



PUBLIC HOSPITAL DIRECTOR WILL BE REPLACED

Chan Wai Sin will step down as head of the Conde de São Januário Hospital and will be replaced by Kuok Cheong U

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HENGQIN LAND TO INSTALL SOCIAL FACILITIES

The gov't has had several meetings with mainland authorities in order to buy land in Hengqin island and set up social services there

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NOBEL LAUREATE GUENTER GRASS DIES AT AGE 87

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"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN'"

WORLD BRIEFS

CHINA Beijing police have arrested two drivers whose supercars collided during a late-night drag race, in the latest scandal to strike the much-reviled offspring of China's newly rich. The arrests for dangerous driving followed the crash Saturday night of a Lamborghini driven by a 21-year-old driver identified as Tang, and a Ferrari driven by a man identified as 20-year-old Yu. The official Xinhua News Agency said yesterday the two were roaring through a downtown tunnel at more than 160kph when they touched, causing one to career into the wall.

AFGHANISTAN Taliban fighters swarmed over Afghan army posts in the country's northeast, killing at least 18 soldiers and beheading some in a major attack to mark the start of the country's summer fighting season, authorities said yesterday.

NEW ZEALAND Britain's Prince Harry is planning a weeklong visit to New Zealand next month that will include a stop on remote Stewart Island, population 378. New Zealand Prime Minister John Key yesterday announced the visit, which will be Harry's first to the South Pacific nation. Harry plans to visit May 9 through May 16 and will also stop in Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch, Whanganui and Linton.

THAILAND Police suspect Muslim separatists are behind six killings in Thailand's far south that have come as the country celebrates its traditional New Year. Two rubber farmers were shot dead on their plantation in Yala province yesterday, and four people in two neighboring houses were killed Sunday night in Narathiwat province. More than 5,000 people have been killed in Narathiwat, Yala and Pattani provinces since an Islamic separatist insurgency erupted in 2004.

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POLICY ADDRESS | SOCIAL AFFAIRS AND CULTURE

Alexis Tam: Number of mainland

THE Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture, Alexis Tam, announced yesterday that the Tap Seac neighborhood will be transformed into a cultural hub, with the decrepit Hotel Estoril being revamped as a youth center for arts education.

“To build a happier house for the local residents is a big challenge for me and my team. (...) We will transform Macau into a happy city,” he said yesterday at the policy address presentation, using metaphoric language to summarize his broad supervisory role.

Alexis Tam revealed that he has been granted the responsibility of revamping an area that includes the still-operating Estoril swimming pool



Alexis Tam (center)

and the adjacent hotel. “We are planning to build a complex for the arts and the cultural industries there,” he said, explaining that several art schools, like the conservatory, will be based there, as well as auditoriums for live performances. “It will be a

center for arts education. The installations will be wonderful, because inside the [Hotel Estoril] building one can see the Tap Seac Square,” he said.

Yesterday’s debate at the Legislative Assembly was centered on the issues of tourism

capacity and education, with issues regarding healthcare receding into the background. However, an important announcement came when Alexis Tam revealed that the Conde de São Januário Central Hospital will have a new director, with

Kuok Cheong U replacing Chan Wai Sin (see page 3).

Commenting on the overflow of tourists during festive seasons, Alexis Tam noted that a large majority of the visitors came from mainland China (over 90 percent), partially due to the improvements in Guangdong province’s transport infrastructure – such as the TGV, which shortens the trip between Zhuhai’s Gongbei district and

“It will be a center for arts education. The installations will be wonderful, because inside the [Hotel Estoril] building one can see the Tap Seac Square

ALEXIS TAM

A DECADE AFTER UNESCO RECOGNITION

TEN YEARS after UNESCO classified the historical center of Macau as a World Heritage location in 2005, the region is preparing celebrations to commemorate the recognition. Activities to raise awareness about the heritage sites and of the “history of Macau as an intersection point between East and West” will be organized in 2015, said Alexis Tam.

A rosy view of the health sector

DURING the second half of the debate especially, lawmakers posed several questions about the health system in Macau, in spite of the secretary Alexis Tam not having discussed health issues much during the first day of the debate, which concludes today.



“We have achieved all these successes in 180 days. I feel proud

ALEXIS TAM

Chang Meng Kam criticized the recruitment process for health professionals, which can take up to 19 months. The lawmaker inquired about the 500 medical staff currently going through the recruitment process, and inquired

as to how many of them are doctors. He also said that over 1,000 medical staff are needed for the future Taipa hospital, including 300 doctors.

Au Kam San recalled Alexis Tam’s promise of bringing with his governance “the

brightest years for the health sector,” only to note that “nothing has been done up to now.” The secretary disagreed with the remarks, giving a rosy view of the health sector. “The local health system is quite good. We managed to reduce the waiting lists in the central hospital. With the new patient screening process, we have reduced the waiting time at the hospital by 30 percent (...) In Macau, it is very easy to access health care quickly. It is a more efficient system than the one in Hong Kong and other parts of the world,” Alexis Tam stated. He added that the government plans to

enhance its cooperation with private entities in order to develop the local health system.

Replying to Chan Meng Kam, the secretary said that the process for recruiting 529 health professionals includes the hiring of 32 doctors, 14 of them specialized. Through the process, 188 nur-

ses are also being hired. Currently, there are 970 nurses working within the public health sector.

Overall, Alexis Tam said that all of the above-mentioned “successes” were achieved in the 100 days since he took post as secretary, something that makes him feel “proud.” **PB**

CONFUSION ABOUT SMOKING BAN

ANGELA LEONG said that she was confused by the smoking ban rules, noting that “the gaming operators have installed smoking rooms and the regime has been reviewed.” The lawmaker said that more than one billion patacas were spent on preparing the smoking rooms, and accused the government of being unclear in its instructions. She said that the

gaming operators’ investment was “a total waste,” and asked if “it is confirmed that a full smoking ban will be implemented.” Alexis Tam replied by saying that Angela Leong “has a firm stance on forbidding smoking’, which is very good for casino workers” and asked the Health Bureau director to provide more information about the anti-smoking regulations.

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visitors reduced to 21m per year

Guangzhou to one hour.

“The Chinese market is important to Macau and has led to the development of several sectors as well as overall GDP growth. But now we should find a balance point. It is probably too easy for mainland tourists to enter Macau, which inconveniences Macau residents’ quality of life,” said Alexis Tam.

The secretary detailed the problems created by the large influx of tourists during the recent CNY season, when an average 147,000 tourists per day visited the region. That is, he said, much more than Macau’s presented capacity, which he approximated to be 90,000 per

RENATO MARQUES



The decrepit Hotel Estoril

day, according to a study released recently by the Institute for Tourism Studies. “If this situation continues, I’m sure that the locals will experience a decrease in their quality of life. It’s a fact that some commentators believe that the more visitors the better, because tourism is good for businesses. But if the current situation continues, the consequences will be serious for our population,” Alexis Tam added.

Regarding the above-mentioned “balance point,” the secretary said that the region has the capacity to receive 21

million tourists from mainland China per year. That will leave some space to achieve the goal of receiving more tourists from international markets. He also said that the 21 million mark is not rigid and depends on local infrastructure. Once infrastructure is improved, that number can be increased.

Some lawmakers agree. Lei Cheng I said that “Macau is reaching a saturation point and some things are unacceptable. Prices are increasing and there is no space for locals to spend leisure time. Coloane is becoming very small.” The lawmaker added that “leisure spaces should be preserved for the use of residents.” Her comments probably indicate that the region continues to lag behind the “happy city” envisaged by Alexis Tam.

We should find a balance point. It is probably too easy for mainland tourists to enter Macau

ALEXIS TAM

Love for the motherland

NATIONAL education was a topic addressed several times by the secretary and the lawmakers. Alexis Tam stressed that the local community needs to “strengthen love for the motherland and Macau among students.” The government intends to do so by promoting activities and field trips that are directed at the younger population.

Mr Tam said that the local youth lack knowledge about China, and made some remarks about the country’s recent history, noting that “China is changing for the better.”

“We will launch several national education

programs and that will allow the youth to have a broader view. The purpose of national education is not only so that students might know the country or the region. The most important concern is that our youth may know the world,” he said, adding that the concept of “love for the motherland” should be extended to the whole population.

Besides national education, the debate regarding the educational sector centered around the lack of places in nurseries and kindergartens, with Alexis Tam stating that there should be over 10,000 available places in kindergartens by 2016.

Kuok Cheong U appointed as new head of public hospital



RENATO MARQUES

A consultant at the office of the Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture, Kuok Cheong U, has been appointed as the director of the Conde de São Januário Central Hospital and vice president of the Health Bureau, according to an announcement by Alexis Tam during yesterday’s policy address.

The incumbent head of the hospital, Chan Wai Sin, will end his post at the beginning of next

month, at which point the hospital director-to-be will set to take up his position in management. The secretary said that the management change at the hospital had been introduced not only for the purposes of enhancing the overall medical service, which used to receive barrages of public criticism, but also for better internal management at the government-owned hospital.

Alexis Tam also praised the

prospective hospital director for his “professionalism,” “being easily communicative” and “his willingness to take others’ advice.” Asked if Kuok Cheong U’s performance would possibly fall short of the secretary’s expectations, he asserted that Kuok would take responsibility for his actions.

The director-to-be, also considered a guru in medical imageology, told the media that he has been preparing himself for the top position of the public hospital. However, Kuok claimed that he would need assistance from the Health Bureau, the secretary’s administrative policies, as well as suggestions from lawmakers in order to help achieve the “glorious five years” assertion spelt out by Alexis Tam in a previous statement.

Born in August 1960, the 54-year-old completed his medical bachelor’s and master’s degrees at the medical college of Jinan University in mainland China in 1986 and 1998 respectively. Since 2004, he has served in the public hospital’s radiology department as a chief radiologist. **Staff reporter**

PAULO BARBOSA



Gov’t to buy Hengqin land to install social facilities

AGED care was a topic brought up by several lawmakers during the debate. The secretary Alexis Tam pointed out that the relevant services intend to strengthen community support, to uphold associations that provide care to the elderly population, and to invest in preventive medicine.

Alexis Tam indicated that the government has had several meetings with mainland authorities in order to buy land in Hengqin island and set up social services there. The secretary has been overseeing the process, and confirmed that he has participated in meetings that have taken place in Hengqin.

“In the future, we will have spaces in Hengqin for elderly homes, schools, hospitals and community spaces,” he said. “Of course, those spaces have a price and we are negotiating with Hengqin authorities, in cooperation with the central government.”

“The Chief Executive has noted that Hengqin island is really close to Macau,” Alexis Tam commented, saying that those of the older population who move there could travel to Macau “within five minutes.”

Besides the Hengqin facilities that are still to be confirmed, the secretary said that other social installations will be undertaken in revamped parts of the old neighborhoods, as well as in the new reclaimed land. **PB**

CRIME

Woman faces prosecution for insulting police officers

A local female casino host is facing prosecution for hurling continuous verbal abuse at police officers during an interrogation, following a brawl outside a local karaoke parlor early yesterday morning.

The suspect, surnamed Ng,

TAKING A MACHETE TO COURT

A MACAU citizen has been placed in detention by authorities after a machete was found inside his bag on the afternoon of April 10 during a security check at the First Instance Court. The 27-year-old suspect alleged that he received the 10.5-centimeter-long blade as a free giveaway over ten years ago on a shopping trip, and he had forgotten about its existence in his hand-carried shopping bag. The man was sent to the prosecution department the next day.



was placed in detention by authorities after her alleged involvement in a fight at the entrance of a karaoke venue. A short time into her stay at the police station, she was asked by police officers to stop playing music loudly from her cellphone, according to a police representative.

After a while, the 26-year-old reportedly started chatting with an unknown person on her phone. Her inappropriate behavior once again drew warnings from the officers, who demanded she end the conversation. The suspect then started to aggressively yell at the police

officers, later claiming that the abuse was actually directed at the other end of the call, the po-

lice representative recounts.

She then continued her phone conversation despite the police officers' multiple warnings. Afterwards, the irate suspect made another angry outburst, blasting the police officers in the interrogation room with abusive language that could be clearly heard even from outside the ward.

The suspect was finally sent to the MP after admitting to the verbal abuse. **Staff reporter**

Overstaying Vietnamese accused of corruption

AN unemployed Vietnamese woman has been sent for prosecution by the police, after allegedly attempting to bribe a police officer in exchange for her release last Saturday.

According to the authorities, the 38-year-old female, first name "Tran," allegedly offered two bank notes worth MOP2,000 to a police officer who had intercepted the suspect near a convenience store in the road of Estr. Marginal do Hipodromo Macau for the purpose of checking her identification documents.

The suspect was taken to the nearest police station by the officer after he learned that she has been overstaying in the city, and that her arrival report was long overdue. On their way to the station, it was reported that, aside from her multiple requests for immediate release, the Vietnamese suspect had also forcefully slipped the two bills into the right pocket of the policeman's raincoat.

After inquiries by the authorities, the suspect eventually admitted that she had bribed the officer in the hope of getting away.

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Travel Industry Council head argues for mainland tourist quota

THE president of the Travel Industry Council of Macau, Andy Wu Keng Kuong, has proposed that the government should impose a limitation on the number of visits made by mainland tourists to Macau during their long vacation periods.

According to the council head, the latest Macau Institute for Tourism Studies (IFT) report on the city's oversaturated tourist capacity has suggested that the city's crowds and congestion mainly coincide with long holidays, which could actually be addressed through certain methods – namely the setting up of visit quotas. Under the circumstances, tourists would be allowed to select other days that fall out of the conventionally long vacation periods to visit the city.

In addition, Andy Wu Keng also claimed that the recent travel policy change in Hong Kong regarding visitors from



Shenzhen will not take a toll on Macau's tourism industry. Given that MSAR's tourists come mainly from the Guangdong province, whose current regulations allow for only one visit every three months, Macau's introduction of visit quotas would have no impact, Keng added.

If the quota system were to be implemented, the Council president argued that a balance

between the citizens' livelihood and tourists' visitation would need to be struck. He also suggested that the government should open up new mainland cities for traveling via the individual visit scheme – especially those from inland provinces with robust economies – a move that, it is believed, would be beneficial to the local economy as well.

Macau GP promotion at Chinese F1 race in Shanghai

A promotional event for the Macau Grand Prix was held for the Chinese F1 Grand Prix this weekend, at the Shanghai International Circuit's Fountain Plaza.

According to a press statement issued by the Grand Prix Committee, which organized the event in conjunction with the MGTO, Macau and the Shanghai International Circuit have a history of cooperation. The local race committee has been regularly invited to participate in activities surrounding the Chinese F1 Grand Prix, including the on-site booth used to promote the Macau Grand Prix.

By promoting the Macau Grand Prix during the Chinese F1 event, organizers hope to attract more fans to the Macau race and to further strengthen ties with the Shanghai track, in order to jointly promote motor sports.

This year the exhibition was centered on the theme of 'passion for road racing' and featured the signature yellow and black of the Guia Circuit's famous Armco barriers. One picture exhibit depicted the



thrilling track battles for glory, while a second documented the history of the event.

The promotion also featured Daniel Juncadella's winning car from the 2011 Formula 3 Macau Grand Prix, and John McGuinness' 2001 Macau Motorcycle Grand Prix-winning motorcycle. Visitors also had a chance to experience the thrills of the Guia street circuit for themselves on the vehicle simulator.

The booth included message boards where visitors were encouraged to leave comments about the event. The Chinese F1 Grand Prix organisers recorded 125,000 spectators throughout the course of the three day event.

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More construction works seen as a major reason for fatal accidents

Brook Yang

ACCORDING to the Labor Affairs Bureau (DSAL), only two fatal industrial accidents occurred in 2013, whereas the number in 2014 surged to seven. With several large-scale construction projects reaching their final stages this year, the bureau expects to face bigger challenges in preventing occupational safety incidents.

The chief of the bureau's Occupational Safety & Health Department, Ms Lam Iok Cheong, said that various reasons have caused the increase in industrial casualties, especially the pressure on construction sites to meet their deadlines. A significant growth in the number of construction workers has also been a contributing factor.

"The workforce in the cons-

The workforce in the construction sector has had very rapid growth. In 2013, there were over 32,300 workers, whereas in 2014, the number grew to over 52,500

LAM IOK CHEONG

RENATO MARQUES



truction sector has had very rapid growth. In 2013, there were over 32,300 workers, whereas in 2014, the number grew to over 52,500," she told the media in a press conference yesterday.

The official explained that the construction environment is often very complicated, which makes it difficult for the bureau to hold effective inspections. Moreover, the sector's high mobility of human resources is another concern for the bureau, because workers are more likely to not have completely mastered their trades.

To counter these challenges, Ms Lam said that the bureau has not only strengthened publicity and education about occupational safety, but also increased its inspections of construction sites and the prosecution of offenders.

The current regulations for

occupational safety allow the bureau to fine a construction contractor at least MOP3,000 for violations; the amount will be increased to at least MOP9,000 when an industrial accident occurs. So far, the highest fine for fatal accidents to have been issued to contractors has been less than MOP14,000, according to a bureau official.

"The amount of fines is relatively low, but we also issue with them a suspension order for them to improve. That delay could cost the contractor hundreds of thousands of patacas a day," said the department's Hazard Prevention Division head, Ng Peng Chi.

The officials explained that suspension orders are applicable to machinery and working conditions that don't meet the safety standards. Although they're not applicable to the

entire construction site, the bureau believes that suspension orders tend to greatly drag down or even paralyze the entire construction progress.

However, Ms Lam acknowledged that suspension orders are not a fixed-period penalty to be issued to punish the violator, but rather a measure to urge the contractor to fix its violations. Accordingly, the ban can be lifted when the contractor has made sufficient improvements, which usually takes at least two weeks. The longest case so far has taken one month.

"We are considering changing the penalty from a fine to criminal sanctions if the fined contractor doesn't pay the fine," said Ms Lam, adding that the authorities are also considering raising the cost of the fine by three to five times.

However, any enactment of further measures will depend on the discussions between employers and laborers.

Ms Lam further acknowledged that the current laws and regulations to ensure occupational safety were mostly enacted in the 1980s or 1990s. "For sure, these regulations cannot keep up with today's situation. In the new occupational safety and health regulations, we will surely raise the standards," she stressed.

In addition, the DSAL will assess the contractors' performance in meeting safety standards, which could affect their results in future tenders.

"It is not enough to curb the occurrence of industrial accidents with these regimes; it also depends on the industry's support to enable the enterprises' self-safety management," said the DSAL official.

CE to visit Fujian for cooperative talks



CHIEF Executive Chui Sai On will lead a delegation to Fuzhou city on April 20 and April 21 to attend a high-level meeting aimed at strengthening relations between the Fujian Province and the SAR. During the meeting, Chui will meet with the province's Provincial Party Committee Secretary, You Quan, and Governor, Su Shulin.

He will also visit the provincial capital's urban planning exhibition pavilion to learn about the city's plan for future development. The Macau delegation also includes the Secretary for Economy and Finance, Lionel Leong. While the CE is absent, the Secretary for Administration and Justice, Sonia Chan, will temporarily act in his place.

DSAT blamed for 'poor supervision'

A citizen protested at the Transport Bureau yesterday concerning the death of his daughter, who was run over by a casino shuttle bus three years ago. The father, accompanied by grassroots civil groups including the Macau Workers' Self-Support Association, criticized the authorities for "inadequate supervision over cross-border drivers" and demanded justice.

The father had sued the shuttle bus driver

for "involuntary manslaughter," but the court found that there was not enough evidence to support the evidence. The petitioners alleged that the victim's death was due to the government "providing drivers from the mainland with special licenses to drive casino shuttle buses over the boundary," and thus stressed their opposition to hiring migrant workers as professional drivers.

China's trade shrinks in sign of economic weakness

Joe McDonald,
Business Writer, Beijing

CHINA'S trade contracted in March by an unexpectedly wide margin, adding to expectations that Beijing will launch new stimulus to shore up weakening growth in the world's second-largest economy.

Exports fell 15 percent compared with a year earlier to USD144.6 billion following a 20.5 percent contraction the previous month, customs data showed yesterday. Imports declined 12.7 percent to \$141.5 billion.

The decline fueled fears that economic growth in the first three months of this year, due to be reported this week, fell further after declining to 7.3 percent in the final quarter of 2015.

The weakness "represents not only monthly volatility but also further weakness in foreign trade, adding uncertainties to economic recovery," Citigroup economist Minggao Shen said in a report.

The economy has cooled steadily as communist leaders try to steer China to more sustainable growth based on domestic consumption and reduce reliance on trade and investment. Last year's full-year growth of 7.4 percent was



Container trucks carry goods at a sea port in Rizhao in east China's Shandong province

the lowest in two decades.

The decline has deepened since mid-2014, feeding concern that growth might be falling too sharply and raising the risk of politically dangerous job losses.

To spur growth, Beijing has cut interest rates twice since November. China's top economic official, Premier Li Keqiang, said in March that Beijing might intervene to stimulate growth if employment weakens too much.

Also in March, the central bank governor, Zhou Xiaochuan, said economic growth had fallen "too sharply." He said inflation has fallen so low that the

country should be alert to the possibility of deflation, or a damaging overall decline in prices.

Total imports and exports in the first three months of the year fell 6.3 percent from a year earlier, making it unlikely China can meet the Communist Party's official target of 6 percent growth for the year.

That "dismal performance" increases the chances Beijing might roll out more help for Chinese exporters following the announcement of export rebates in March, economist Brian Jackson of IHS Global Insight said in a report. AP

Hong Kong stocks rally to seven-year high as volatility surges

HONG Kong stocks climbed to the highest level since December 2007 as volatility surged and an unexpected drop in Chinese exports spurred speculation that authorities will increase stimulus to support economic growth.

Hong Kong Exchanges & Clearing Ltd. jumped 19 percent as Goldman Sachs Group Inc. raised its target price. China Merchants Bank Co. climbed by a record in Hong Kong after announcing plans to sell shares. Almost all foreign-currency B shares traded on mainland exchanges gained by the 10 percent daily limit. Data yesterday showed overseas shipments fell 14.6 percent in March in yuan value, while imports also slumped.

The Hang Seng Index rose 2.7 percent to 28,016.34 at the close. The ben-

chmark gauge has climbed 14 percent in an eight-day rally after mainland authorities made it easier for domestic funds to use the cross-border bourse link. The Hang Seng China Enterprises Index of Chinese stocks traded in the city advanced 4.3 percent, while the Shanghai Composite Index climbed 2.2 percent.

"The investor in Shanghai is realizing that there is a better risk-return opportunity on offer in Hong Kong," Jonathan Garner, Hong Kong-based chief strategist for Asia and emerging markets at Morgan Stanley, said in a phone interview. "We now see a greater likelihood of the Hang Seng's valuation converging with its own long run average. The catalyst is the inflow from the Shanghai investor via the connect program." Bloomberg

Nina Ricci heir convicted of tax fraud after HSBC leaks

Philippe Sotto, Paris

THE heiress of the fashion and perfume house Nina Ricci was sentenced yesterday to a year in prison and ordered to pay heavy fines and back taxes for having hidden millions of euros in HSBC bank accounts in Switzerland.

The ruling was the first involving a famous name in the so-called Swissleaks scandal, in which a former HSBC employee gave authorities thousands of names of suspected tax evaders. Other trials are expected to follow.

A Paris court convicted Arlette Ricci, 73, granddaughter of designer Nina Ricci, of tax evasion and money laundering and sentenced her to three years in prison, with two of them suspended. The court ordered a 1 million euro (USD1.1 million) fine and the confiscation of two properties worth 4 million euros.

Ricci's lawyer Jean-Marc Fedida told reporters that he is deciding whether to appeal, and that he might instead ask a judge to let her serve the prison term under less strict conditions, such as partial

liberty or wearing an electronic bracelet.

In a separate part of the case, the court ordered Ricci, a lawyer and two companies to pay millions in back taxes for the period of 2007-2009. The court did not set the amount of the back tax payment, saying that would be worked out at a later date.

Arlette Ricci's daughter, Margot Vignat, 51, was also convicted and given an 8-month suspended sentence. In addition to the other fines, Vignat and Ricci were ordered to pay 100,000 euros in damages to the French government.

Ricci was one of thousands of suspected tax evaders on the original list of accounts leaked to French tax authorities in 2008 by former employee Herve Falciani. France shared the list with other governments and launched investigations.

Last week, French authorities placed London-based HSBC under formal criminal investigation over alleged tax fraud by its Swiss private bank. The bank said the claim was "without legal basis." AP

corporate bits

SANDS RESORTS COTAI STRIP MACAO BRINGS BACK 'MEETINGS MORE REWARDED' MICE PACKAGE FOR SECOND YEAR

Sands Resorts Cotai Strip Macao is bringing back its Meetings More Rewarded MICE package for the second year in a row due to popular demand. Featuring a range of value-added benefits, the package allows event and meeting planners to enhance the entire meeting experience for their groups – all while enjoying

the convenience and flexibility provided by the meeting facilities and one-stop event services of the integrated resort city.

Available for a limited time, the Meetings More Rewarded package offers benefits for meeting planners and a choice of three hotels to stay at: The Venetian Macao; Conrad Macao, Cotai Central; and Holiday

Inn Macao Cotai Central. To enjoy this offer, meeting planners must book a meeting package with a minimum of 20 rooms in a single night to take advantage of a number of special offers and benefits, including 5 percent off the room master bill, complimentary Cotai Water Jet tickets and complimentary rooms and upgrades.



FADO EXECUTIVE CHEF LUÍS AMÉRICO RETURNS TO MACAO

Luís Américo, Executive Chef of Fado restaurant at Hotel Royal Macao is returning to Macao this April and May. The Portuguese Chef will showcase his culinary skills through a special five-course tasting menu, uniquely curated by himself to captivate the hearts of Portuguese food lovers.

The highlights of Chef Luis' dishes include Oven roasted sea bass with juices from "caldeirada" fish and vegetable stew, Portuguese cod in a bread shell with smoked pork loin and onions comfit, Serra cheese, honey and sesame on a choux pastry shell, Grilled rib eye steak with black pepper and potato mash and Almond and pumpkin cake



with cinnamon pudding and strawberries sauce.

Limited to one-month promotion, the Chef's Tasting

Menu is available from April 15 to May 14, 2015 and is paired with a selection of Esporão wines.

China aims to turn Mozambique into a center for natural gas exploration

CHINA aims to turn Mozambique into a center for natural gas exploration, according to Portuguese researcher Gustavo Placido dos Santos, who notes the East African country has a lot to gain from Chinese involvement in natural gas exploitation.

Mozambique has one of the world's largest recently discovered natural gas reserves and is starting to receive the first investments at a time when the difficult economic situation in the raw materials market is leading to postponement of some projects, in addition to some political instability in the country.

In an analysis for the Portuguese Institute of International Relations, Gustavo Placido dos Santos argues



Mozambique will have much to gain from China's involvement, and ... it is in Beijing's interest to secure new supplier markets

GUSTAVO PLACIDO DOS SANTOS
RESEARCHER

that Mozambique is a central commitment for China, which makes the country's stability a concern.

"On the one hand natural gas exploration in Mozambique will have much to gain from China's involvement, and on the other, it is in Beijing's interest to secure new supplier markets, amongst which Mozambique is considered one of the most desirable," said the researcher.

"The dynamic of Beijing's strategic shift in relation to Africa, and the need to defend its interests and investments, may be a key factor in ensuring stability," he said.

China ranks as one of the

major future markets for Mozambican natural gas, with its state oil companies taking stakes in companies responsible for natural gas operations.

Sinopec has 20 percent of a concession in the Rovuma basin and the China National Offshore Oil Corporation (CNOOC) has been identified as interested in buying part of the same concession, operated by Italy's ENI.

ENI originally had a total 70 percent stake, but sold 20 percent to Sinopec, in order to drive investment resources and increase China's interest in natural gas production.

Mozambique's government has estimated that to date

over 75 trillion cubic feet of natural gas have been found in Area 4 and more than 95 trillion cubic feet of natural gas in Area 1.

Asia is now considered the only market capable of monetizing the investments already made and due to be made in future production of liquefied natural gas in Mozambique, in direct competition with Qatar and Russia.

Researcher Loro Horta said in a recent article that China is rapidly asserting itself "as the most important diplomatic and economic player in Mozambique," investing millions on a "no questions asked" basis. **MDT/Macauhub**

Angola and Beijing implement diplomatic and service visa exemption

The Angolan and Chinese holders of diplomatic and service passports have been exempt from visas, since last Saturday, 11 April, the Angolan embassy in China said in a statement. The embassy said the agreement signed between the two governments in May 2014 in Luanda for a reciprocal visa waiver for holders of diplomatic and service passports "is an instrument to facilitate travel for holders of these passports." The agreement applies to citizens of both countries, who are holders of valid diplomatic or service passports and wish to enter, exit or transit through the other country for a period of no more than 30 days. Angola and China established diplomatic relations in 1983, but two-way cooperation increased substantially after the end of civil war in Angola in 2002.

Factory funded by China inaugurated in Mozambique



A factory in the Chokué Agro-Industrial Complex, in Mozambique's Gaza province, was yesterday due to be inaugurated by President Filipe Jacinto Nyusi, the Mozambican state shareholding management office, Igepe, said in a statement. The Chokué Agro-Industrial Complex is a project expected to cost USD60 million, financed with a loan from the Export-Import Bank (Ex-Im) of China. The main aim is to find a solution to the cyclical problems of agricultural production that has been lost over successive seasons both in Chokué and nearby (Limpopo Valley) affecting the efforts of the farmers involved. The new factory, in addition to processing rice, cashew nuts and tomatoes, will have capacity to store more than 30,000 tons of agricultural products.

World Bank loan of USD500 million to Angola agreed in May

DELEGATIONS from the World Bank and the Angolan government were yesterday due to begin final negotiations for a loan of USD500 million to Angola, which will be agreed in May, a World Bank spokesperson said Friday in Luanda.

The World Bank spokesperson said that the finance agreement would be signed on 14 May, a new date after the previous date was missed, depending on the conclusion of the negotiations and the availability of the bank's board.

This information follows a visit to Luanda last week by a World Bank mission, led



by the Director for Angola and Cameroon, Souleyman Koulibaly, involving meetings with several members of the Angolan government of Angola, according to Portuguese news agency Lusa .

The weight of oil tax revenues is expected to fall from 70 percent in 2014 to 36.5 percent this year, which has led the Angolan government to seek various sources of external financing, including the World Bank, for operations in the agriculture and water sectors, development of the financial sector and improvement of the business climate in the country. **MDT/Macauhub**

Mainland soccer on upswing with new talent and big investment

Justin Bergman, Shanghai

FOR Chinese Super League club Shanghai Shenhua, the new season has brought new optimism.

After several years of turmoil that saw the team stripped of its 2003 CSL title in a match-fixing investigation and foreign stars Didier Drogba and Nicolas Anelka depart midway through their contracts during a shareholder dispute, Shenhua is finding success again on the pitch, with three wins to start the season.

The players have an obvious chemistry, too — even if they can't always understand one another.

At a recent practice in Shanghai's sprawling suburbs, Shenhua's latest marquee signing, Australia international Tim Cahill, bantered with Colombian captain Giovanni Moreno and several Chinese teammates in a mix of English, Chinese and Spanish. The team's translators, meanwhile, got a work-out as the goalkeeper coach, Juan Mesquida Garcia, barked rapid-fire instructions in Spanish, and the new manager, Francis Gillot, gave interviews to the media in French.

Shenhua is emblematic of the new and improved Chinese Super League — it's increasingly globalized, brimming with newfound professionalism and flush with cash, thanks to its deep-pocketed owner, Greenland Group, one of China's largest real estate developers. The product on the pitch is becoming more watchable, too.

"People aren't familiar with the Chinese league — they judge it without knowing anything about it. But when they watch the matches, they realize they are good quality," said Gillot, the former manager of Bordeaux.

"I see Chinese players who are at a very, very high level and they could play today in the French Ligue 1," France's elite division.

Chinese soccer used to be difficult to enjoy as a fan — the CSL was mired in corruption scandals and uninspired play, prompting Chinese state television to stop broadcasting games, sponsors to pull out and attendance to flag.

The league's mismanagement had a knock-on effect with the national team, as well. China suffered a number of humiliating defeats, including a 5-1 loss to a Thai side comprised mainly of junior players in 2013 that prompted spectators to riot outside the stadium, shouting "disband the national team!"



In this Thursday, April 9, 2015 photo, Australian soccer player Tim Cahill, left, jogs with his Shanghai Shenhua teammates as they warm up during practice at the team's training facility in Shanghai

■ Shenhua is emblematic of the new and improved Chinese Super League — it's increasingly globalized, brimming with newfound professionalism and flush with cash

Just when it seemed Chinese soccer couldn't sink any lower, the government decided it had seen enough. A corruption crackdown shook up the CSL, resulting in the arrests of dozens of top-level officials, national players and referees on match-fixing charges.

And suddenly, with credibility at least partially restored, sponsors and investment retur-

ned in a big way, along with the sport's disillusioned fans.

Guangzhou's club experienced perhaps the biggest turnaround: relegated to China's second division in 2010 as punishment for alleged match-fixing, the team was purchased by big-spending real estate group Evergrande, signed Italy World Cup-winning coach Marcello Lippi and high-priced foreign players like Argentinian Dario Conca, and three years later became the first Chinese team to win the Asian Champions League trophy.

Last year, the team got another boost when Chinese online sales behemoth Alibaba purchased a 50 percent stake for USD192 million (€179 million). It also announced it would set up football academies for young Chinese players in Spain and the Netherlands.

Now, every team in the league wants to replicate the Evergrande model. According to FIFA, during the recent winter transfer window, Chinese Super League clubs spent a record \$85.5 million (€79.5 million) on foreign players — the third-highest total in the world and more than five times what they

spent in 2013.

Evergrande were again the biggest spenders, paying a CSL-record \$16.2 million (€15 million) for Brazil international Ricardo Goulart, but other clubs also had flashy deals, most notably Shanghai SIPG, which signed Conca for a reported \$10.8 million (€10 million) per year and hired former England manager Sven-Goran Eriksson as coach.

Conca's salary has not been confirmed by his club, but if true would be similar to the wages received by Cristiano Ronaldo and Lionel Messi.

"Suddenly, everyone buys top foreigners," said Mads David- sen, a Danish assistant coach at Shanghai SIPG. "When I came here (in 2012), the foreigners on CSL teams didn't have that good a level. Now it's extremely difficult to come here as a foreigner, you have to have a high level. All of this has helped lift the league."

The league's top three scorers this season are all Brazilians, with Shanghai Shenhua's Paulo Henrique leading the table with four goals in four games. None of the top eight scorers are Chinese.

Teams are paying attention to

physical training, analytics and scouting — things that were formerly afterthoughts, David- sen said. And the pace of play is much faster.

"One of problems was the tempo, the Chinese players played too slow," he said. "They got a shock how fast the game is when they played at the international level."

Shenhua midfielder Zhang Lu can see a difference on the national team already, even though he was only just called up in March.

"The national team was rebuilt last year with fresh blood. The tactics are now closer to the European style, with higher speed and more balance and discipline," he said through a translator before practicing with Shenhua.

After a surprise run to the quarterfinals of the Asian Cup in January, China looked strong in draws with Tunisia and Haiti last month as it prepares for the Asian qualifiers for the 2018 World Cup, starting in June. China has only qualified for the World Cup once in 2002 and failed to score a goal in three losses.

With backing from the country's most powerful football fan, Chinese President Xi Jinping, the government is also investing in the long-term development of the sport, recently unveiling a reform plan to expand soccer programs at schools across the country.

American Tom Byer, who gave Japanese soccer a major boost by developing a nationwide grassroots training program, was poached by the Chinese Football Association two years ago to do the same here. He's in charge of the first phase of training for up to 6,000 instructors that starts in July.

Byer said there's a misconception that China lacks the sports fields to develop at the grassroots level, but he believes the facilities are actually better than what he sees in Japan. The problem is that China lacks a culture that encourages kids to start playing at a very young age.

"This isn't just to put China in the World Cup," he said. "It's basically an attempt to put sports, in general, back inside the school system."

Rowan Simons, head of China Club Football, an amateur soccer network in Beijing with 4,000 children, said the reform plan has the potential to be a major turning point if the government truly commits to the long-term process.

"It changes what has been a fatal short-termism, leaders being appointed and requiring results in the few years they'll be there, and discounting any plans that take longer than that," he said.

"Football reform has been tried many times in China, but nothing of this scale." AP

PRC, US to boost cooperation on repatriating fugitives

Christopher Bodeen, Beijing

CHINA and the U.S. are boosting cooperation in sending home crime suspects amid a Chinese drive to ferret out corrupt officials and fugitives who have fled abroad.

The Department of Homeland Security said the sides agreed to streamline the process for identifying and returning fugitives, along with those who have overstayed their visas or entered the U.S. illegally.

The agreement came during Secretary of Homeland Security Jeh Johnson's visit to Beijing last week, during which a range of law enforcement issues were discussed, including counterterrorism and cybersecurity.

A department news release Sunday said the sides would share more information on repatriation and fugitive cases and provide regular updates. China also agreed to expedite the return of the more than 39,000 Chinese citizens currently in the United States who are at some stage in the process of being deported.

"The two participants further acknowledged that neither country should serve as a safe haven for fugitives," the news release said.

China and the U.S. have no extradition treaty, although wanted persons can be prosecuted in the country to which they fled or be expelled for immigration violations. Their assets can also be seized if determined to have been illegally acquired, leaving them little option but to return home.

While China has expressed interest in a treaty, the U.S. says that's being blocked by Beijing's failure to agree to extradite Chinese citizens accused of crimes in the U.S.

China says almost 700 fugitives suspected of economic crimes have been returned home from abroad under transnational operations codenamed "Fox Hunt" and "Sky Net," some in return for lighter punishments or through other inducements.

The operations are part of Chinese President Xi Jinping's overall war on corruption that has seen thousands of officials investigated and brought down numerous serving or former bigwigs.

Beijing has estimated that since the mid-1990s, 16,000 to 18,000 corrupt officials and employees of state-owned enterprises have fled China or gone into hiding with pilfered assets totaling more than 800 billion yuan (USD135 billion).

Some of them have fled to the U.S., and Beijing last year provided Washington with the names of more than 100 wanted fugitives. However, U.S. officials said little information was offered about their identities, alleged offenses or possible whereabouts in the U.S., making it difficult to act on the requests. **AP**

Ex-state oil boss admits graft, power abuse

A top official who led China's biggest petroleum company and later was assigned to oversee state-owned companies admitted in court yesterday that he was guilty of corruption and abuse of power, the court said.

"My family property went far beyond what my legal income could afford," said Jiang Jiemin, according to a statement posted on the microblog of the Hanjiang Intermediate People's Court in Hubei province. "I admit my crimes and express my regret."

The hearing ended yesterday afternoon and a date for sentencing was not announced.

Jiang is a former chairman of the state-run China National Petroleum Corp., or CNPC, which has been the target of a sweeping graft investigation amid a larger anti-corruption campaign that has netted top officials and others.

Jiang was charged with taking bribes, possessing a large number of assets from unidentified sources and abusing his position at a state-owned enterprise. The court said on its microblog that prosecutors had presented evidence including witness statements,



In this Nov. 5, 2007, file photo, Jiang Jiemin, chairman of PetroChina, left, is mobbed by journalists after attending an IPO ceremony for PetroChina at the Shanghai Stock Exchange

confessions and confiscated items, without giving details, and posted a photo of a pale-faced Jiang in the dock flanked by two police officers.

It quoted Jiang as saying he had caused "undeniable damage" to the country and hurt the public's trust in the Communist Party.

"I sabotaged the management and development of state oil and gas fields," he said, according to the court, while also asking for lenient treatment.

Jiang was chairman of CNPC, the parent company of PetroChina Ltd., Asia's biggest oil producer, before being appointed in 2013 to the Cabinet body that oversees China's biggest state-owned companies. He was fired from that post in September 2013 after he came under investigation.

A series of senior figures from the state-owned oil industry have been detained in the crackdown led by President Xi Jinping that appears

to be aimed at tightening central control over PetroChina and other powerful state companies.

The energy industry was a power base for Zhou Yongkang, the ruling Communist Party's former security chief, who was arrested in December on charges including bribery and leaking state secrets.

Jiang was believed to have links to Zhou, although prosecutors have not cited any link between the two cases. **AP**

Beijing says Taiwan won't be among charter members of new bank

Christopher Bodeen, Beijing

CCROSS-STRAIT friction remerged yesterday as China said Taiwan won't be among the charter members of the Chinese-led Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank, apparently because of a dispute over what name the island should use in the institution.

Taiwan is among more than 40 countries applying for membership in the new bank, which Washington opposes as unnecessary and potentially harmful.

However, the Chinese Cabinet's Taiwan Affairs Office said in a statement that Taiwan would be welcome to participate "under the appropriate name." That reflects China's view that the self-governing island republic's name should not suggest that it is a country, because Beijing considers it part of China's territory.

Spokesman Ma Xiaoguang also confirmed a Hong Kong media report that quoted a bank official as saying Taiwan would not be among the bank's charter members, which are to be announced Wednesday.

"The AIIB is an international multilateral



Standing in front of the national flag and a portrait of Dr. Sun Yat-sen, the founding father of the Republic of China, Taiwan's Premier Ma Chi-kuo speaks to foreign media about Taiwan's interest in joining the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) in Taipei, Taiwan, Wednesday, April 1

development institution, is open and inclusive and welcomes the Taiwan side to participate under the appropriate name," the statement quoted Ma as saying. "I believe that through pragmatic negotiations we can find a way for Taiwan to participate in the AIIB."

Taiwan and China have long clashed over the island's international status, with Beijing insisting that the U.S., Japan and most other countries only have unofficial relations with it. The si-

des were divided by a civil war in 1949 and China continues to insist on eventual unification, by force if necessary.

Chinese pressure forces Taiwan to participate in international sporting competitions and other events as "Chinese Taipei," the name suggested by Taiwanese President Ma Ying-jeou when he proposed the island's membership in the bank.

Beijing now appears to have rejected that suggestion. Although it has not offered an alternative, China succeeded in 1986 in having Taiwan's name at the Asian Development Bank changed from "Chinese Taipei," to "Taipei, China."

Ma, the Taiwan Affairs Office spokesman, said China had taken note of Taiwan's suggestions on naming and methodology and is willing to continue hearing opinions from all sides to "appropriately resolve issues surrounding the Taiwan side's participation in the AIIB."

Being a charter member of the bank would have given Taiwan greater say in its rules for governance and admission of future members. **AP**



Malaysian police stand guard during a protest for the Malaysian opposition leader Anwar Ibrahim outside the Palace of Justice in Putrajaya, Malaysia

MALAYSIA

Gov't revives indefinite jail raising fears of repression

Eileen Ng, Kuala Lumpur

LIM Kit Siang had just been elected an opposition lawmaker in Malaysia's Parliament three days earlier when racial riots between ethnic Chinese and Malays broke out on May 13, 1969. The government named Lim a suspected instigator and arrested him a few days later.

No charges were filed. There was no trial, and no guarantee he would ever be freed. The law under which he was arrested — the Internal Security Act — ensured that he could be held indefinitely. For life, if the government so wished.

So it was with great relief and euphoria that Malaysia welcomed the abolition of the law by Prime Minister Najib Razak in 2012. The joy was short-lived. Last week, after hours of debate in Parliament, where Najib's ruling coalition has a majority, the government passed a new law that critics say is the ISA in another garb.

"Malaysia is regressing into a period of dark ages. This is very, very disturbing," Lim, 74, said in a recent interview with the Associated Press.

The government says the new Prevention of Terrorism Act, which also allows detention without trial, is aimed at curbing Islamic militancy amid fears that the Islamic State group in the Middle East could be spreading its tentacles to Asian countries with Muslim populations like Malaysia, Indonesia, the Philippines, India and Pakistan to find recruits.

■ The government says the new Prevention of Terrorism Act, which also allows detention without trial, is aimed at curbing Islamic militancy

Some 92 people have been detained over the past two years for allegedly supporting the Islamic State militant group, including 17 arrested on April 5 for planning attacks in Kuala Lumpur, under another law that does not allow indefinite detention.

About 60 percent of Malaysia's 24 million people are Muslims, most of whom have little sympathy for Islamic extremism in

the Middle East.

But critics such as Lim fear that the new law is a sign that authoritarian politics is returning to Malaysia to crush dissent as public support for the government erodes rapidly. It fared poorly in the 2008 general elections when for the first time the ruling National Front coalition could not win two-thirds majority in Parliament,

lar new goods and services tax this month to boost government revenue amid a weaker economy.

"If history is an indicator, then these new laws could potentially be very important tools for the regime to hang on to power before the next elections due in 2018. The new laws can ensure opponents are crippled before they can contest," political analyst Ibrahim Suffian told the AP.

Najib, who came to power in 2009, says the new law is dedicated to fighting "violent extremism" and has promised it won't be used against political opponents. During the session to pass the anti-terrorism law, lawmakers also approved amendments to strengthen the Sedition Act including mandatory jail sentences and longer jail term of up to 20 years.

The Sedition Act has been used extensively in recent months, with more than 100 activists, politicians, academicians, journalists and a cartoonist being investigated or charged in court since last year.

Najib went on national television on Thursday to defend the new act.

"If we wait for an incident to occur ... the implications would be bad. So before anything happens, we can take action under this new act," he said.

The ISA and Sedition Act are handovers from the British colonial days designed to fight communists. But after independence in 1957, the laws have been largely used against thousands of trade unionists, student leaders, political activists, religious groups and academicians who opposed the government. Many opposition politicians were among some 10,000 people detained so far under the ISA.

Among them was Lim, who was only 28 when he was arrested after the 1969 race riots. On being told he faced imminent arrest, he fled to Singapore but returned a few days later.

On the flight back, Lim said he wrote on postcards asking his wife to take care of their four children, aged 3 to 8 years, and left them in the seat pocket.

He was detained at the airport and held in solitary confinement for two months, with no access to lawyers or family for the first month.

Police interrogated Lim intensively, up to 24 hours in the first week with no breaks, to try to make him confess to being one of the master-mind of the riots that had killed nearly 200 people.

"Those were the most excruciating moments. I had many moments of despair. They tried to break me down mentally and psychologically. My family didn't know where I was and I didn't know whether they were safe," he said.

Lim was freed Oct 1, 1970, after about 17 months in detention.

The nightmare recurred in 1987 when then Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad, facing severe political challenges, locked up many political opponents.

Also arrested with Lim was his eldest son, Lim Guan Eng, who was then 27.

"For the first few weeks, we were isolated and not given any information. They gave us a mix of truth and fake news to try and destabilize us," Lim said.

Just like before, each detainee was kept in a bare cell comprising a single bed with a thin mattress, a table and chair.

He said most detainees became resigned to their fate but a feeling of outrage and anger often surfaced at being held without any recourse in court.

Lim and his son were freed 18 months later. Both are now lawmakers and the younger Lim is the top elected official, the chief minister, of northern Penang state.

"No one should be locked up for their political beliefs. People will be locked up not because they are terrorists but because they are not in the good books of the authority," Lim said. **AP**

SIMON DAWSON/BLOOMBERG



HACKING

Decade-long cyberspy attack on Southeast Asian targets

Tim Culpan

A sophisticated hacking group targeted governments and corporations in Southeast Asia for a decade, marking one of the longest-running and most efficient campaigns unveiled, according to security company FireEye Inc.

Named APT30, the group increased hacking activity ahead of regional diplomatic meetings and also targeted at least 15 companies in communications, technology, finance and aviation, the U.S. cybersecurity provider said. Parts of India's military were also targeted, it said.

FireEye, whose Mandiant division identified a sophisticated Chinese military hacking unit before the U.S. issued indictments against members of that group, said it didn't have the evidence to prove China's connection to APT30. Software code and language are among indicators the software used to manage the attacks was developed in China, FireEye said.

"Given the types of targets as well as how the victims were targeted and who the targets were, what was being sought was clearly relevant to Chinese national interests," Bryce Boland, chief technology officer for Asia-Pacific at FireEye, said in an interview. "All indications point to the Chinese government, I just don't have a smoking gun."

Since at least 2005, APT30 distributed malicious software, known as malware, that then

gave hackers access to computers among countries in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and India, FireEye said in a report released yesterday.

China's foreign ministry, defense ministry and Internet regulator have repeatedly denied that the nation is behind any cyber attacks. Hua Chunying, a foreign ministry spokeswoman, told reporters on March 30 that the country is "one of the major victims" of cyber attacks.

China's Cyberspace Administration Office didn't immediately respond to faxed questions about the FireEye report.

According to University of Toronto researchers, China has begun using an "offensive sys-

tem" able to disrupt access to websites outside its borders.

The deployment of this system represents a "significant escalation in state-level information control," the university's Citizen Lab said in a report posted to its website Friday. This system, dubbed the "Great Cannon," was used in recent attacks on GitHub Inc. and servers used by GreatFire.org, according to the university's report.

Software Package APT30 used a package of software, named Backspace and Neteagle, and related tools called Shipshape, Spaceship and Flashflood, to go after files from targets involved in political, military, and economic affairs, according to the FireEye report. Media organizations and journalists were also targeted, it said.

Targeting of computers not directly connected to the Internet - known as air-gapped networks - showed the hackers were seeking the most-sensitive types of information and knew how to exploit USB thumb drives to steal files, Boland said. Its targeting of air-gapped systems since 2005 is one of the earliest observed examples of such a strategy, FireEye said.

"The attacks against the high-tech sector were quite focused on gaining access to schematics and design information for products," Boland said, declining to name specific targets.

By sending e-mails that appeared to come from legitimate correspondents, including letters written fluently in local

languages such as Thai, the hackers were able to trick targets into opening infected documents that installed malware.

In one instance, hackers sent an e-mail purporting to come from a trusted source - known as spear phishing - to more than 50 journalists with a subject line containing the phrase "China MFA Press Briefing," FireEye said. MFA is an abbreviation for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

FireEye identified seven countries as confirmed targets, including India and the U.S. A further 10 nations were classified as "likely" targets.

The APT30 group used spear phishing techniques to seek information on military relations between China and India and contested regions, FireEye said.

Orderly updates of the malware and the keeping of detailed records of software versions indicate a large, efficient and tightly run group, FireEye said.

"We have observed APT30 target national governments, regionally-based companies in 10 industries, and members of the media who report on regional affairs and Chinese government issues," FireEye said. "The group expresses a distinct interest in organizations and governments associated with ASEAN, particularly so around the time of official ASEAN meetings."

APT30 released customized variants of its malware to coincide with ASEAN meetings in Jakarta, Phnom Penh and New Delhi, according to the report. **Bloomberg**

INDIA

Rebels set off land mine, killing 4 police

Maoist rebels set off a land mine in central India on Monday, killing at least four policemen and injuring seven others, police said. The rebels, who claim to be inspired by Chinese revolutionary leader Mao Zedong, targeted an anti-land mine vehicle carrying 11 troops, top local police officer R.K. Vij told reporters. The ambushed policemen were patrolling in the Dantewada district of Chhattisgarh state to provide security for a government road project. Yesterday's attack is the fourth in the last three days, raising the number of killed policemen to 12. On Saturday seven security officials were killed in nearby Sukma district when rebels opened fire on patrolling troops. In two separate attacks one soldier was shot to death and several mining vehicles set on fire on Sunday. Few details were available about yesterday's attack because the massive explosion also destroyed the local cell phone tower, Sunita Sahu, an official at the Dantewada police control room, said. Those wounded in the attack have been airlifted to a hospital in the state capital of Raipur.

PAKISTAN

Troops kill 13 suspects behind deadly dam attack

Pakistani troops have killed 13 members of a militant group that claimed responsibility for a weekend attack on a dam project in the southwestern Baluchistan province that left 20 construction workers dead, an army spokesman said yesterday. The soldiers conducted an operation in the Gobdan area of the Turbat district in the province, about 400 kilometers south of the provincial capital of Quetta, searching for "terrorists who massacred" the workers, said Abdul Wasay, spokesman for the paramilitary Frontier Corps. The operation followed the attack on Saturday, when militants stormed a labor camp near the dam construction site, overpowering eight security guards who then took off and ran for their lives, and shooting dead sleeping laborers before fleeing the scene. The Baluch Liberation Front claimed responsibility for the attack shortly afterward. It is one among several nationalist and separatist groups behind a low-level insurgency in Baluchistan demanding a greater share of gas and mineral revenue for the Baluch minority and complete autonomy from Islamabad. The Baluch separatists have fought against the Islamabad-based government for years in the region, where also other Islamic extremist groups are active.

Given the types of targets as well as how the victims were targeted, what was being sought was clearly relevant to Chinese national interests

BRYCE BOLAND
CHIEF TECHNOLOGY OFFICER FOR
ASIA-PACIFIC AT FIREEYE

Geir Moulson, Berlin

GERMANY

Nobel laureate Guenter Grass dies at age 87

Guenter Grass, the Nobel-winning German writer who gave voice to the generation that came of age during the horrors of the Nazi era but later ran into controversy over his own World War II past and stance toward Israel, has died. He was 87.

Matthias Wegner, spokesman for the Steidl publishing house, confirmed that Grass died yesterday morning in a Luebeck hospital.

Grass was lauded by Germans for helping to revive their culture in the aftermath of World War II and helping to give voice and support to democratic discourse in the postwar nation.

Yet he provoked the ire of many in 2006 when he revealed in his memoir "Skinning the Onion" that, as a teenager, he had served in the Waffen-SS, the combat arm of Adolf Hitler's notorious paramilitary organization.

In 2012, Grass drew sharp criticism at home and was declared persona non grata by Israel after publishing a prose poem, "What Must Be Said," in which he criticized what he described as Western hypocrisy over Israel's nuclear program and labeled the country a threat to "already fragile world peace" over its belligerent stance on Iran.

A trained sculptor, Grass made his literary reputation

AP PHOTO



German novelist Guenter Grass

with "The Tin Drum," published in 1959. It was followed by "Cat and Mouse" and "Dog Years," which made up what is called the Danzig Trilogy — after the town of his birth, now the Polish city of Gdansk.

Combining naturalistic detail with fantastical images, the trilogy captured the German reaction to the rise of Nazism, the horrors of the war and the guilt that lingered after Adolf Hitler's defeat.

The book follows the life of a young boy in Danzig who is caught up in the political whirlwind of the Nazi rise to power and, in response, decides not to grow up. His toy tin drum becomes a symbol of this refusal.

The books return again and again to Danzig, where Grass was born on Oct. 16, 1927, the son of a grocer.

In the trilogy, Grass drew partly on his own experience of military service and his captivity as a prisoner of war held by the Americans until 1946.

"The Tin Drum" became an overnight success — a fact that Grass told The Associated Press in 2009 surprised him. Asked to reflect why the book became so popular, he noted that it tackles one of the most daunting periods of German history by focusing on the minutiae in the lives of ordinary people.

Then he quipped: "Perhaps because it's a good book." AP

BRAZIL

Nationwide protests seek ouster of president

Stan Lehman and Adriana Gomez Licon, Sao Paulo

NATIONWIDE demonstrations calling for the impeachment of President Dilma Rousseff swept Brazil for the second day in less than a month, though turnout at Sunday's (yesterday in Macau) protests appeared down, prompting questions about the future of the movement.

A poll published over the weekend suggested the majority of Brazilians support opening impeachment proceedings against Rousseff, whose second term in office has been buffeted by a corruption scandal at Brazil's largest company, oil giant Petrobras, as well as a stalled economy, a sliding currency and political infighting. Only 13 percent of survey respondents evaluated

AP PHOTO



A street vendor sells shirts with the words "Dilma out, and take the Workers Party with you," written on it during a protest demanding the impeachment of Brazil's President Dilma Rousseff in Sao Paulo

Rousseff's administration positively.

Sunday's protests, which took place in cities from Belem, in the northern Amazonian rainforest region, to Curitiba in the south, were organized mostly via social media by

an assortment of groups. Most were calling for Rousseff's impeachment, but others' demands ranged from urging looser gun control laws to a military coup.

While last month's protests drew substantial

crowds in several large cities, Sunday's turnout was lackluster.

In Rio, several thousand people marched along the golden sands of Copacabana beach, many dressed in the yellow and green of the Brazilian flag. The March 15 protest, by contrast, drew tens of thousands.

In the opposition stronghold of Sao Paulo, about 100,000 people marched on the city's main thoroughfare, according to an estimate by the respected Datafolha polling agency.

"I was on the avenue on March 15 and without a doubt, today's demonstration was much smaller," said Antonio Guglielmi, a 61-year-old sales representative for construction materials company, vowing, "I will keep coming back to demonstrations like this one — big or small — because it is the best way for us to make our voices heard and demand an end to the Dilma government and the PT and end to corruption. The country cannot go on like this." AP

USA

New candidate Clinton heads to Iowa in a van called Scooby

Ken Thomas, Washington

HILLARY Rodham Clinton is hitting the road — quite literally.

The former secretary of state announced her candidacy Sunday and left on a roughly 1,600-kilometer trip from her New York home to Iowa, host of the nation's first presidential caucuses. Her first campaign event is today.

The road trip was Clinton's idea, aides said. "When Hillary first told us that she was ready to hit the road for Iowa, we literally looked at her and said, 'Seriously?' And she said, 'Seriously,'" said longtime aide Humana Abedin in a conference call with Clinton alumni. "This was her idea, and she's been really excited about it since she came up with it."

Abedin said Clinton's van stopped at a gas station in Pennsylvania, where the former first lady met a family from Michigan. "I think it's safe to say she surprised quite a few people who had just happened to stop for gas at the same time she did," she said.

A Clinton aide said the van is nicknamed "Scooby" after the van in the 1970s animated television show, "The Scooby Doo Show."

The aide said Clinton was a passenger and the van was driven by the Secret Service. AP

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what's ON

"MY WORLD, MY IMAGINARIUM" - ANTHONY'S KINDERGARTEN TEACHERS AND STUDENTS COLLECTIVE ART EXHIBITION

TIME: 10am-7pm (Mondays to Fridays)
10:30am-5:40pm (Saturdays)

UNTIL: May 2, 2015

VENUE: Centre of Educational Resources,
Av. da Praia Grande n° 926, Macau

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8395 9131

I'M NOBODY ART EXHIBITION BY LEI CHI HOU

TIME: 10am-8pm

UNTIL: April 19, 2015

VENUE: Pavilhão de Exposições e Espectáculos Artísticos Para Jovens, Rua Filipe O'Costa,

Edifício Caixa Escolar

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2856 2801

MACAU HANDOVER HISTORICAL DOCUMENTS DONATED BY LAU SIN PENG

TIME: 10am-7pm daily (Closed on Mondays, no admission after 6:30 pm)

UNTIL: December 31, 2015

VENUE: The Handover Gifts Museum of Macau,
Avenida Xian Xing Hai, NAPE

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8504 1800

'LANDFALL - WORKS BY ERIC FOK'

TIME: 12pm-7pm

(Closed on Sundays and public holidays)

UNTIL: April 25, 2015

VENUE: Estrada da Areia Preta No. 52, Edifício da
Fabrica de Baterias N.E. National, 3/FI., Macau

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2836 6064

HOT-BLOODED CREATOR EXHIBITION

TIME: 10:30am-6:30pm (Closed on Mondays)

UNTIL: July 19, 2015

VENUE: 10 Fantasia - A Creative Industries
Incubator, 10, Calçada da Igreja de S.Lázaro,
Macau

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2835 4582

MACAU ARTS WINDOW: UNFOLDABLE MAP II - PHOTOGRAPHY BY IEONG MAN PAN

TIME: 10am-7pm (Closed on Mondays, no admission after 6:30 pm)

UNTIL: May 10, 2015

VENUE: Macau Museum of Art,
Av. Xian Xing Hai, s/n, NAPE

ADMISSION: MOP5

(Free on Sundays and public holidays)

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8791 9814

Offbeat

FRENCH 'SPIDERMAN' SCALES DUBAI SKYSCRAPER

A French climber has scaled one of Dubai's tallest skyscrapers, relying on just chalk and sticky tape on his fingertips to help him up the 75-storey high Cayan Tower in the emirate's glitzy marina area.

Alain Robert, 52, completed climbing the 307 meter high structure in just 70 minutes on Sunday. He had no harness and little space for his feet on the ledges of the tower, which twists as it ascends.

Robert, who is often described as "The French Spiderman," is no stranger to scaling tall buildings.

In 2011, he climbed the world's tallest tower in Dubai. Using a rope and harness to comply with organizers' requirements, it took him just over six hours to scale the 828 meter tall Burj Khalifa.

TV canal macau

13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:30	Miscellaneous
15:00	Debate on Social Affairs and Culture Policy Report for 2015 (Live)
20:00	News
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	TDM Interview
21:45	Happy Endings S2
22:10	Brazil Avenue
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Miscellaneous
00:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
01:00	RTPi Live

cinema

CINETEATRO

09 APR - 15 APR



FAST AND FURIOUS 7

ROOM 1

(2D) 2:15, 4:45, 9:45 pm

(3D) 7:15 pm

Director: James Wan

Starring: Vin Diesel, Paul Walker, Dwayne Johnson

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 137min

TWO THUMBS UP

ROOM 2

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

Director: Lau Ho-leung

Starring: Francis Ng, Simon Yam, Leo Ku, Patrick Tam,

Cheng Ho-nam

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 103min

SPONGEBOB MOVIE: SPONGE OUT OF WATER

ROOM 3

(2D) 4:00 pm

(3D) 9:30 pm

Director: Paul Tibbitt

Language: Chinese (English)

Duration: 92min



HOME

ROOM 3

2:15, 5:45, 7:30 pm

Director: Tim Johnson

Language: Chinese (English)

Duration: 94min

MACAU TOWER

09 APR - 22 APR

FURIOUS 7

2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30 pm

Director: James Wan

Starring: Vin Diesel, Paul Walker, Dwayne Johnson

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 137min

this day in history

5614



1970 CRITICAL EXPLOSION CRIPPLES APOLLO 13

An explosion on board Apollo 13 has caused one of the most critical situations in American space history and put the lives of the three astronauts on board in severe jeopardy.

The explosion happened in the fuel cells of the spacecraft's service module approximately 56 hours after lift-off.

This resulted in the loss of Apollo 13's main power supply which means oxygen and water reserves are now critically low.

The safety of the three astronauts, Captain James Lovell, Jack Swigert and Fred Haise, is uncertain although Nasa is hoping emergency contingency plans will ensure their safe return.

The cause of the explosion is not yet clear although it is understood it could have been the result of a meteorite crashing into the service module.

It is unlikely the exact cause will ever be ascertained as the service module will burn up before the spacecraft's re-entry into the earth's atmosphere.

The crew are currently surviving on the emergency battery power supply of the lunar module, Aquarius.

If the accident had occurred after the lunar module had been detached for the moon landing, the astronauts would have faced certain death.

The spacecraft's main computer has now been switched off to conserve what little power remains in the command module, Odyssey, as this part of the spacecraft will be required for re-entry into the earth's atmosphere.

Plans have been made to "slingshot" Apollo 13 around the Moon and fire the spacecraft's last remaining booster engine to take it away from the Moon's orbit and bring it back on course to Earth.

This is a highly risky operation and there is no back-up should anything go wrong.

If all goes to plan Apollo 13 is due to splash down at approximately 1900 BST on Friday 17 April.

The Apollo 13 mission was to have been man's third Moon landing. The spacecraft was due to land in the Fra Mauro area of the Moon on Thursday 16 April.

Captain Lovell and Mr Haise were due to carry out geological experiments on the Moon's surface as part of an ongoing project to establish the true age of the Moon.

Rock samples taken from previous missions have been dated as being 4,500 million years old.

During the 33-hour Moon landing Mr Swigert would have been responsible for piloting the command module in lunar orbit.

Mr Swigert replaced Thomas Mattingly as command module pilot just hours before the mission began after it was found that Mr Mattingly had no immunity after exposure to German Measles.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

Apollo 13 successfully returned to Earth on Friday 17 April 1970.

The spacecraft entered the atmosphere 400,000 ft (121,920 metres) above the Earth and hurtled towards Earth at 25,000 mph (40,234 km/h).

The command capsule splashed down in the Pacific Ocean at 1907 BST. The lunar module and the service module had been jettisoned before re-entry into the Earth's atmosphere.

Within three minutes of the capsule landing helicopters were on the scene.

The three astronauts were airlifted onto rescue boat Iwo Jima where they spent the night before flying to Samoa to be reunited with their families.

YOUR STARS

Aries

Mar. 21-Apr. 19

You should push yourself a little harder and see if you can get more exercise than usual today - your body craves action! It may be as simple as taking the stairs or as complex as joining a new gym.

Taurus

April 20-May 20

Try not to be too overbearing with people who make simple mistakes - you can tell them what's what without declaiming it from on high! People are more inclined to listen if you come down to their level.

Gemini

May 21-Jun. 21

Your brain is famous, and your great energy today helps you to make the most of it. Just apply yourself to one big problem and see where your ideas lead. Others are sure to join in.

Cancer

Jun. 22-Jul. 22

Think ahead and see if you can get yourself into a new situation that feels a little better. Things may start looking up sooner than you'd expect, so it's a good idea to start off in a few new directions at once.

Leo

Jul. 23-Aug. 22

Let go of that humility and just revel in your success! You've found a new way to make things happen, and you should be proud of what you have achieved. Others are certainly proud of you!

Virgo

Aug. 23-Sept. 22

You need to roll up your sleeves and get to work - on some new project helping others. You are at your best saving the day, and you should have several opportunities coming up soon.

Libra

Sep.23-Oct. 22

If your energy starts to drag - and it might - make sure that your friends are handy. At least one of them is certain to have the answer for nearly any question you may have, and it costs you nothing!

Scorpio

Oct. 23 - Nov. 21

You're rolling through your day like nothing could go wrong - until it does. In fact, nearly everything may go wrong at the same time, but you can rise to the challenge if you're prepared.

Sagittarius

Nov. 22-Dec. 21

You get some happy news early today that should keep a smile on your face at least through tonight. With energy like yours, it could come from almost any aspect of your life, so prepare for anything.

Capricorn

Dec. 22-Jan. 19

You may almost lose faith today, but see if you can keep pushing even if all looks lost. Your energy demands focus and commitment, and when you deliver, you can snatch victory from the jaws of defeat.

Aquarius

Jan. 20-Feb. 18

Things are definitely on the upswing today, and you may be able to expand into new territory or find a new way to make the most of your assets. It's a great time to make new moves!

Pisces

Feb.19-Mar. 20

You're feeling pretty sure of yourself right now - so much so that you might just need to get a reality check! One of your closest friends or oldest coworkers can set you straight if you need realignment.

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Easy

9x9 grid for Easy Sudoku puzzle.

Easy+

9x9 grid for Easy+ Sudoku puzzle.

Medium

9x9 grid for Medium Sudoku puzzle.

Hard

9x9 grid for Hard Sudoku puzzle.

WEATHER

CHINA

Table of weather conditions for various Chinese cities including Beijing, Harbin, Tianjin, etc.

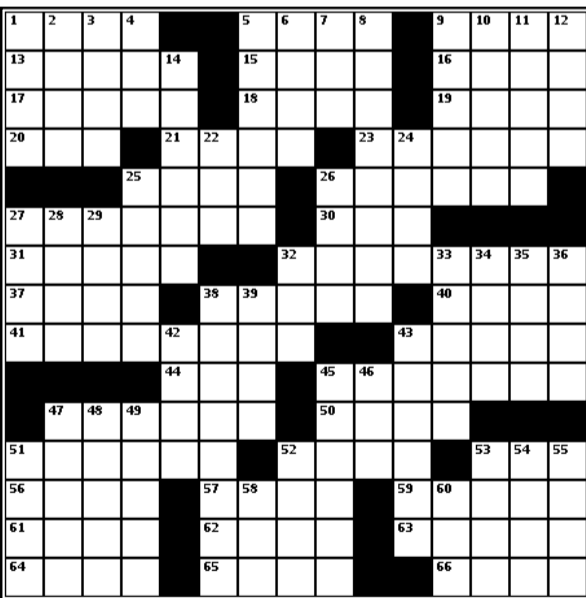
WORLD

Table of weather conditions for various world cities including Moscow, Frankfurt, Paris, etc.

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Travel on water; 5- Fraternal org.; 9- Words of woe; 13- Country singer Tucker; 15- Slippery swimmers; 16- Chair; 17- Messed up; 18- Pressure; 19- Tip off; 20- Architect I.M.; 21- Change direction; 23- Greek island in the Aegean Sea; 25- Informal greeting; 26- Actress Plummer; 27- Degraded; 30- Plant juice; 31- Rub out or remove from memory; 32- Paternal; 37- Low-quality diamond; 38- Make amends; 40- "Star Wars" princess; 41- Bullfighter; 43- Bit of wisdom; 44- Night before; 45- Public disgrace; 47- Egyptian god; 50- Dry watercourse; 51- Shorthand pros; 52- Quartz grains; 53- Actress Peeples; 56- Suit to ___; 57- Baking chamber; 59- Birds on Canadian coins; 61- Actress Deborah; 62- Receiver Jerry; 63- Put into law; 64- Formerly, formerly; 65- Overfill; 66- Bangkok native;

DOWN: 1- Word that can succeed dance, foot and door; 2- Bern's river; 3- Calvary letters; 4- Bleaching agent; 5- Decapitate; 6- Juror; 7- Pay stub?; 8- Guess; 9- Dam extending across the Nile; 10- Listened; 11- "West Side Story" song; 12- View from Catania; 14- Counsel; 22- Storm center; 24- 11th letter of the Hebrew alphabet; 25- Speed; 26- Slippery ___ eel; 27- It's outstanding; 28- Switch ending; 29- Roseanne, once; 32- In place of; 33- 1985 Kate Nelligan film; 34- Peruse; 35- Old Italian money; 36- Dixie pronoun; 38- Counselors; 39- Digits of the foot; 42- Dynamic beginning; 43- Flat-bladed oar; 45- River of song; 46- Tin; 47- Furry swimmer; 48- Prophets; 49- Inactive; 51- Japanese rice wine; 52- Denomination; 53- Ark builder; 54- Ancient Andean; 55- Italian wine city; 58- By means of; 60- Toronto's prov.;



Crossword puzzles provided by BestCrosswords.com

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

- Emergency calls 999
Taxi 28 939 939 / 2828 3283
Fire department 28 572 222
Water Supply - Report 1990 992
PJ (Open line) 993
Telephone - Report 1000
PJ (Picket) 28 557 775
Electricity - Report 28 339 922
PSP 28 573 333
Macau Daily Times 28 716 081
Customs 28 559 944
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IACM 28 387 333
Tourism 28 333 000
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AD

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Joseph Wilson, Barcelona

FOOTBALL | CHAMPIONS LEAGUE PREVIEW

Madrid derby heat quarterfinals in last final rematch

WITH three teams in the final eight of the Champions League, Spain is again home to the top contenders for Europe's biggest prize as the quarterfinals start this week.

At least one Spanish team will be eliminated though, with the marquee matchup featuring title holder Real Madrid visiting crosstown rival Atletico Madrid today [2:45am, Wednesday] in a rematch of last year's final.

A day later Lionel Messi takes his Barcelona to Paris Saint-Germain in their third meeting of the season.

A depleted Bayern Munich side also starts its series at FC Porto tomorrow, while Juventus hosts Monaco today.

Here is a closer look at the first leg of each quarterfinal.

Wed 2:45am
Atletico v Real Madrid
H 1.88, D 2.25, A 1.7

With more stars, more trophies, and more money, Real would appear to be favored over its crosstown rival.

After all, this is a rematch of the 4-1 defeat Madrid dealt Atletico in last season's final when Cristiano Ronaldo's club increased its record haul of European Cups to 10.

But don't forget Madrid was losing that derby until Sergio Ramos equalized in stoppage time. And, more importantly, Atletico is undefeated in all six of their matches with Madrid this season.

Atletico bettered Madrid in both the Spanish Super Cup and the Copa del Rey, and the defending Spanish champions have beaten Madrid twice in the league, including a 4-0 demolition the last time they played in February.

"We are hopeful and motivated, knowing that we haven't been able to beat them this season," said Madrid defender Alvaro

Arbeloa. "I think we know why. We have players who can change the match and we also play the return leg at the Bernabeu. We hope we can end the streak."

Atletico will be boosted by the return of striker Mario Mandzukic after two games out with a right foot injury.

Thu 2:45am
PSG v Barcelona
H 3.5, D 2.75, A 1.85

Barcelona heads north looking to rekindle a winning streak after it wasted a two-goal advantage to draw 2-2 at Sevilla on Saturday, a result which reduced its lead of the Spanish league to two points over Madrid.

"We can't make a drama of the draw," said Barcelona midfielder Andres Iniesta. "We must always be positive and be confident that things will go well."

Barcelona right back Dani Alves is suspended for the first leg.

PSG faces the tough test of duplicating its 3-2 victory from its first group phase match against Barcelona in September. Barcelona then won 3-1 at Camp Nou.

It will be without suspended striker Zlatan Ibrahimovic, and its defense will be missing injured center backs Thiago Silva and David Luiz as it tries to defend Messi, Neymar and Luis Suarez.

Thu 2:45am
Porto v Bayern
H 4, D 2.6, A 1.8

Coach Pep Guardiola called Bayern's injury situation "critical, very critical" after its 3-0



Barcelona's Gerard Pique kicks the ball with Real Madrid's Sergio Ramos, left, and Barcelona's Lionel Messi, right, during a Spanish La Liga soccer match between FC Barcelona and Real Madrid

win over Eintracht Frankfurt on Saturday as it remained on course for another Bundesliga title.

Guardiola had to improvise due to the absences of Arjen Robben, Franck Ribery, Bastian Schweinsteiger, Javi Martinez, David Alaba and Mehdi Benatia.

Bayern chairman Karl-Heinz Rummenigge hopes Ribery and Schweinsteiger will be fit to face Porto.

Porto has been without injured striker Jackson Martinez

since early March.

Bayern is bidding to reach its fourth successive semifinal and has never lost in 11 games in Portugal. Porto's only win over the Bavarian club came in the 1987 European Cup final.

Wed 2:45am
Juventus v Monaco
H 1.5, D 3.2, A 7

Juventus is seeking a first semifinal appearance since 2003 and will be relying on

its home form to get it off to the perfect start against Monaco.

Juventus, which boasts an unbeaten home record against French opponents, has lost just one of 16 European matches at the Juventus Stadium, winning three out of its four matches in Turin this season.

Monaco has never won in Italy and may be without midfielder Jeremy Toulalan because of a left thigh injury.

AP / Odds by Betfair



Sania Mirza of India

TENNIS

Praise for Mirza after she becomes World No.1 in doubles

INDIA Prime Minister Narendra Modi led an outpouring of praise yesterday for Sania Mirza after she became the country's first tennis player to be ranked No. 1 in women's doubles.

"An excellent accomplishment @MirzaSania! Congrats on being World Number 1 in doubles," Modi wrote on his Twitter page after Mirza

won the Family Circle doubles title in Charleston on Sunday partnering Swiss great Martina Hingis.

The 28-year-old Mirza, who decided to focus on doubles in 2012 after a recurring wrist injury, won a third consecutive doubles title partnering Hingis and her 25th overall on the WTA Tour.

"It's a dream come true,"

Mirza told India's NDTV news channel. "For me, my family, and my country too. It was a bit nervy toward the end of the second set and we were on match point twice. But that's tennis, you have to win every point to cross the finish line, nobody gives it to you."

Cricket great Sachin Tendulkar said Mirza was an inspiration for upco-

ming tennis players.

"Congratulations to @MirzaSania on being crowned World No. 1 in Doubles. Terrific achievement and will inspire more to pursue the sport," Tendulkar tweeted.

Women's badminton player Saina Nehwal, who hails from Mirza's southern Indian city of Hyderabad and was briefly ranked No. 1 in singles

earlier this month, also congratulated Mirza.

"MirzaSania World number 1 in doubles congratulations huge achievement. All the very best for future," Nehwal wrote on her Twitter page.

India's test cricket captain Virat Kohli said both Nehwal and Mirza had made the country proud.

"First Saina and now @MirzaSania. Indian women conquering the No.1 spot and making us proud! Congratulations!" he tweeted.

Married to Pakistani cricketer Shoaib Malik, Mirza had a highest singles ranking of No. 27 in 2007. AP

opinion

World Views
The Editors, Bloomberg

IT'S A RACE, HILLARY,
START RUNNING

Well, it's a start. "I'm hitting the road to earn your vote," Hillary Clinton said in a video released Sunday. It's a big country, so if the former first lady, former senator and former secretary of state is going to earn votes, it makes sense to meet a few of the people who will cast them.

At the moment, the competition she enters isn't much of a race. She has already outmuscled many prospective rivals. She doesn't quite stand alone, but potential competitors for the Democratic nomination look puny by comparison. Money, organization, endorsements, political and policy expertise - the building blocks of a successful campaign are all in place for her.

Therein lies a dangerous temptation. Thus far, Clinton has had the luxury of holding back while Republicans scramble. Her much-anticipated announcement video featured all the verve, substance and grit of a detergent ad. Staying on a scripted, cautious course may seem appealing. After all, Clinton needs no introduction. Why heave herself into the mosh pit of face-to-face campaigning when Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and the like can transmit her messages remotely?

Here's why: Because any notion that Clinton is merely coasting to her party's nomination risks alienating voters, who expect the honor to be earned.

The Clinton campaign has signaled that she will fight for a nomination that appears already hers. That would be wise. American politics relies on familiar rituals - fish fries and county fairs and, for Democrats, Jefferson-Jackson dinners cooked and eaten (with due caution) far from the coasts. Some of these rites are as corny as Kansas in August. Yet they are as vital as Iowa in January.

Clinton has endured this circuit so many times - in her husband's campaigns and her own - that she might flinch at the prospect of more rubber chicken. Regardless, she needs to tuck in. Above all, she needs to spell out not just themes but also policies.

Clinton will benefit from putting her most vigorous - and vulnerable -- self forward rather than playing it safe. She must talk to voters and hear from them. She needs to answer awkward questions and cope with stress. She should pick up right where she left the grueling marathon of the Democratic primary of 2008.

Clinton is a qualified and compelling candidate. Her case to be the first female commander-in-chief is strong. But if she wants the job, she'll have to work for it.



AP PHOTO

THE BUZZ POLE CHALLENGES ANTI-IMMIGRATION UK POLITICIAN TO A DUEL

An aristocratic Pole has challenged an anti-immigration British politician to a duel.

Jan Zylinski, who calls himself a prince, says he's tired of U.K. Independence Party leader Nigel Farage criticizing eastern European migrants.

In a video posted online, Zylinski, who lives in London, urged Farage to meet him in Hyde Park to resolve the matter "in a way that an

18th-century Polish aristocrat and an English gentleman would traditionally do."

Holding a sword he said belonged to his cavalry-officer father, Zylinski said: "I'm offering a duel, if you agree" - but added he would settle for a "duel of words."

Poland's aristocracy was abolished by the former communist regime, but many people from aristocratic families still use their titles.



AP PHOTO

Mick Jagger

Mick Jagger to other bands:
Make every show count

Mesfin Fekadu, New York

THE only goal The Rolling Stones have left in their career to rock on till the wheels fall off.

"The only goal left is to see how far we can run the string," Keith Richards, 71, said, laughing, in an interview last week. "The band feels great about playing. I mean, you couldn't get these guys to do anything if they didn't wanna. It's what we do, so we're just hoping for a great summer."

The Stones - who've played together for more than 50 years - will kick off a 15-city stadium tour of North America on May 24 at Petco Park in San Diego, California.

Mick Jagger, in a separate interview, said the advice he would give other bands who want to play as long as the Stones is to make every show count.

"Every night the audience is like a challenge for me. Every time you go out there it's different. You think it's the same show, but it's a different show, different place, different audience," said Jagger, 71. "For a younger band, you got to bring a sense of uniqueness to every show you do and you got to sort of try somehow to forgot - even though it appears to everyone it's the same show - but to yourself it's always got something different and special about it."

Life on the road isn't for everyone, Jagger said. "I'm not sure if all young bands want to stay on the road as

long as we have," he said with a laugh. "Maybe they'll want to do something else."

The band, which includes Charlie Watts and Ronnie Wood, played arenas instead of stadiums for their "50 & Counting" tour in 2012 and 2013. On the Zip Code tour, they will visit AT&T Stadium in Dallas; the LP Field in Nashville, Tennessee; and Comerica Park in Detroit, among other cities.

"Stadiums, I love them, especially when the weather's on our side, when God joins the band," Richards said. "It's really nice to play indoors and auditoriums with a controlled environment, but at the same time, it's a different feeling playing outside, especially stadiums ... It's a looser feeling."

Pre-sale tickets went on sale Wednesday and general tickets start today. The tour also celebrates the June 9 re-release of the Stones' seminal 1971 album, "Sticky Fingers." It features songs like "Brown Sugar," "Wild Horses" and "Moonlight Mile."

"Mick and I have been talking, 'Maybe we just sort of go up there and play the whole album,'" Richards recalled. "But I don't know if it will come to that."

"There are a lot of ballads on the album so maybe I'll mix up those," Jagger said. "Most of the fast tunes on the album we do quite often, so some of the slow ones we don't."

They will start rehearsals in early May, Jagger said.

"Physically there's quite a lot of workouts and getting your fitness level a bit higher. But I have to do, you know, dance work outs and prep for my dance and prep for the vocals," Jagger said. "You're pushing yourself to a limit, but a containable limit because you don't want to screw up and you don't want to get injured, so you try to get as fit as possible."

Jagger said he listens to a number of genres when dancing, from reggae to blues to rock and electronic dance acts like David Guetta and Calvin Harris.

"Yeah, I listen to that stuff," he said of the international DJs. "And trap (music) and stuff. I put everything on. When I do the dance workouts, I just do a mixture of everything."

Richards said he's completed a solo album that is in "bed and ready to wake up I think later on this year." Jagger has also worked on new music.

"I've been writing this week ... I've written a lot of new songs lately, but we haven't recorded them yet," he said, adding that the songs are about "just life in general, different subjects, personal things, social things."

The last stop on the Stones' Zip Code tour is July 15 at the Festival d'ete de Quebec in Quebec City, Canada. But Richards said more dates may follow.

"I hear South America is on the cards somewhere around October, November, so we ain't stopping yet," he said. AP

Station	Air quality
Roadside	85-115 Moderate
High Density Residential Area	85-115 Moderate
Ambient	85-115 Moderate

SOURCE: DSMG

WORLD BRIEFS

UKRAINE Fighting has picked up in eastern Ukraine, after more than a month of relative calm, as diplomats gathered in Berlin yesterday to discuss the Ukraine crisis. The military conflict between Russia-backed rebels and government forces has killed more than 6,000 but has largely subsided since the cease-fire was announced in February and at least some heavy weaponry withdrawn.

TURKEY Forty-five managers and employees of a mine in the western Turkish town of Soma, went on trial yesterday accused of causing the deaths of 301 miners who perished in a fire last year in Turkey's worst mining disaster. The opening hearing of the trial was tense with lawyers and families of the victims protesting authorities' decision that eight of the jailed defendants - the main suspects in the proceedings - should not attend the trial over security concerns. The court called a recess and then adjourned until Wednesday, demanding that the eight defendants be present at the next hearing, the state-run Anadolu Agency reported.



AP PHOTO

USA Sen. Marco Rubio (pictured) is telling his top donors that he is running for president because he feels "uniquely qualified" to pitch his Republican Party as one that will defend the American Dream. The first-term Republican from Florida told his biggest backers on a conference call yesterday that he sees the coming presidential campaign as a choice between the past and the future. In a swipe at Democratic rival Hillary Rodham Clinton, Rubio said the former first lady "is a leader from yesterday."

FRANCE Far right symbol Jean-Marie Le Pen has told a French publication that he will not run in upcoming regional elections, standing down in a high-profile feud with his daughter over the future of the National Front party. Le Figaro yesterday quoted party founder Le Pen as telling its weekly magazine that he wants his granddaughter to assume his candidacy instead. A top party official, Florian Philippot, said on i-Tele television yesterday that Le Pen had discussed the decision with party leadership.