for Germany, Austria and Switzerland), Hungarian, Norwegian, Finnish, Dutch, Swedish, French, Italian, Japanese, Korean and Spanish (two versions for Mexico and Argentina), and has had over 40 different productions in a variety of venues, including a big top tour in Australia and an engine shed

JEREMY BRENINGSTALL



JUHO SIM



Candice Choi

**A**FTER watching Americans suck down Big Gulps for decades, Coke and Pepsi are realizing less could be more. As people cut back on soda, the two beverage giants are pushing smaller cans and bottles they say contain fewer calories and induce less guilt. The goal is to offset falling consumption with packages that cost more per ounce and are appealing for their novelty and portion control.

That means 7.5-ounce “mini-cans” and 8-ounce and 8.5-ounce glass and aluminum bottles are taking up more space on supermarket shelves. The cans and bottles have been around for a few years, but Coke and Pepsi are making them more widely available and marketing them more aggressively. As part of its “Share-a-Coke” campaign that printed popular names on cans and bottles last year, for instance, Coke says it distributed a million mini-cans.

The focus on pushing an array of smaller packages signals a shift from the past couple decades, when beverage makers measured success by the sheer volume of soda they sold. Yet soda consumption has declined persistently in recent years, with public health officials blaming it for making people fat and calling for special taxes and even warning labels on cans.

Soda hit its peak in 1998, when Americans on average drank the equivalent of 576 cans of it a year, according to data from the industry tracker Beverage Digest. That figure was down to about 450 cans a year in 2013.

Instead of fighting what seems to be a losing battle, Coke and Pepsi are pushing smaller cans and bottles that make their products seem new as they compete with a proliferation of beverage options. The companies also say the newer sizes cater to people’s desire for more modest

# For Coke and Pepsi, smaller sodas could pay more



A man walks past a billboard for Coca-Cola outside a convenience store in Atlanta

servings.

“Coca-Cola is so delicious, but it’s like sun tanning or cigarettes — they’re these wonderful things that we now know are horrible for us,” said Lauren Utvich, a 31-year-old food stylist in New York, who bought the Coke mini-cans when she first spotted them.

Utvich doesn’t normally drink soda, but she likes that the mini-cans turn Coke into a relatively guiltless treat. But that’s not the only reason she bought them. “Let’s be honest. I like them because they’re freaking adorable,” said Utvich, who didn’t pay attention to how much they cost.

During a presentation in November, Coke’s North American president Sandy Douglas said

the health and wellness trend has set up “a tremendous opportunity for the Coca-Cola brand with our smaller packages.”

He noted a regular 12-ounce can of Coke on average sell for 31 cents. By comparison, a 7.5-ounce mini-can sells for 40 cents. That translates to 2.6 cents-per-ounce for a regular can, versus 5.3 cents-per ounce for the mini version.

Coca-Cola said that while it may be selling less soda, smaller packs are pushing up revenue. Sales of Coke’s smaller sizes — which include a 1.25-liter bottle as an alternative to the 2-liter bottle — were up 9 percent last year through October, according to the presentation by Douglas. By comparison, sales of its 12-ounce cans and 2-liter

bottles edged up 0.1 percent.

That doesn’t mean Coke and Pepsi are abandoning their more generous servings, which still dominate the industry. And it’s not clear how big the appetite for the newer cans and bottles can grow over time. In 2013, mini-cans accounted for 1.1 percent of sales volume in supermarkets, according to Beverage Digest. But they accounted for 2.4 percent of sales dollars, more than double their volume share.

Bonnie Herzog, a Wells Fargo beverage industry analyst, said the smaller options are part of how Coke is repositioning itself amid changing habits around soda. She noted the company is also pushing Coke Life, a reduced-calorie drink sweetened with a mix of sugar and stevia.

“It’s responsible and it’s realistic,” Herzog said, noting the smaller sizes are marketed as “moments of pleasure” people

don’t have to give up.

Soda’s bad reputation, after all, is in part the result of mushrooming sizes. For decades, Coke was sold primarily in 6.5-ounce glass bottles. In 1955, the company started introducing larger servings after Pepsi-Cola marketed a bigger glass bottle, according to Dan Deane, president of the Coca-Cola Collectors Club.

Eventually, he noted Coke sold a 3-liter plastic bottle in some regions.

Fountain sodas got bigger, too. In 1976, 7-Eleven introduced its 32-ounce Big Gulp, followed by a Double Gulp that holds 64 ounces, or a half gallon of liquid. A small drink at McDonald’s today is 16 ounces, while a large is 30 ounces. But the bigger sizes that helped enrich Coke and Pepsi also backfired, with many now seeing it as a culprit for the nation’s obesity rates.

In November, voters in Berkeley, California approved a special, per-ounce tax on sugary drinks.

Even as Coke and Pepsi fight such measures through their industry lobbying group, they’re embracing the mantra of moderation.

This fall, Coke, Pepsi and Dr Pepper pledged at the Clinton Global Initiative to slash calorie consumption from beverages in the U.S. by 20 percent over the next decade. It sounds dramatic, but calories from drinks were falling anyway as people move away from soda on their own in favor of options like bottled water.

One of the ways the companies promised to achieve their goal: Smaller sizes. **AP**

**Coca-Cola is so delicious, but it’s like sun tanning or cigarettes — they’re these wonderful things that we now know are horrible for us**

LAUREN UTVICH

## corporate bits

As part of Chinese New Year celebrations, the Sheraton Macao Hotel at Cotai Central is offering an array of dining experiences for the whole family at the restaurants Xin, Bene and Feast. In addition to this, visitors can experience high tea with a Chinese New Year twist at Palms, a colorful Chinese New Year lion dance parade, and the distribution of lucky ‘lai see’ packets with MOP 300,000 worth of dining vouchers between February 16 and 25. Exclusive Chinese New Year hampers filled with traditional delicacies are also available for purchase as special gifts at both Xin and Palms.

Xin is an Asian hotpot and seafood restaurant where guests can enjoy traditional “Poon Choi hotpots”, which feature premium seafood throughout the Chinese New Year.

### SHERATON MACAO OFFERS FESTIVE DINING EXPERIENCES FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY



Bene, a cozy Italian trattoria at the Sheraton Macao Hotel is offering two special set menus for dinner and a semi-buffet lunch throughout the Chinese New Year, specially created by the

Executive Sous-chef Gaetano Palumbo. The “Chinese New Year Family Sharing Set Menu” features a chilled seafood platter (described as “molto bella”), a baked grouper flavored with lemon and roasted vegetables, and slow-cooked beef ribs with red wine, served with rosemary roasted potatoes.

For guests with a craving for the flavors of home during Chinese New Year, Feast, the all-day dining restaurant has created special buffet lunches and dinners throughout the holidays featuring traditional Chinese New Year dishes. The lunch and dinner buffets at Feast will feature Chinese roast stuffed suckling pig, Yunnan roast duck and a variety of international dishes.

### PORTUGAL TELECOM SHARES SLIDE AS USD8.7B DEAL POSTPONED

Portugal Telecom shares continued to lose value yesterday as both new doubts about the company’s future and legal questions about its recent past eroded market confidence.

One day after the postponement of a shareholder decision on whether to sell the troubled company to France’s Altice for 7.4 billion euros (USD8.7 billion), the company’s share price dropped 3.5 percent, to 0.69 euros — about the price of an espresso in a Lisbon cafe. In 2010, the year before Portugal needed an international bailout, the average share price was 11 euros.

The disarray within what was once one of the country’s biggest and most successful companies has reminded the Portuguese

that, even though the three-year bailout program is over, more problems may be lurking.

Last summer, the collapse of Portugal’s biggest listed bank, Banco Espirito Santo, amid charges of fraud and the pre-Christmas jailing of 2005-2011 Prime Minister Jose Socrates on suspicion of corruption, further undermined public faith in corporate culture and political leaders.

On top of that, the country’s economic health post-bailout remains frail. There are doubts about whether Portugal managed to cut its budget deficit to 2.7 percent of gross domestic product last year, as promised. Public debt is almost 130 percent of GDP, one of the highest levels in the Eurozone.



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"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN' "



**T**HE Minister of State and Foreign Affairs of Portugal, Rui Machete, announced Monday in Luanda the intention to move ahead with a system of special visas for businesspeople, as part of an existing agreement with Angola.

He made the statement after a meeting with the President of the Republic, José Eduardo dos Santos, and with Angolan Foreign Minister, Georges Chikoti.

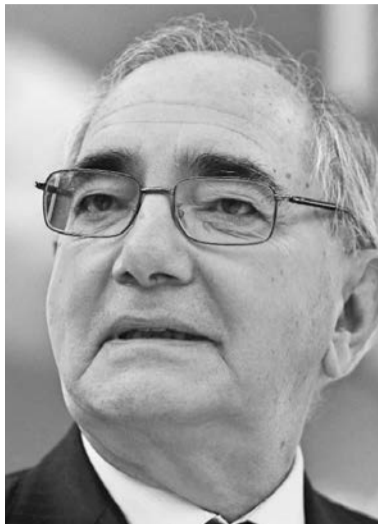
The minister admitted "there is progress to be made" in particular in finding appropriate ways to allow business visas to be issued in a more effective way.

Machete also said that a ministerial commission from Portugal and Angola would meet at least once a year, to boost bilateral relations and that by April Luanda would host a business

## Portugal and Angola study introduction of special visas



Georges Chikoti



Rui Machete

■ A system of special visas for investors is expected to be introduced

forum.

"It will be a forum for Portuguese companies that come to Luanda to discuss the problems of investments, exports, imports, with Angolan companies. It will be this year, in the first quarter," said Rui Machete.

MDT/Macauhub

## East-Timor wants more investment from Indonesia

East Timor's minister of state and of foreign affairs and cooperation, Jose Luis Guterres, said in Jakarta that his country expects more private investment from Indonesia particularly in the infrastructure, oil and energy sectors.

According to the Antara news agency, Guterres said that private investment may also support small and medium-sized

Timorese businesses. The

minister also admitted

that the development

of Indonesia could help

Timor-Leste. Guterres

said that one example of

two-way cooperation was

the construction of Dili

airport, which was awarded

to Indonesian company,

Wijaya Karya as part of a

US\$50 million investment.

The minister said that over

100 foreign companies are

based in Timor-Leste and

8,000 Indonesians live and

work in the country. MDT/

Macauhub

## World Bank Group studies investment in cement plant in Bissau

**T**HE World Bank Group is analyzing the possibility of financing a cement factory project in the capital of Guinea-Bissau, with a production capacity of 200,000 tons per year, according to Portuguese news agency Lusa.

The project is headed up by Senegalese businessman, Maxime Cardoz and by Scancem, a subsidiary of HeidelbergCement,


a German cement and building materials company, which is one of the world's largest cement manufacturers.

Those interested in building the plant requested a loan of 11 million euros, half the cost of the project and a decision is expected by the end of February.

The International Finance Corporation

(IFC) – part of the World Bank Group which is examining the project – said in a document to which Lusa had access that the aim is to replace imported cement in the Guinean market, and notes that in the future the plant may supply cement to regions of neighboring countries, such as southern Senegal and northern Guinea-Conakry. MDT/Macauhub

AD

  
 Government of the Macao Special Administrative Region  
**MACAU GOVERNMENT TOURIST OFFICE**  
**NOTICE**

The Macau Government Tourist Office hereby announces an invitation to tender for the "Macau Tourism Industry Development Master Plan Service Provision", in accordance with the approval of the Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture dated 5<sup>th</sup> of December of 2014.

From the date of publication of the present notice, interested bidders may visit the Macau Government Tourist Office Reception Counter, located in Alameda Dr. Carlos d' Assumpção, no. 335-341, "Hotline" Building, 12<sup>th</sup> floor, Macau, to view the Tender Program and Terms and Conditions of the Tender within the working hours, and pay MOP 500.00 (five hundred patacas) to obtain the copies.

For any further enquiries, please visit the Macau Government Tourist Office website (<http://industry.macaoutourism.gov.mo>) to submit your enquiries starting from the day of publication of the present notice until 10 days before the tender submission deadline. All replies will be posted on the same website.

The maximum price limit for the tender is MOP 20,000,000.00 (twenty million patacas).

Criteria for tender evaluation and their respective percentages are as follow:

- Appreciation of the planning task (35%);
- Planning methods and programme of work of the phases (20%);
- Price (15%);
- Experience (30%).

Bidders must submit the tender written in Chinese, Portuguese or English, within the working hours by 17:45 hours on 2<sup>nd</sup> of March of 2015, to the Macau Government Tourist Office Reception Counter, located in Alameda Dr. Carlos d'Assumpção, no. 335-341, "Hotline" Building, 12<sup>th</sup> floor in Macau and shall submit the provisional guarantee fee of MOP 400,000.00 (four hundred thousand patacas). The provisional guarantee fee shall be paid by: 1) cash deposit to the account of "Tourism Fund" at Banco Nacional Ultramarino of Macau; 2) bank guarantee; 3) cash, cashier's order or mark good cheque deposit directly to the Macau Government Tourist Office, cashier's order or mark good cheque should be made payable to "Tourism Fund"; 4) wire transfer directly to the account of Tourism Fund, at Banco Nacional Ultramarino of Macau (account no. 8003911119).


The tender opening session will be held in the Auditorium of the Macau Government Tourist Office, located in Alameda Dr. Carlos d'Assumpção, no. 335-341, "Hotline" Building, 14<sup>th</sup> floor in Macau, at 10:00 hours on 3<sup>rd</sup> of March of 2015.


In case of the services of the Macau Government Tourist Office are suspended owing to typhoon or force majeure, the scheduled closing date and time for submission of tender, as well as the date and time for opening the tender shall be extended to the next working day that follows immediately.

According to the article n.º 27 of Decree-Law n.º 63/85/M, of 6<sup>th</sup> July, the legal representatives of the Bidder should be present during the tender opening session for any complaints and/or to explain any doubts regarding their respective tender.

Macau Government Tourist Office, on 18<sup>th</sup> of December of 2014.

Director  
Maria Helena de Senna Fernandes


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# December exports rise, imports shrink

Joe McDonald, Business Writer, Beijing

CHINA'S exports rebounded in December but imports shrank in a sign of weak domestic demand. Total trade in 2014 grew just 3.4 percent, well below the official 10 percent target.

Exports rose 9.7 percent in December to USD227.5 billion, up from the previous month's unexpectedly low 4.7 percent growth, customs data showed yesterday. Imports declined by 2.4 percent to \$177.9 billion, better than November's surprise 6.7 percent contraction but still a sign of weak demand.

Chinese demand for imported oil, iron ore, food and other goods has cooled as economic growth slowed, falling to a five-year low of 7.3 percent in the quarter ending in September.

For the full year, exports rose 6.1 percent to \$2.3



trillion compared with 2013 while imports rose just 0.4 percent.

Communist leaders are trying to nurture self-sustaining growth based on domestic consumption instead of trade and

investment. But their plans require keeping exports strong to avoid job losses in trade-related industries that employ millions of people. The commerce minister said at the start of 2014 that

Beijing hoped for overall growth in imports and exports of 10 percent.

Major markets for Chinese goods including the United States should "stage a slight recovery this year, which should

provide support to Chinese exports," said Julian Evans-Pritchard of Capital Economics in a report.

But demand in China is "likely to remain subdued" and hopes for a re-

bound in investment or the real estate industry "will be disappointed," said Evans-Pritchard.

"Import growth is likely to remain weak," he said.

Chinese leaders have publicly rejected launching a large-scale stimulus, saying growth will have to come from economic reforms. But they unexpectedly cut interest rates in November in a sign they were worried growth was slowing too abruptly. They also have launched targeted measures including pumping more money into construction of railways and other public works.

The gap between strong exports and weak Chinese demand meant the country's global trade surplus nearly doubled in December, expanding 94 percent over a year earlier to \$49.6 billion. For the full year, the surplus rose 47 percent to \$382 billion. AP

## Beijing sending large Ebola relief team to West Africa

CHINA is ramping up its assistance in the fight against Ebola by dispatching an additional 232 army medical workers to West Africa, state media reported yesterday.

The latest contingent to be sent to afflicted nations was to depart yesterday evening, with 154 of them headed to Liberia and 78 to Sierra Leone, according to the China Daily newspaper.

They will join 43 army doctors and 35 specialists from the Chinese Center for Disease Control already working in Sierra Leone, where they have treated 61 patients and trained 1,600 local medical workers.

"Fighting Ebola is not a regional battle, but should be supported globally," the paper quoted deputy director of the National Health and Family Planning Ministry Cui Li as saying.

China, which has not reported any Ebola cases, has already provided USD121 million in cash and supplies to the fight against the disease in West Africa.

Chinese medical teams have considerable experience working at home against in-



A healthcare worker dons protective gear before entering an Ebola treatment center in Freetown, Sierra Leone

fectious diseases such as Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome, or SARS, and avian flu.

The country is also seeking to boost its humanitarian and diplomatic engagement with Africa on a level commensurate with its economic

involvement on the continent.

The World Health Association has recorded more than 13,000 cases of Ebola in eight affected countries since the outbreak began, and more than 5,000 deaths. AP

## Huawei says 2014 profit up 17 percent, sales rise 20 percent

Joe McDonald, Business Writer, Beijing

CHINA'S Huawei Technologies Ltd., the world's biggest maker of telecommunications equipment, said yesterday profit growth slowed last year while sales accelerated.

Profit is forecast to rise about 17 percent over 2013 to 33.9 to 34.3 billion yuan (USD5.5 to \$5.6 billion), the company's chief financial officer, Cathy Meng, told reporters. Final audited results are due out in March.

That growth would be a decline from 2013's 40.5 percent. But Meng said it was "not appropriate" to compare those figures because Huawei's focus is on sales growth and investing in promising businesses.

Sales were forecast to rise 20 percent compared with 2013 to 287 to 289 billion yuan (\$47 to \$47.4 billion), according to Meng, more than double the previous year's growth of 8.5 percent.

"That is a very satisfying result," said Meng.

Huawei, the first Chinese company to break into the top ranks of global technology providers, is privately held but has released annual results in recent years in an attempt to ease con-

cern in the United States and some other countries that it might be a security risk.

Huawei, founded in 1987 by a former Chinese military engineer, has grown rapidly in developing countries. The company has rejected security risk claims as trade protectionism that it says hurts American consumers by limiting competition and raising the cost of telecoms equipment.

Meng said the company is the biggest builder of fourth-generation mobile phone networks, with 154 under construction.

Huawei also is expanding beyond its traditional business of switching equipment and has launched its own smartphone brand.

Sales by its consumer business group, which includes smartphones, rose 32 percent last year, according to Meng. She did not answer a question about whether the smartphone business was profitable.

Huawei has 160,000 employees worldwide and research and development centers in Europe, Silicon Valley and elsewhere. Meng said R-and-D spending last year rose about 28 percent over 2013 to 39.5 to 40.5 billion yuan (\$6.5 to \$6.6 billion). AP

Nicole Winfield and  
Bharatha Mallawarachi, Colombo

## SRI LANKA

# Pope arrives on Asian tour, backs search for wartime truth

**P**OPE Francis brought calls for reconciliation as well as justice as he arrived yesterday in Sri Lanka at the start of a weeklong Asian tour, saying the island nation can't fully heal from a quarter-century of ethnic civil war without pursuing the truth about abuses that were committed.

In a show of ethnic coexistence, the pope's welcoming ceremony at Colombo's airport featured traditional dancers and drummers from both majority Sinhalese and minority Tamil ethnic groups, as well as a children's choir serenading him in both of Sri Lanka's languages — as well as Italian and English.

With 40 elephants dressed in colorful costumes lining the airport road behind him, Francis said that finding true peace after so much bloodshed "can only be done by overcoming evil with good, and by cultivating those virtues which foster reconciliation, solidarity and peace."

He didn't specifically mention Sri Lanka's refusal to cooperate with a U.N. investigation into alleged war crimes committed in the final months of the war. But he said: "The process of healing also needs to include the pursuit of truth, not for the sake of opening old wounds, but rather as a necessary means of promoting justice, healing and unity."

Tamil rebels fought a 25-year civil war to demand an independent Tamil nation after decades of perceived discrimination by governments dominated by the Sinhalese majority. U.N. estimates say 80,000 to 100,000 people were killed during the course of the war, which ended in 2009; other reports suggest the toll could be much higher.

Sri Lanka's new president, Maithripala Sirisena, has promised to launch a domestic inquiry into wartime abuses, but he has also pledged to protect everyone who contributed to the defeat of Tamil Tiger separatists from international legal action.

A 2011 U.N. report said up to 40,000 ethnic Tamil ci-



Pope Francis stands on the tarmac upon arrival at the airport in Colombo yesterday

vilians may have been killed in the last months of the civil war, and accused both sides of serious human rights violations. It said the government was suspected of deliberately shelling civilians and hospitals and preventing food and medicine from getting to civilians trapped in the war zone. The rebels were accused of recruiting child soldiers and holding civilians as human shields and firing from among them.

A few months after the U.N. report was released, the government of longtime President Mahinda Rajapaksa released its own Lessons Learnt and Reconciliation Commission findings, which concluded that Sri Lanka's military didn't intentionally target civilians at the end of the war and that ethnic rebels routinely violated international humanitarian law.

Sirisena, who was sworn in Friday after an election upset, told Francis in the airport welcome ceremony that his government aims to promote "peace and friendship among our people after overcoming a cruel terrorist conflict."

"We are a people who believe in religious tolerance and coexistence based on our centuries-old heritage," he said.

Tamils, however, say they are still discriminated against, and human rights activists say the government isn't serious about probing rights abuses.

In his speech, Francis said it wasn't enough for the government to build infrastructure

## This is like Jesus Christ himself coming to Sri Lanka!

RANJIT SOLIS, 60  
RETIRED ENGINEER

and meet the material needs of Sri Lanka's people. "The great work of rebuilding," he said, must embrace "promoting human dignity, respect for human rights and the full inclusion of each member of society."

Thousands of people lined Francis' 28-kilometer route in from the airport, which he traveled entirely in his open-topped popemobile. While some who had staked out positions since dawn were frustrated that he sped past so quickly, Francis took so long greeting well-wishers that he canceled a meeting with Sri Lanka's bishops in the afternoon after falling more than an hour behind schedule.

"This is like Jesus Christ himself coming to Sri Lanka!" marveled Ranjit Solis, 60, a retired engineer. He recalled that Pope Paul VI only spent two hours in Sri Lanka in 1970, while St. John Paul II spent a day in 1975. "The current pope is coming for three days! He serves the poor and is concerned about poor countries. It's a great thing."

Aside from the airport welcome ceremony, Francis' other main event yesterday was a meeting with representatives from Sri Lanka's main religions.

Some 70 percent of Sri Lankans are Buddhist — most from the Sinhalese ethnic group. Another 13 percent are Hindu, most of them Tamil, and some 10 percent are Muslim. Catholics make up less than 7 percent of the island nation's 20 million people, but the church counts both Sinhalese and Tamils as members and sees itself as a strong source for national unity.

Francis is expected to call for greater interfaith dialogue amid a surge in anti-Muslim violence by extremist Buddhists.

"It is a blessing and will be helpful for inter-religious friendship," said Rev. Wimalananda, a young Buddhist monk, who was out on the street to welcome Francis.

Francis arrived just days after Rajapaksa was upset in an election he had called. The victor, Sirisena, had defected from the ruling party in November in a surprise move and won the election by capitalizing on Rajapaksa's unpopularity among ethnic and religious minorities.

"This is a good opportunity to unify the country after a war and bring together a society divided with an election," said another Francis watcher on the road in from the airport, Saman Priyankara. "It will be a strength to the new government at a time we are free from an auto-cruacy and on a new path."

Today, Francis will canonize Sri Lanka's first saint, the Rev. Joseph Vaz, a 17th-century missionary from India who is credited with having revived the Catholic faith among both Sinhalese and Tamils amid persecution by Dutch colonial rulers, who were Calvinists.

Later in the day he flies into Tamil territory to pray at a shrine beloved by both Sinhalese and Tamil faithful.

On Thursday he heads to the Philippines, the largest Roman Catholic country in Asia and third-largest in the world, for the final leg of the journey. **AP**

## FORMER LEADER DENIES HE ATTEMPTED COUP AFTER LOSS

**SRI LANKA'S** former leader yesterday denied allegations that he attempted a coup to try to stay in power after seeing he had lost last week's presidential election. Mahinda Rajapaksa was widely credited for leaving office peacefully after Thursday's election. But President Maithripala Sirisena's new government has since accused him of convening the chiefs of the police and the army, as well as the attorney general, late Thursday

to discuss ways to stop the vote counting, and said Rajapaksa left office only because they didn't cooperate. A Sirisena spokesman described the alleged attempt to reporters on Sunday and said the new government would investigate. In a series of tweets yesterday, Rajapaksa denied "in all possible terms reports of attempts to use the military to influence election results."

Achmad Ibrahim, Pangkalan Bun

FLIGHT 8501

## Divers retrieve 2nd black box from AirAsia crash

**D**IVERS retrieved the crashed AirAsia plane's second black box from the bottom of the Java Sea yesterday, giving experts essential tools to piece together what brought Flight 8501 down.

The cockpit voice recorder was freed from beneath the heavy remnants of a wing at a depth of about 30 meters, a day after the aircraft's flight data recorder was recovered, said Tonny Budiono, sea navigation director at the Transportation Ministry.

"Thank God," he said. "This is good news for investigators to reveal the cause of the plane crash."

The device will be flown to the capital, Jakarta, to be analyzed with the other black box, a process that could take up to two weeks. Since it records in a two-hour loop, all discussions between the captain and co-pilot should be available.

The plane disappeared from radar less than halfway into a two-hour flight from Surabaya, Indonesia, to Singapore on Dec. 28. It was carrying 162 people, but only 48 bodies have been recovered so far.

The find is the latest boost in the slow-moving hunt in the shallow, murky stretch of ocean.



Indonesian military personnel remove the Flight Data Recorder of the ill-fated AirAsia flight QZ8501 into a proper case in Pangkalan Bun

Over the weekend, the tail of the Airbus A320 was recovered, emblazoned with the carrier's red-and-white cursive logo. The black boxes are normally inside the tail, but were missing when the wreckage was pulled to the surface.

The devices were soon located after three Indonesian ships detected strong "pings" being emitted from their beacons, about 20 meters apart. Strong currents, large waves and blinding silt have hindered divers' efforts throughout the search, but they took advantage of calmer early morning conditions on Monday and yesterday to recover the instruments.

The information obtained from the black boxes — which are actually orange — will likely be vital. Designed to survive extreme heat and pressure, they should provide investigators with a second-by-second timeline of the flight.

Decomposition is making identification more difficult for desperate families waiting to bury their loved ones. Nearly all passengers and crew were Indonesian.

"I still believe many victims remain trapped there," said Gen. Moeldoko, Indonesia's military chief, who uses one name. "And we must find them." AP

INDIA

## Bootleg liquor kills at least 28, 160 hospitalized

Biswajeet Banerjee, Lucknow

**A** bad batch of bootleg liquor killed at least 28 people and sent 160 others to hospitals in the north Indian state of Uttar Pradesh, officials said yesterday.

Many of the victims had gathered to watch a cricket match Sunday evening in a village about 30 kilometers southwest of the state capital, Lucknow, government official Anil Garg said.

By midday yesterday, 28 people had died, including 11 in a nearby village, police officer Mukul Goel said.

Doctors in Lucknow said some of those hospitalized were in serious condition and were breathing with respirators, and some had lost their eyesight.

Police arrested the shop owner who sold the pouches of homemade alcohol for about 30 cents each. A raid of the shop uncovered large containers of chemicals, which were sent to a laboratory for testing, district official R.K. Pandey said.

"The symptoms gave a clear indication that these patients were served methyl alcohol," which despite being toxic is sometimes mixed with ethyl alcohol to make a brew cheaper, said Dr. Kausar Usman, head of the trauma center at Lucknow's King George's Medical College.



Indian women mourn around the bodies of two men, who died after consuming a bad batch of bootleg liquor in Datli village, about 30 km southwest of Lucknow

Deaths from drinking illegally brewed alcohol are common in India because the poor cannot afford licensed liquor.

Villager Rajesh Kumar, whose two older brothers became ill after drinking the liquor on Monday, said the shop in Datli village was well known for selling inexpensive alcohol, and that many men came from surrounding villages to buy it.

The state's highest elected official, Chief Minister Akhilesh Yadav, suspended six police officers suspected of taking bribes to ignore complaints about the shop and its alcohol, and announced that a "drive will be launched against those involved in the illicit liquor trade." AP

## Delhi court charges Uber driver in rape case

Katy Daigle, New Delhi

**A**New Delhi court charged an Uber cab driver yesterday with rape, kidnapping and criminal intimidation in a case that has renewed national fury over chronic sexual violence in India. Authorities are still investigating whether charges should be laid against Uber.

Judge Kaveri Baweja ordered the case to begin Thursday in a special fast-track court set up in 2013 to bypass India's lumbering judicial system.

The 32-year-old suspect, Shiv Kumar Yadav, entered a plea of innocence. He has been in custody since a 25-year-old woman filed a police complaint alleging he assaulted her after she hired him for a ride home from a dinner engagement on Dec. 5.

Authorities, meanwhile, were still investigating the possibility of criminal charges against the company for alle-



32-year-old Shiv Kumar Yadav, center, a driver from the international taxi-booking service Uber, is escorted by police to a court in New Delhi

gely misrepresenting the safety of its service, according to police official Brijendra Kumar Yadav. "That is a separate case, and will take some time," he said, without giving details.

The case has appalled many in India, occurring almost exactly two years ago after a young woman was fatally gang raped on a bus in the capital. It has sparked new demands for better protections for women.

It also dealt a blow to Uber, which has attracted global praise and controversy with a service that lets passengers summon cars through an app in more than 250 cities around the world.

The taxi alternative, valued at USD40 billion, faces multiples legal and regulatory challenges as it expands in the United States and elsewhere, including a lawsuit in California alleging that the company exaggerates how comprehensive its driver background checks are.

After the rape case in New Delhi, Indian police questioned an Uber official about the company's claim it conducts comprehensive background checks. The company was also banned in the capital as well as the southern technology hub of Hyderabad and the entire southern state of Karnataka. AP

# SATURDAY NIGHT IS FOR POKER

This Saturday 6pm, the PokerStars LIVE Macau HK\$3,000 poker tournament has a guaranteed prize pool of HK\$50,000. Winners also receive a coveted Daily Tournament Medal.

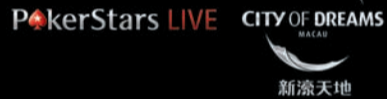
It's part of the exciting new schedule of poker tournaments we're running Tuesdays - Sundays.

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Find out more at [PokerStarsLIVEMacau.com](http://PokerStarsLIVEMacau.com)

Level 2, Casino Estrada do Istmo, Cotai Macau SAR

All tournaments are subject to regulatory approval.



## Business Luncheon

**Guest Speaker: Michael Klibaner**  
Regional Director, Head of Research – Greater China  
Jones Lang LaSalle Limited  
on  
*The Impact of e-Commerce on China's Retail and Logistics Property*  
Tuesday, 27<sup>th</sup> January



The Vista, Level 3, MGM MACAU

12.30: Drinks

1 pm: Lunch

1.45 pm: Presentation by Michael Klibaner

2.30 pm: Close

**BBAM Members - MOP 450 - Non-Members - MOP 550**

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## HACKING

# Key US military command's Twitter, YouTube sites infiltrated



This screen grab made Monday, Jan. 12, 2015 shows the front page of the U.S. Central Command twitter account after it was hacked

Lolita C. Baldor, Washington

**HACKERS** supporting Islamic militants took over the Twitter and YouTube accounts of a major U.S. military command Monday (yesterday in Macau), in what the Pentagon called an annoying prank that did not breach military networks or access classified data.

The hacker group, calling itself CyberCaliphate, was already under FBI investigation for incursions into the Twitter feeds or websites of media outlets in New Mexico and Maryland, prompting officials to question whether the group has any real af-

filiation with the Islamic State militants. The U.S. and other partner nations have been launching airstrikes against Islamic State insurgents and locations across Iraq and Syria since last summer.

U.S. Central Command Twitter accounts in English and Arabic and the YouTube site were quickly removed from the web by military officials. They said they were working to get the sites back online as quickly as possible.

FBI spokesman Joshua Campbell said the bureau is investigating the Central Command Twitter and YouTube breaches and is working with the

Pentagon to determine the scope of the incident.

The Central Command Twitter site was filled with threats that said "American soldiers, we are coming, watch your back." Other postings appeared to list names, phone numbers and personal email addresses of military personnel as well as PowerPoint slides and maps.

Most of the material was labeled "FOUO," which means "For Official Use Only," but none of it appeared to be classified or sensitive information. U.S. Central Command said that none of the information and documents posted on the hacked site

were from the command's Internet servers or social media sites.

The breach only affected the Twitter and YouTube sites, which reside on commercial, non-Defense Department Internet servers. U.S. Central Command said its operational and military networks were not compromised, but officials are notifying law enforcement about the possible release of personal information that was posted on the Twitter site.

One of the documents appeared to be slides developed by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's Lincoln Laboratory, a federally funded research and development center focused on national security. The slides appeared to depict what it called "scenarios" for conflict with North Korea and China. It's not clear where the documents came from or how long ago they might have been taken, since some of the information was as much as a year old.

"This is little more than a prank or vandalism. It's inconvenient and it's an annoyance. But that's all it is," said Col. Steve Warren, a Pentagon spokesman. "It in no way compromises our operations in any way, shape or form."

Warren said Pentagon officials are in contact with Twitter and YouTube to ensure that military passwords and other security for such public websites are adequate.

The tweets came shortly after U.S. Central Command posted its own tweets about the U.S. and partner nations continuing to attack Islamic State terrorists in Iraq and Syria and one repeating a report that said France will deploy an aircraft carrier to the fight. **AP**

## EGYPT

# Court ruling may free Mubarak from custody

Maggie Michael, Cairo

**EGYPTIAN** authorities have exhausted all legal grounds to keep deposed President Hosni Mubarak in detention after an appeals court yesterday ordered his retrial in a corruption case, a judicial official said.

The corruption case was the only one still keeping Mubarak behind bars. The autocratic former president has already been cleared over the killings of protesters during Egypt's 2011 uprising that toppled him.

The ruling yesterday by the Appeals Court — a top court based in Cairo — overturned an earlier verdict, which had sentenced Mubarak to three years' imprisonment and his two sons, Alaa and Gamal, to four years in prison each while four other defendants in the case were acquitted. Mubarak's lawyers had appealed that verdict.

Though the ruling paved way for Mubarak's imminent release, there was no explicit statement from the authorities that he would leave the hospital in Cairo where he was held in custody a free man. There were also conflicting remarks over whether the release would take place.

An official at the chief prosecutor's office told The Associated Press that "paperwork was being processed" for Mubarak's release. The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to talk to media, declined to speculate if and when that could happen.

However, an unnamed security official told the state-run news agency MENA that Mubarak will remain in detention since the Appeals Court ruling didn't include a release order. **AP**



In this Nov. 29, 2014 file photo, ousted Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, 86, lies on a gurney, next to his son Gamal, second left, in the defendants cage, during a court hearing in Cairo

AD

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**T**HE surviving staff of Charlie Hebdo plans an unprecedented run of 3 million copies of the next issue today, with the Prophet Muhammad on the cover, as France hunts for other members of the terrorist cell involved in the attacks on the satirical weekly newspaper.

Late Monday, the website of the newspaper Liberation, which has been hosting the Charlie Hebdo staff, posted an image of the next cover of the satirical weekly. It featured a cartoon of Muhammad, with a tear streaming down his cheek, and holding a sign: "Je Suis Charlie" — "I Am Charlie."

Overhead was the phrase: "All is forgiven."

"Three million people will have Muhammad's, the prophet's drawing, at home," Zineb El Rhazoui, a columnist for Charlie Hebdo, told the BBC yesterday. "We feel, as Charlie Hebdo's team, that we need to forgive the two terrorists who have killed our colleagues."

Earlier Monday, Charlie Hebdo lawyer Richard Malka told French radio that the new issue would "obviously" feature cartoons of the Prophet Muhammad.

Charlie Hebdo's past caricatures of the Muslim prophet appear to have prompted last week's attacks, part of the worst terrorist rampage in France in decades.

Some witnesses reported that the attackers at the paper's offices shouted "We have avenged the prophet." Many Muslims believe all images of the prophet are blasphemous.

Two masked gunmen opened the onslaught in Paris with a Jan. 7 attack on the paper, singling out its editor and his police bodyguard for the first shots before killing 12 people in all. Ahmed Merabet, a French Muslim policeman, was one of the victims, killed as he lay wounded on the ground as the gunmen — brothers Said and Cherif Kouachi — made their escape.

Charlie Hebdo, which lampoons religion indiscrimi-

FRANCE

# Charlie Hebdo publishing prophet cartoon on new cover



A police officer lays flowers at the site of the kosher market where four hostages were killed

nately, had received threats after depicting Muhammad before, and its offices were firebombed in 2011. Its editor, Stephane Charbonnier, was under constant guard. Its surviving staff say they have been working feverishly since the attacks in loaned office space to put out the latest issue.

France's main Muslim organization called yesterday for calm, fearing that a new Muhammad cartoon could inflame passions anew.

At police headquarters in Paris, French President Francois Hollande paid separate tribute yesterday to the three police officers killed in the attacks, placing Legion of Honor medals on their caskets.

"They died so that we could live free," he said, flanked by hundreds of police officers.

Hollande vowed that France will be "merciless in the face of anti-Semitic, anti-Muslims acts, and unrelenting against those who defend and carry out terrorism, notably the jihadists who go to Iraq and Syria."

As Chopin's funeral march played in central Paris and the caskets draped in French flags were led from the building, a procession began in Jerusalem for the four Jewish victims of the attack Friday on a kosher supermarket in Paris.

"Returning to your ancestral home need not be due to distress, out of desperation, amidst destruction, or in the throes of terror and fear," said Israeli President Reuven Rivlin. "Terror has never kept us down, and we do not want terror to subdue you. The Land of Israel is the land of choice. We want you to choose Israel, because of a love for Israel."

French police say as many as six members of the terrorist cell that carried out the Paris attacks may still be at large, including a man seen driving a car registered to the widow of one of the gunmen. The country has deployed 10,000 troops to protect sensitive sites, including Jewish schools and synagogues, mosques and travel hubs.

Amid the hunt for accomplices, Bulgarian authorities said

## ■ Bulgarian authorities said yesterday they have a Frenchman under arrest who is believed to have links to Cherif Kouachi, one of the Charlie Hebdo attackers

yesterday they have a Frenchman under arrest who is believed to have links to Cherif Kouachi, one of the Charlie Hebdo attackers.

Fritz-Joly Joachin, 29, was arrested Jan. 1 as he tried to cross into Turkey, under two European arrest warrants, one citing his alleged links to a terrorist organization and a second for allegedly kidnapping his 3-year-old son and smuggling him out of the country, said Darina Slavova, the regional prosecutor for Bulgaria's southern province of Haskovo.

"He met with Kouachi several times at the end of December," Slavova said.

The Kouachi brothers and their friend, Amedy Coulibaly,

the man who killed four hostages in the Paris grocery, died Friday in clashes with French police. All three claimed ties to Islamic extremists in the Middle East — the Kouachis to al-Qaida in Yemen and Coulibaly to the Islamic State group.

Two French police officials told The Associated Press that authorities were searching around Paris for the Mini Cooper registered to Hayat Boumeddiene, Coulibaly's widow, who Turkish officials say is now in Syria.

One of the police officials said the Paris terror cell consisted of about 10 members and that "five or six could still be at large," but he did not provide their names. The other official said the cell was made up of about eight people and included Boumeddiene.

One of the police officials also said Coulibaly apparently set off a car bomb Thursday in the town of Villejuif, but no one was injured and it did not receive significant media attention.

Video has emerged of Coulibaly explaining how the attacks in Paris would unfold. French police want to find the person or persons who shot and posted the video, which was edited after Friday's attacks.

Ties among the three attackers themselves date back to at least 2005, when Coulibaly and Cherif Kouachi were jailed together. **AP**

## US SAYS IT SHOULD HAVE SENT HIGH OFFICIAL TO PARIS MARCH

**THE WHITE** House said Monday that President Barack Obama or another high-level representative should have joined dozens of world leaders at an anti-terror rally in Paris, in a rare admission of error.

While leaders from Europe, the Middle East and Africa linked arms for Sunday's march through the boulevards of Paris, the United States was represented by its ambassador to France. Attorney General Eric Holder was in Paris for security meetings but did not attend the march. "It's fair to say we should have sent someone with

a higher profile," White House spokesman Josh Earnest said. The administration also announced that Secretary of State John Kerry, who was on a long-planned trip to India Sunday, will visit France later this week. The White House appeared to have been caught off guard by both the scope of international representation at the rally and by the criticism of the decision to send only Ambassador Jane Hartley. Monday's admission of error seemed aimed at blunting criticism that the decision was tone deaf or disrespectful of the longstanding U.S. alliance with France.

## what's ON



EXHIBITION "FOAM TIP BY ARLINDA FROTA AND TRANSMUTATION BY CAROL KWOK"

TIME: 12pm-8pm (Closed on Tuesdays)

UNTIL: March 31, 2015

VENUE: SIGNUM Living Store, Rua do Almirante Sérgio, no. 285, R/C, Macau

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2896 8925

APAIXONADO PASSIONATE CUBA - MARCO SZETO & 10 CUBAN ARTISTS JOINT EXHIBITION

TIME: 10am-7pm

UNTIL: February 18, 2015

VENUE: Dare to Dream flagship store and art gallery, Calçada da Barra No.16 A, Edifício San Chak, Macau

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2830 2012

"ONE HUNDRED PHOTOGRAPHERS FOCUS ON MACAU" EXHIBITION

TIME: 24 hours

UNTIL: March 22, 2015

VENUE: Level 2 Showcase, MGM Macau

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8802 8888

EXHIBITION "BETWEEN SCIENCE AND ART: THE MARVELS OF ASIA IN THE EYES OF POLISH JESUIT MICHAŁ PIOTR BOYM, SJ."

TIME: 10am-7pm (Mondays to Saturdays)  
11am-7pm (Sundays)

UNTIL: January 18, 2015

VENUE: Sir Robert Ho Tung Library

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2837 7117

ADMISSION: Free

PENGUINS UNDERCOVER ICE WORLD WITH THE DREAMWORKS GANG

TIME: 11am-8pm

UNTIL: March 8, 2015

VENUE: Cotai Expo

ADMISSION: MOP120

ENQUIRIES: 2882 8818

MACAU GRAND PRIX MUSEUM & WINE MUSEUM

TIME: 10am-8pm (Closed on Tuesdays)

VENUE: Rua Luis Gonzaga Gomes, 431, basement (Tourism Activities Centre-CAT)

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8798 4108 / 2833 3000

## Offbeat

## US: BLACK LAB LIKES TO TAKE SOLO BUS RIDE TO HER DOG PARK STOP



A black Labrador named Eclipse just wants to get to the dog park. So if her owner takes too long finishing his cigarette, and their bus arrives, she climbs aboard solo and rides to her

stop — to the delight of fellow Seattle bus passengers.

KOMO-TV reports that local radio host Miles Montgomery was amazed to see the pooch get off the bus, without an owner, at a dog park last week.

The dog and her owner, Jeff Young, live right near a bus stop.

In Young's words, "She's a bus-riding, sidewalk-walking dog." Young says his dog sometimes gets on the bus without him, and he catches up with her at the dog park three or four stops away.

Bus riders report she hops onto seats next to strangers, and watches out the window for her stop. Says commuter Tiona Rainwater, "All the bus drivers know her ... she makes everybody happy."

A Metro Transit spokesman says the agency loves that a dog appreciates public transit.

## TV canal macau

13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:30	RTPi Live
18:35	Brazil Avenue (Repeated)
19:30	Soap Opera
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	Non-Daily Portuguese News
21:40	Miscellaneous
22:10	Brazil Avenue
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Non-Daily Portuguese News (Repeated)
00:00	Documentary Series
00:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)

## cinema

## CINETEATRO

08 JAN - 14 JAN



TAKEN 3

ROOM 1

2.00, 3.55, 5.50, 9.30 pm

Director: Olivier Megaton

Starring: Liam Neeson, Forest Whitaker, Framke

Janssen

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 109min

NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM: SECRET OF THE TOMB

ROOM 1

7.45 pm

Director: Shawn Levy

Starring: Ben Stiller, Robin Williams, Owen Wilson

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 97min



SEVENTH SON

ROOM 2

(2D) 2.30, 4.30, 9.30 pm

(3D) 7.30 pm

Director: Sergei Bodrov

Starring: Jeff Bridges, Julianne Moore, Ben Barnes

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 102min

WOMEN WHO FLIRT

ROOM 3

2.30, 4.30, 7.30, 9.30 pm

Director: Pang Ho-Cheung

Starring: Zhou Xun, Huang Xiao Ming

Language: Mandarin (English/Cantonese)

Duration: 97min

## MACAU TOWER

01 JAN - 21 JAN

TAKEN 3

2.30, 4.30, 7.00, 9.30 pm

Director: Olivier Megaton

Starring: Liam Neeson, Forest Whitaker, Framke

Janssen

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 109min

## this day in history



## 1994 DUCHESS OF KENT JOINS CATHOLIC CHURCH

The Duchess of Kent has become the first member of the Royal Family to convert to Catholicism for more than 300 years.

The duchess was received into the Catholic church in a private service conducted by the Archbishop of Westminster, Cardinal Basil Hume.

An act of parliament in 1701 banned heirs to the throne from being or marrying a Roman Catholic.

The duchess' husband is the queen's cousin and 18th in line to the throne.

The duke's office said the duchess' conversion would have no constitutional implications as she was an Anglican at the time of her marriage.

In recent years both the duchess' brother-in-law, Prince Michael of Kent and her son, George, have married Roman Catholics and renounced their right of succession to the throne.

A spokesman for the duchess stressed that her conversion had nothing to do with current issues facing the Anglican church.

He said: "This is a long-pondered personal decision by the duchess and it has no connection with issues such as the ordination of women priests."

But some priests believe interest among the aristocracy has been spurred by recent Anglican departures from tradition.

Father Charles-Roux of St Ethelreda's in Holborn, central London, said many were not happy with the direction the Anglican church was taking.

"There's been a major change in their tradition and the people who belong to that tradition go back to what they are familiar with. They look for support in Rome," said Father Charles-Roux.

But in a statement Cardinal Basil Hume stressed the duchess' decision was a private matter.

"We must all respect a person's conscience in these matters, and I know that the duchess recognises how much she owes to the Church of England for which she retains a genuine affection," he said.

Courtesy BBC News

## IN CONTEXT

The Church of England's decision in 1992 to allow the ordination of women priests sparked several high profile conversions to Catholicism including Conservative politician Ann Widdecombe.

In recent years there have been several calls by MPs and Lords to repeal the 1701 Act of Settlement barring Catholics from the throne but the government has repeatedly insisted such a move would be too complex.

But there has been a growing public rapprochement between the monarchy and Catholic church.

The Queen greeted the Pope at Buckingham Palace in 1982 and in 1995 became the first monarch since the 17th century to attend a Catholic service.



YOUR STARS

Aries Mar. 21-Apr. 19 Push away your own concerns or needs and try instead to just take care of your people. It actually works to your advantage in the long run, so don't feel as if you're doing yourself a disservice.

Taurus April 20-May 20 Grab a friend - or your sweetie - and head to the gym, or that new salad restaurant or anywhere else you can indulge your nobler, healthier instincts. Have fun and make a pact to take better care of yourselves.

Gemini May 21-Jun. 21 Your great energy streak continues for another day, and you may find yourself having fun doing almost anything. You're sure to find that people are looking at you in a better light after today!

Cancer Jun. 22-Jul. 22 Try to stay active today - inertia causes problems you don't want to deal with. You don't have to be frenetic, but it's just not a good day for procrastination or long breaks. You can get past this.

Leo Jul. 23-Aug. 22 Your friends and coworkers have your back - maybe in surprising ways. You surely don't expect everything that's coming your way today, so get ready to express some serious gratitude.

Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22 Something small is making life more difficult for you - so see if you can either enlist support or defer worrying about progress for another few days. Things should settle down soon.

Libra Sep.23-Oct. 22 You feel closer than ever to the world's natural beauty - and things are lined up in your favor today. See if you can get yourself back on track with an old plan you had given up on too soon.

Scorpio Oct. 23 - Nov. 21 Today's problems are easier to solve than you may think - so don't shy away from them! You've got to make sure that you're still taking everything seriously, but you don't have to break a sweat over it.

Sagittarius Nov. 22-Dec. 21 It's crucial that you speak out today - otherwise nobody knows what you really want. Once you start speaking, you should find yourself with more support than you would ever have imagined.

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19 Your cultural hunger is growing, and that could mean that you've got to head out in the world to try something new. It's a great time for poking around in the fringes of art and theater.

Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 18 Your brainy energy is perfect for today's new adventures - it's easier than ever for you to dream up new solutions to old problems. Things sure seem simpler when approached with a fresh mind.

Pisces Feb.19-Mar. 20 Money issues are on your mind again today - but you can take care of them with greater ease than usual. Try to just make sure that your people understand what's really going on when you make your move.

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Easy

5 3 7 grid with numbers 1-9 in various positions.

Easy+

8 6 9 grid with numbers 1-9 in various positions.

Medium

6 4 9 grid with numbers 1-9 in various positions.

Hard

5 7 6 grid with numbers 1-9 in various positions.

WEATHER

Table with columns: MIN, MAX, CONDITION

CHINA

Table listing weather for Beijing, Harbin, Tianjin, Urumqi, Xi'an, Lhasa, Chengdu, Chongqing, Kunming, Nanjing, Shanghai, Wuhan, Hangzhou, Taipei, Guangzhou, Hong Kong.

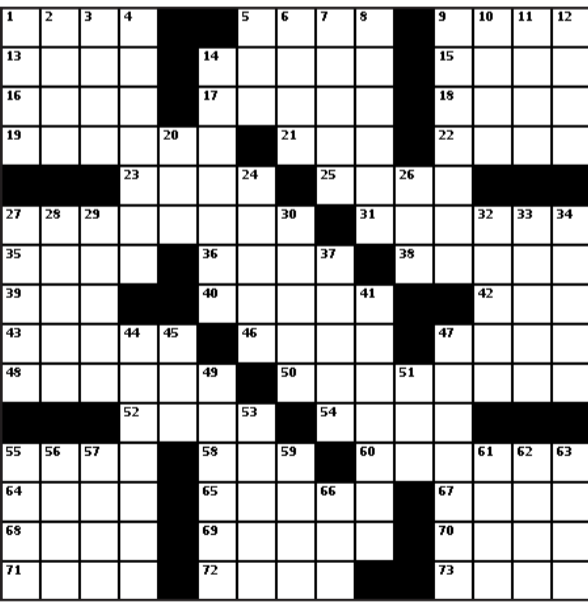
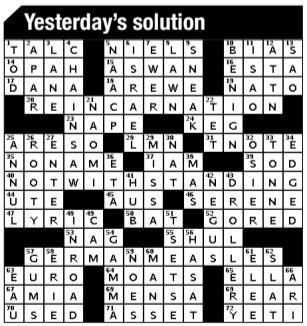
WORLD

Table listing weather for Moscow, Frankfurt, Paris, London, New York.

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Splendor; 5- Quarter bushel; 9- Ayatollah's predecessor; 13- ... about (approximately); 14- Discobobulate; 15- Othello villain; 16- ... majesty; 17- Ulan ...; 18- Handle roughly; 19- Where you're likely to get smacked; 21- Moving vehicle; 22- The wolf ... the door; 23- Greek vowels; 25- Newport rival; 27- Hocking site; 31- Biases; 35- Blind part; 36- Get an ... effort; 38- Draw off liquid gradually; 39- Crone; 40- Manufacturer; 42- Fannie ...; 43- Love affair; 46- Singer McEntire; 47- Roll call call; 48- Habitual; 50- North American juniper; 52- Wall St. debuts; 54- Old Italian money; 55- Ancient Semitic for "Lord"; 58- Suffix with Capri; 60- Pamper; 64- The King ...; 65- "Our Gang" girl; 67- Travel on water; 68- New Orleans music; 69- Disinfectant brand; 70- Environmental sci.; 71- Suit to ...; 72- This, in Tijuana; 73- Sawbucks;

DOWN: 1- Tyler's successor; 2- Dedicated to the ... Love; 3- Rock clinging plant; 4- Gift; 5- Palm Pilot, e.g.; 6- 1999 Ron Howard film; 7- Loose outer garment; 8- Ancient Mycenaean ceramic piece; 9- Having a resemblance; 10- Lukas of "Witness"; 11- Juan's water; 12- Romance novelist Victoria; 14- First Biblical patriarch; 20- Aliens, for short; 24- To date; 26- No longer young; 27- Balderdash; 28- Memorable mission; 29- Transport vehicle; 30- Popular card game; 32- Titled; 33- Jewelled crown worn by women; 34- Twisted expression?; 37- Insurgent; 41- Extreme; 44- Put to use; 45- Agent; 47- Earphone; 49- Draw idly; 51- ...Magnon man; 53- Remains; 55- ... California; 56- Med school subj.; 57- Cutting tool; 59- Formerly, formerly; 61- Fresh-water fish; 62- Large cat; 63- Building wings; 66- Elton's john



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Graham Dunbar  
Sports Writer, Zurich

CR7X3

# Cristiano Ronaldo wins FIFA Ballon d'Or award for 2014

FOR the third time, Cristiano Ronaldo was voted the world's best football player. He hopes it also brought him closer to being remembered as one of the greatest of all time.

Ronaldo won the FIFA Ballon d'Or in a rout yesterday (Macau time), racking up more than twice the votes of Lionel Messi, who edged German goalkeeper Manuel Neuer into third.

The Real Madrid and Portugal forward's latest hat trick tied him with Zinedine Zidane and Ronaldo of Brazil on three FIFA awards. The original Ballon d'Or presented by France Football magazine was won by European standouts Johan Cruyff, Michel Platini and Marco van Basten three times each.

Only Messi's four FIFA awards is ahead of the 29-year-old Ronaldo, whose Madrid team again seems better placed for trophies in 2015 than his rival's Barcelona.

"I want to become one of the greatest players of all time," Ronaldo said through a translator in his acceptance speech. "Of course, this requires a lot of effort and I hope to get there."

Ronaldo retained football's highest individual honor after scoring 61 goals last year. His record tally of 17 in a Champions League season helped Madrid win an unprecedented 10th European Cup title — and overshadowed a relatively disappointing World Cup campaign.

He has kept up the pace since FIFA's voting college — national team captains and coaches, plus



Cristiano Ronaldo, left, of Portugal is being congratulated by FIFA President Joseph Blatter

selected journalists, in more than 180 countries took part — cast ballots in November.

Ronaldo helped Madrid take the Club World Cup title last month to cap a Spanish-record 22-match winning streak.

"It's a fantastic moment in my career," Ronaldo said after the FIFA ceremony. "I want to carry on with more titles in my career, collective and individual."

He won his first FIFA award in 2008 as a Manchester United player and on Monday cited his mentor there, Alex Ferguson, as

an inspiration.

"He would say, 'Cristiano, you are the best, don't worry about the rest.' He's fantastic. I miss him," Ronaldo said.

One year ago, Ronaldo was in tears of joy and relief at ending Messi's four-year hold on football's highest individual honor.

He was a much more composed winner on Monday.

On hearing his name read by French great Thierry Henry, Ronaldo closed his eyes, dipped his head and smiled before walking to the stage.

"It has been an unforgettable year," Ronaldo, who now has a statute in his home island Madeira, said after taking a deep breath.

In what has become a Ballon d'Or tradition, Portugal captain Ronaldo did not pick Messi in his top three and Argentina captain Messi ignored Ronaldo on his ballot. Neither selected Neuer.

Ronaldo received 37.66 percent of total voting points in a 23-candidate ballot. Messi got 15.76 percent and Neuer 15.72 percent.

Germany won the other three

major individual awards to compensate for Neuer's defeat.

World Cup-winning coach Joachim Loew beat Ancelotti and Diego Simeone of Spanish champion Atletico Madrid for the men's coaching award.

Germany midfielder Nadine Kessler beat two former winners — Marta of Brazil and United States forward Abby Wambach — to be named the best women's player in 2014. Kessler received 17.52 percent of all voting points, Marta got 14.16 percent and Wambach 13.33 percent.

A German man also won the coaching award for women's football: Ralf Kellermann was rewarded for leading a Wolfsburg team including Kessler to back-to-back UEFA Champions League titles. The shortlist included Japan coach Norio Sasaki and Maren Meinert, who guided Germany to win the Women's Under-20 World Cup.

James Rodriguez's volley for Colombia against Uruguay at the World Cup beat Ireland forward Stephanie Roche's spectacular strike for Peamount United in an amateur domestic league match in October 2013. In third place was Netherlands forward Robin van Persie's header against Spain. AP

## ASIA CUP

# Australia, South Korea win to reach quarterfinals

NOW that Australia and South Korea have secured their spots in the Asian Cup quarterfinals, attention has quickly turned to which of the continental heavyweights will top the group.

Australia's 4-0 demolition of Oman in Sydney ensured both the Socceroos and South Korea advanced — both teams have six points from two games. They'll meet in Brisbane on Saturday to determine rankings in Group A.

Australia already is well ahead on goal differentials with eight already. South Korea has won both its games 1-0, beating Oman on the weekend and Kuwait in Canberra on Wednesday, albeit with a much weakened lineup.

The South Koreans finished third in 2011 Asian Cup, when Australia lost the final to Japan.

South Korea coach Uli



Australia's Tim Cahill is airborne as he heads the ball during the AFC Asian Cup soccer match between Australia and Oman

Stielike was clearly unimpressed with his stuttering attacking lineup. Nam Tae-hee scored the only goal in the 36th minute against Kuwait, which was coming off a 4-1 loss to Australia in the tournament opener.

"With football like this, you cannot win the tournament," Stielike said. "With a performance like today, you cannot go far in this tournament."

The Australians, meanwhile, are playing the

kind of football that coach Ange Postecoglou has been promoting since he took charge in the leadup to the World Cup.

Matt McKay and Robbie Kruse scored goals and Mark Milligan converted from the spot to make it 3-0 at half time. Tomi Juric added a fourth after the break.

"I'm really pleased, I think the players were really fantastic tonight," Postecoglou said. "They worked really, really hard and the quality

of our football was really outstanding from the first minute.

"Against a tough opponent, I thought we got command pretty early."

Oman had proved to be a troublesome opponent for Australia since their first meeting at the 2007 Asian Cup — where only an injury-time equalizer by Tim Cahill salvaged a point for the Socceroos. The Oman lineup started brightly again, with Raed Saleh's fierce volley from 25 yards acrobatically saved by Mat Ryan after three minutes.

Australia made the first breakthrough, though, when Massimo Luongo's corner kick was headed toward goal by defender Trent Sainsbury, and Matt McKay bundled the ball past goalkeeper Ali Al Habsi in the 27th minute. Kruse added another three minutes later and it was virtually

all over after Milligan took his penalty just before the break, to the delight of the 50,276-strong crowd.

"They were better than us," Oman coach Paul Le Guen said. "For the first 30 minutes before the opening goal it was quite ok, because we created some, but obviously it was not enough."

"Really they have a good balanced team. They have power, they have impact and that's why they are favourites of the competition."

Oman and Kuwait, already out of contention, meet in Newcastle on the weekend in their last group game.

Australia rested injured captain Mile Jedinak, and withdrew Tim Cahill after 51 minutes to save his legs for later in the tournament.

South Korea had to overcome the loss of star winger Lee Chung-yong, who was ruled out with a fractured

shin in the hours before kickoff. The South Koreans made seven changes from the lineup that opened the tournament.

Lee was injured in the win over Oman last weekend. It is unlikely he will participate in the rest of the tournament, which finishes with the final on Jan. 31.

Right-back Kim Chang-soo has also failed to recover from his injury, while attacker Son Heung-min, midfielder Koo Ja-cheol and goalkeeper Kim Jin-hyun were all kept off the team due to sickness.

Two teams are playing to avoid elimination in the second set of matches in Group B on Wednesday, with North Korea playing three-time champion Saudi Arabia in Melbourne.

China and 2011 semifinalist Uzbekistan, on three points each, will meet in Brisbane. AP

opinion

**World Views**  
 Editorial, Financial Times

**NOT JUST IN FRANCE BUT IN NIGERIA AND YEMEN TOO**

For the past six days the west's attention has been transfixed by the murderous attacks in Paris that left 17 people - cartoonists, security guards, police officers and Jewish hostages - dead at the hands of extremists. The outpouring of grief and the huge rally in France on Sunday were an uplifting and justified response to the savagery witnessed in the French capital.

By contrast, there has been a more muted reaction in the west to a series of savage jihadist attacks in Africa and the Middle East. In northern Nigeria last week, several hundred people - and possibly as many as 2,000 - were slaughtered by the Islamist group Boko Haram. In Yemen, 37 people were murdered in a terrorist outrage conducted by al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula on the same day as the Charlie Hebdo killings in Paris. The fact that these events have received a lot less attention in Europe and the US has brought expressions of concern. "Compare what is happening in France and what is happening here," said Ignatius Kaigama, Catholic Archbishop in Nigeria last week. "There is a great difference."

In the west, there should be no apology for the attention accorded to the violence in Paris. The first duty of any government is to protect its citizens on home territory. These were unforgivable assaults on innocent civilians that raise profound questions about security policy and community relations across France and Europe.

Still, the world needs to respond to the anxieties expressed by the Archbishop and others. In the US and Europe, governments and the media often seem indifferent to attacks when the victims are non-westerners in African or Arab states. This not only risks creating a sense of injustice in Africa and the Middle East. It also ignores how jihadism is now well established as a global phenomenon.

Western leaders need to do more to address this discrepancy. Some far right leaders in Europe assume that the jihadist challenge can be met simply by tightening national borders and adopting tough counter-terrorism measures at home. But, as the US and its allies - including France - have recognised, these threats have to be tackled at source by military means. Their recent decision to assist the Iraqi government in its war with Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant - or Isis - testifies to that.

There is another reason why the violence in places such as Nigeria and Yemen must not be ignored. Many politicians are tempted to define assaults of the kind seen in Paris as evidence of a "clash of civilisations" between Islam and the west. Yet last week's jihadist attacks in Nigeria and Yemen killed large numbers of Muslims. The assaults by Boko Haram and AQAP are another reminder that the confrontation we are witnessing is not between western and Muslim values but between moderate and radical Islam.

When it comes to assisting regional governments in their fight against militants, the US and its allies face difficult challenges. In Iraq, the US may have to back the Baghdad government militarily for years before Isis is defeated. In Nigeria, the UK is providing intelligence and training advice to help fight Boko Haram. But the militants will only be defeated once Nigeria acquires a far more competent government.

That may take time. What is important for now is that, in their words and deeds, western leaders view the jihadist challenge as a global one. The focus of politicians and the public in the past few days has rightly been on the havoc wreaked by militants in a great European city. But the jihadist threat covers a swath of territory from west Africa through Syria to Pakistan. The danger is global - and so are the victims.

MDT/Financial Times exclusive

**THE BUZZ** **FIFA FINDS STONE BASE OF ORIGINAL WORLD CUP TROPHY**

A piece of the original World Cup trophy has been found and will be displayed in the new FIFA museum.

A staff member found the stone base of the Jules Rimet trophy last month in basement storage at FIFA headquarters, museum creative director David Ausseil said yesterday.

"It's like finding an Egyptian mummy," Ausseil told The Associated Press. "You can't put a

price tag on it because it's family jewels."

The base is a 10-centimeter tall, octagonal piece of blue semi-precious lapis lazuli stone, Ausseil said.

It carries the names of the first four World Cup winners: Uruguay and Italy each won twice between 1930 and 1950.

Ausseil said the trophy got a new base before the 1954 tournament, won by West Germany.

TERRORISM

**Survivors of Nigeria attack describe killings**



A child, at rear, walks through the scene of an explosion in a mobile phone market in Potiskum

**SURVIVORS** of an assault by Islamic militants that killed a large number of civilians in Nigeria have described days of relentless violence in which, one witness said, some people were slaughtered "like insects."

The accounts were given by villagers who fled the carnage in and around Baga, a town in Borno state that lies in the northeastern corner of Nigeria near the border with Chad. The killing unfolded over several days after Boko Haram fighters seized a key military base there on Jan. 3.

Amnesty International has said there are reports that the death toll could be as high as 2,000, though some witnesses cite lower

tolls in the hundreds.

Maj. Gen. Chris Olukolade, a military spokesman, said yesterday that the evidence available so far indicates a death toll of no more than 150, including insurgents killed in combat with troops. The military has said 14 soldiers were killed and 30 were wounded in the Baga attack, and that it was making a plan to restore "law, order and normalcy" to the area.

U.N. chief Ban Ki-moon as well as the United States and other countries have condemned the Baga bloodshed, which highlights the increasingly brazen tactics of an insurgent movement in Nigeria's northeast as well as the

inability of Nigerian forces to respond effectively. President Goodluck Jonathan is running for re-election in Feb. 14 elections, but it is uncertain how voting can proceed in areas under Boko Haram's sway.

In Washington, State Department spokeswoman Marie Harf said the U.S. still was trying to get information from the ground on reported atrocities.

She said Nigeria needed to move forward with "credible and peaceful elections" despite the attacks, but acknowledged it would be difficult.

"Boko Haram is a huge threat," Harf said. She said the U.S. was trying to work with Nigeria despite the government's termination in November of a third phase of a training operation involving a Nigerian army battalion.

She also condemned "horrific reports today of young girls being used to conduct suicide attacks."

Boko Haram is suspected of using a 10-year-old girl to detonate a bomb at a market in Maiduguri on Saturday, killing at least 10 people and seriously injuring others. The bomb exploded after explosives were found under the girl's clothing during a search, according to witness accounts. **AP**

Station	Air quality
Roadside	45-65 Good
High Density Residential Area	45-65 Good
Ambient	30-50 Good

SOURCE: DSI/MG

**WORLD BRIEFS**



**USA-PAKISTAN** U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry (pictured) praises the Pakistani military's operation against militants in the country's northwest, saying the results are "significant," but cautions that more work needs to be done.

**INDIA** A bad batch of bootleg liquor kills at least 28 people and sends 160 others to hospitals in the north Indian state of Uttar Pradesh. Many of the victims had gathered to watch a cricket match. **More on p12**

**INDIA** A New Delhi court charges an Uber cab driver with rape, kidnapping and criminal intimidation in a case that has renewed a national fury over chronic sexual violence in India. Authorities are still investigating whether Uber should also be charged. **More on p12**

**AFGHANISTAN** An Afghan police official says one person died and three were wounded when their vehicle struck a roadside bomb in Kabul.

**NEPAL** A general strike called by opposition parties cripples life in Nepal's capital region by shutting down schools, market and transportation. An alliance of 30 opposition parties called the strike in protest of government plans to bring out a draft of the new constitution next week without the agreement of the opposition.

**TONGA** All international flights to the small island nation of Tonga are canceled after a volcanic eruption sends plumes of ash into the sky.

**CUBA** has completed the release of 53 political prisoners that was part of last month's historic deal with the United States, the Obama administration said Monday. The move clears a major hurdle for the normalization of ties between the two countries after more than five decades of estrangement.

**THE DECISIVE MOMENT**



AP Photo/Aaron Favila

Filipinos pass by souvenir items with an image of Pope Francis being sold at a store in Manila, a week ago. Well before Pope Francis' plane touches down in this Asian bastion of the Roman Catholic faith, Filipinos have been snapping their selfies beside his life-sized cutout image in churches and malls. His face beams from welcome posters, shirts, cookies, coins, stamps, coffee mugs and all imaginable mementoes. The pope is schedule to arrive tomorrow in Manila.