



### PANDA PAVILION RESUMES OPERATION

The Giant Panda Pavilion in Seac Pai Van park reopened to the public yesterday with a new pair of giant pandas

P2



### NO PROMISE OF IMMUNITY FROM PROSECUTION

CCAC found no evidence to suggest that government officials agreed not to prosecute Sin Fong protesters

P6



### AUTHORITIES ENFORCE BEIJING SMOKING BAN

P11

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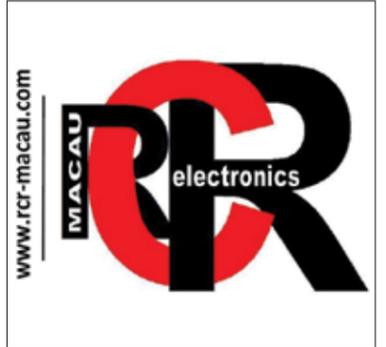
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# MacauDaily 澳門每日時報

# Times

FOUNDER & PUBLISHER Kowie Goldenhuys EDITOR-IN-CHIEF Paulo Coutinho



"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN'"

## WORLD BRIEFS

AP PHOTO



### BANGLADESH

Authorities filed murder charges yesterday against dozens of people for their roles in the 2013 collapse of a garment factory building that killed more than 1,100 people. The charges were filed against 41 people, including the building's owner, Sohel Rana, and his parents and more than a dozen government officials, for their direct role in the deaths of 1,137 people in the collapse of Rana Plaza, said the lead investigator, Bijoy Krishna Kar of the Criminal Investigation Department.

**S KOREA-CHINA** South Korea and China signed a free trade deal that will remove tariffs on more than 90 percent of goods over two decades.

AP PHOTO



**JAPAN** A worker at Tokyo Station got an unpleasant shock after opening an abandoned suitcase that no one had claimed for a month — the decomposing body of an elderly woman inside. The Tokyo Metropolitan Police said the corpse was found Sunday in a suitcase in a temporary storage area at Tokyo's main train station. Japanese media reports said the body was of an elderly woman, 140 centimeters tall. Police are trying to establish her identity.

**BELGIUM** Influential European Union nations France and Germany are expressing opposition to new EU proposals to help Italy and Greece cope with a massive influx of migrants crossing the Mediterranean

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# Revenue continues to drop in year-long rut

P5 GAMING



## Photo exhibition about Macau's floods opens

P4



Sonia Chan visited the pavilion

## Seac Pai Van pavilion reopens with new pair of giant pandas

**T**HE Giant Panda Pavilion in Seac Pai Van park reopened to the public yesterday, as Xin Xin and Kai Kai, the new pair of giant pandas presented to Macau by the central government, are in good health and ready to meet visitors.

The Secretary for Administration and Justice, Sonia Chan, attended the opening ceremony of the Chinese Panda Research Exhibition on Sunday. She later visited the Panda Pavilion to meet Xin Xin and

Kai Kai (Sam Sam and Hoi Hoi in Cantonese).

She told local media that experts from Sichuan said that the pandas are getting accustomed to Macau's environment, as both are eating and sleeping well.

The giant pandas also seem to react positively to strangers' visits.

Nevertheless, Macau authorities have decided to implement crowd control measures until June 30 to protect Xin Xin and Kai Kai from any possible anxiety triggered by a high

number of visitors. Therefore, the giant panda pavilion will limit the number of spectators throughout this month.

The pair was transferred to the pavilion on May 27 from a local farm, where they had remained in quarantine since their arrival on April 30. According to a Government Information Bureau statement, the pandas' condition has remained stable since then.

The pavilion remained closed until yesterday to

allow for disinfection as well as the renovation of facilities and preparation works for the opening.

The giant pandas come as a gift from China. Chinese president Xi Jinping announced the central government's intention to offer two new giant pandas when he visited Macau last December. The new pandas replace another pair, comprised of a female who died last year and a male panda that was returned to Sichuan for breeding. **CP**

### HEALTH

## Passenger aboard MERS patient plane in Macau

**T**HE Health Bureau (SSM) is searching for a South Korean visitor in Macau who entered the city after coming into contact with a Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) patient last Tuesday on an Asian Airlines flight OZ723 from Seoul to Hong Kong.

The bureau disclosed on Sunday evening that apart from five passengers who were identified as being in close contact with the initial patient, there were also 26 Korean passengers on the same flight who visited Macau between May 26 and 28. According to the Judiciary Police's border checkpoint record, all of those visitors left Macau on May 28 and 29, except one, who is believed to have remained in the city since last Tuesday.

The 26 passengers are not identified as close contacts with the index patient; therefore, the one remaining in Macau will not be put into quarantine, stated the SSM.

Nevertheless, the bureau is appealing to the remaining visitor to contact the Macau Centre for Disease Control and Prevention at 2870 0800 or info.cdc@ssm.gov.mo, so that they can ascertain that person's health condition. Meanwhile, authorities are tracking down the other travelers' whereabouts and health conditions.

In addition, of the 18 passengers who have so far been put into quarantine in HK after coming into close contact with the index patient, none have shown symptoms of the disease.

That group includes one who has spent several hours in Macau.

The bureau also confirmed that four Korean passengers were among those to have been in close contact with the patient; they visited Macau briefly, but didn't enter HK or mainland China afterwards.

Three new diagnoses were reported in South Korea and one in Qatar on Sunday. According to the World Health Organization, as of May 31, the total number of MERS infections reached 1149, causing at least 431 deaths.

The bureau urged the public, especially those who have visited the Middle East and Korea recently, to immediately seek medical treatment if fever or cough-like symptoms develop. **BY**

## Sino-Lusophone meeting in town

**A** ministerial meeting between China and the Portuguese-speaking countries on the subject of infrastructure will take place on Friday in Macau, according to the deputy secretary-general of Forum Macau, Vicente de Jesus Manuel.

The initiative is expected to lead to investment solutions that complement the needs of Macau Forum member countries, given the participation of "a delegation of 'weighty' Chinese entrepreneurs."

For the sixth consecutive year, Macau will host the International Forum on Investment and Construction of Infrastructure, which in this edition will include the aforementioned ministerial meeting between China and the Portuguese-speaking countries.

Jesus Manuel Vicente said that Portugal will be represented by its Secretary of State for Infrastructure, Transport and Communications, Sérgio Silva Monteiro. East Timor will also send two ministers and Guinea-Bissau will be represented by the Minister of Public Works, Construction and Urban Planning.

Vicente said he was awaiting confirmation of the participation of the Cape Verde Minister of Infrastructure and Maritime Economy and the Brazilian Minister of Planning, Budget and Management.

Vicente de Jesus Manuel said that the ministerial meeting will also be an opportunity for China to share its experience in civil construction projects in the Portuguese-speaking countries. He also remarked that the meeting will serve to disclose arrangements and financing mechanisms as part of the Cooperation Fund.

The International Forum on Investment and Construction of Infrastructure in Macau was created by the China International Contractors Association in 2010, and has promoted annual meetings between the government and entrepreneurs from the sector in Beijing and Macau. **MDT/Macauhub**

## Merchandise import decline by 4.3 pct

**M**ERCHANDISE imports declined by 4.3 percent year-on-year to MOP6.88 billion in April, data collected by the Statistics and Census Service (DSEC) shows. Imports of gold jewelry and watches dropped significantly by 41.7 percent and 8.6 percent respectively.

Merchandise exports in April amounted to MOP953 million, up by 15.2 percent year-on-year. DSEC added that the merchandise trade deficit amounted to MOP5.93 billion.

In the first four months of 2015, the total value of merchandise imports rose by 1.2 percent to MOP29.10 billion, while the total value of merchandise exports grew by 10.7 percent year-on-year to MOP3.65 billion.

Merchandise imports from mainland China (MOP10.92 billion) increased by 18.6 year-on-year, while imports from the European Union countries (MOP6.70 billion) fell by 9.5 percent. DSEC also revealed that imports of mobile phones (MOP3.55 billion) increased by 56.5 percent. However, imports of consumer goods dropped by 8 percent to MOP17.02 billion, while imports of gold jewelry (MOP2.42 billion) decreased by 33.2 percent.

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Times

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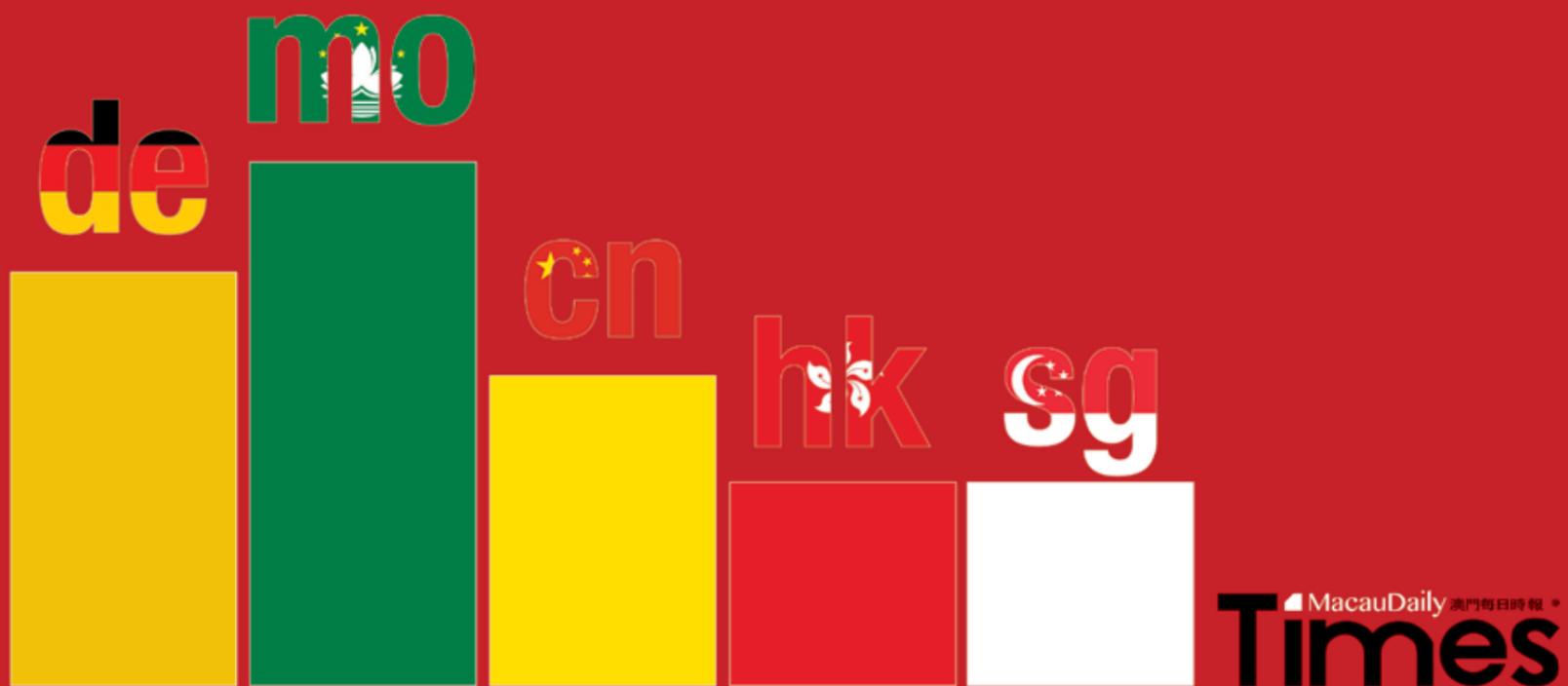
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“ THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN’ ”

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## Web Views Top Ranking Countries



### COUNTRY RANKINGS

Visitors to the Macau Daily Times website originate from 175 countries and regions, the top 15 being Macau, Germany, China, Hong Kong, Singapore, Australia, Portugal, European Union, Japan, Italy, India, Brazil, France, Thailand and Taiwan.

Catarina Pinto

ALL that Macau-born photographer Choi Yun Tim ever wanted was to take pictures from a different angle – something that would stand out and make a difference.

He remembered a Hong Kong photographer who used to take pictures of sunny days, after heavy rain. He thought of doing the opposite: photograph Macau when rainstorms flooded the city, particularly within the Northern district areas.

But taking pictures of rain falling in empty streets wasn't really what he was aiming for. It's the relationship between Macau's people and all those flooded streets that he managed to capture in his pictures, taken between 1974 and 1982, which are now on display at the Macau Museum of Art (MAM).

The exhibition "Heavy Rain and

PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION

## Documenting the city's rainy days and floods



Choi Yun Tim



People would not stop working during floods. It didn't surprise me, because back then the gov't was not so rich

CHOI YUN TIM

Floods – Photographs of Macao by Choi Yun Tim" was inaugurated on Friday at MAM and will remain until November 8.

The Times spoke with the photographer ahead of the exhibition's opening on Friday. Mr Choi recalled that during the 70s and 80s, people would not stop working or walking through the streets even during floods or heavy rain.

He wanted to capture those small and simple moments: of children playing in the water, or of workers still carrying tofu containers although shops and res-

taurants were closed.

"If I just took pictures of empty streets with nobody there, the pictures wouldn't be that nice. It's not so attractive. When all the people are walking down the street and they even play a bit with the water, that's when I would try to capture the moment," he said.

Photographing cloudy and rainy days back then was not only challenging in terms of capturing the right moment, but were also tough in terms of technical matters. To document heavy rain, photographers had to carefully

protect cameras and other material while walking down flooded streets.

Most of the pictures on display were taken within some of the most affected areas: Travessa do Patane; Avenida Almirante Lacerda; and the San Kio neighborhood.

Very few vehicles could be seen along Macau's roads, while residents struggled through the floods.

"People would not stop working during floods. It didn't surprise me, because back then the government was not so rich and

people had no money. So they wanted to continue with their lives, and work. There's a big difference compared to today. What could you do? You had to work and make money back then," he added.

Mr Choi said that if he took up the exact same challenge now, photos of Macau under rainy skies would look very different.

"If I would go to Macau's streets during rainstorms and take pictures, it wouldn't look the same. Nobody would be doing the same things. Absolutely. Because now people are more afraid to walk in flooded streets and also they are mostly driving," he recalled.

Mr Choi said he is particularly curious to see whether the people who are actually portrayed in the pictures would see the exhibition and recognize themselves.

"These pictures are 30 or 40 years old. Some of these people portrayed might still be alive. They will probably be pleased to show the pictures to their children," he added.

Mr Choi started studying photography in 1968 after he relocated to Hong Kong as a teenager for work. He studied at the Chinese YMCA Photographic Society Hong Kong and the Chinese Photographic Association in Hong Kong. In 1986, he immigrated to Canada where he spent almost 30 years. The photographer now shuttles between Hong Kong and Macau.

The exhibition will be on display until November 8 and is free of charge.

CHOI YUN TIM



AD



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# Gaming revenue falls 37 percent

**I**T'S an anniversary in Macau that casino bosses aren't in any mood to pop champagne over. Casino revenue in the world's largest gambling hub fell for the 12th straight month in May, as China's battle against graft and a slowing economy kept high rollers and vacationing gamblers away.

Gross gaming revenue dropped 37.1 percent to MOP20.35 billion (USD2.55 billion), according to data released by Macau's Gaming Inspection and Coordination Bureau. That figure compares with the median estimate from seven analysts surveyed by Bloomberg of a 38.5-percent decline.

Macau casinos' year-long losing streak has left the city's economy vulnerable, as output tumbled 24.5 percent in the first quarter – worse than Greece and Ukraine ever did.

Casino bosses are hoping that a series of new casinos they're opening will draw some customers back. Galaxy Entertainment Group Ltd (GEG) last week opened two new casino-hotels, Macau's first in three years.

With casino revenue having moved to between MOP19 billion and MOP 21 billion in past months, Grant Govertsen, an analyst at Union Gaming Group in Macau, said, "We aren't expecting further material downsides from here."

"However, we acknowledge that trends could still be choppy for a number of months to come, before we see any breakout to the upside."

Casino analysts have cut their forecasts for Macau's gambling revenue several times this year, as Chinese President Xi Jinping expands his fight against corruption and the country's economic growth slows.

Gaming receipts are expected to widen their slump to 21 percent this year from a 2.6-percent drop in 2014, the city's first-ever annual decline since records started in 2002. More than USD24 billion in the market value of the city's six operators has been wiped out so far this year.

In the first five months, ca-



sino revenue has also dropped 37 percent to MOP104.3 billion.

Galaxy dropped 4.5 percent to close at HKD35.45 in Hong Kong trading. Sands China Ltd and MGM China Holdings Ltd fell more than 3.6 percent, while Wynn Macau Ltd was

**Trends could still be choppy for a number of months to come before we see any breakout to the upside**

GRANT GOVERTSEN

down 2.3 percent and Melco Crown Entertainment Ltd dropped 0.5 percent. SJM Holdings Ltd gained 0.1 percent.

Macau's economic output plunged 24.5 percent in the first quarter, following a

## SANDS LEADS CASINO MARKET SHARE

**SANDS CHINA**, run by Sheldon Adelson, ended the month with a market share of slightly over 26.5 percent, almost five percentage points higher than Stanley Ho's Sociedade de Jogos de Macau (SJM), which recorded a share of just over 21.5 percent, according to data compiled by Lusa news agency. In third place was Galaxy Entertainment Group (GEG), run by Hong Kong-magnate Lui

Che Woo, who recently opened the second phase of his expanded Cotai resort, holding a share of almost 18.5 percent. Melco Crown, which is co-chaired by Lawrence Ho, recorded a market share of 14 percent, followed by Wynn Resorts, owned by American casino tycoon Steve Wynn, whose market share was recorded as 10 percent. MGM China's market share was 9 percent.

17.2-percent contraction in the previous quarter as gamblers stayed away and travelers cut spending. Sales of luxury goods also suffered with sales of watches, clocks and jewelry down 31 percent, and leather goods down 28 percent.

The number of visitors to Macau dropped 3.4 percent in April. Mainland Chinese visitors, who make up two-thirds of the city's total visitors, fell for the second month in a row, a drop of 6.4 percent year-on-year.

Galaxy's casino openings last week marked the start of a new era, during which each of the city's six operators is opening a

property in the next two years, betting on non-gambling Las Vegas-style features to lure back customers.

Controlled by billionaire chairman Lui Che Woo, Hong Kong-based Galaxy has live street performers alongside a hawker-style street market at a project that intends to recreate New York's Broadway theater district. It also added more luxury shops and fine dining at an expanded property.

Macau-based Govertsen said that the company complex has been notably busier than recent history would suggest, and that this could lead to an uptick in revenue for Galaxy, though not necessarily for the market.

"We continue to believe that the new Galaxy supply will be more of a share taker than a market grower, although it will take many weeks or months to determine the exact dynamics," he wrote.

Melco Crown Entertainment Ltd., next to open a new resort later this year, will erect Asia's tallest Ferris wheel. Sands China Ltd. follows with a property featuring a half-size replica of the Eiffel Tower. **Bloomberg**

## Local senior dies at swimming pool

A local senior was confirmed dead after passing out in the swimming pool at the Lin Fong Sports Centre. It was reported that the 67-year-old woman suddenly fell unconscious while chatting with her friends in the pool. She was then rushed to the hospital for emergency treatment, but was pronounced dead afterwards. The cause of her abrupt death is pending a further forensic medical investigation.

## Difficult talks between gov't and Sinosky

Negotiations between the government and natural gas provider Sinosky have been challenging, the coordinator of the Office for the Development of the Energy Sector (GDSE), Arnaldo Santos, told Radio Macau. He said, however, that the contract between Sinosky and the government still stands, and that authorities are committed to solving a problem that has dragged on over recent years. "Natural gas is a very important energy source for Macau's development because Macau is an advanced city. And an advanced city essentially requires a natural gas network," he said.

## Coloane border exclusively for yachts

Local authorities will establish a 24-hour checkpoint at the Coloane ferry terminal, according to the chief executive. The executive order, which will take effect at the end of this month, was outlined yesterday, and comes after a pilot scheme was implemented that allows individual visits via yachts between Macau and the mainland city of Zhongshan. However, specific details of the cooperative scheme are yet to be confirmed. The construction of the first temporary marina, which has been built near the Seac Pai Van ferry terminal and will be able to accommodate 50 yachts, is close to completion. Another terminal will soon be built in the waterfront facing the Ocean Gardens residential complex in Taipa. Last month, marine officials from both sides inked an agreement to further implement bilateral cooperation on the scheme by specifying related measures and arrangements.

## New slot hall at Casino Waldo

Paradise Entertainment Limited announced the opening of a new slot hall at Casino Waldo yesterday. "We are constantly seeking to broaden Casino Waldo's offerings, as part of our continuous efforts to ramp up the property," said Jay Chun, chairman and managing director of the company. According to a press release, the first phase of the new slot hall features 139 slot machines from slot manufacturers such as IGT, Aristocrat, Aruze, Aspect Gaming, Hydako and APE-Incredible Technologies. The slot machines add to the existing 27 traditional gaming tables and 300 live multi-game terminals at Casino Waldo.

## Mass-market tourists turned off by policies

**T**HE number of visitors to Macau has fallen 3.6 percent year-on-year in the first four months of 2015. According to a Wall Street Journal report, mass-market tourists, which Macau casinos are now making more of an effort to attract, have been turned off due to a number of policies, including: limits on visas to mainland Chinese visitors; the crackdown on UnionPay debit cards used by many gamblers to access funds here; and the smoking ban.

Furthermore, prices in Macau have been soaring and a hotel room could cost USD350 per night, while gambling tables could require a USD130 minimum bet.

"They came, they saw, they left with their money in their pockets," Ben Lee, managing partner at Macau-based consultancy IGamiX, told WSJ. Mr Lee acknowledged that although prices are declining, it could take years for people to see Macau as an affordable place.

CCAC

# No promise of immunity from prosecution given to Sing Fong protesters

**T**HE Commission Against Corruption (CCAC) stated yesterday that it had found no evidence to suggest that government officials pledged not to prosecute Sin Fong Garden proprietors who clashed with police authorities during a protest last year.

The New Macau Association raised doubts over the impartiality of Macau's judiciary system and filed a complaint with CCAC last month, urging the city's anti-graft agency to investigate the case.

A group of seven Sin Fong Garden proprietors have been accused of aggravated disobedience by the Public Prosecutions Office (MP). Some apartment owners had accused the government of breaking its promise to not prosecute them over last year's demonstration.

However, CCAC stated that, in the course of its investigation, representatives of Sin Fong Garden owners, along with those who



have been prosecuted for occupying the public road, stated that they had never heard government officials promising not to prosecute them. CCAC said that members of the inter-departmental group that was set up by the authorities to deal with

the Sin Fong Garden case also stated that they had never heard such a promise.

Moreover, CCAC recalled that Sin Fong Garden residents staged two protests last year. During the second one, which started on the night of April 10, the poli-

ce started to clear up the site at around 1 a.m. and arrested seven proprietors. "The protesters had already withdrawn from the public road they occupied at that time, and most of them had left when the police took action (...) traffic conditions returned to nor-

mal quickly afterward. Therefore, the statement that, 'some government officials requested the proprietors to withdraw from the public road by pledging to not prosecute them [if they did so]' is not reasonable," CCAC said.

Since CCAC did not find evidence to suggest that government officials had pledged not to prosecute the owners, the agency decided to shelve the case.

Separately, Sin Fong proprietors were asked to reach a consensus as soon as possible in order to secure the Macao Jiangmen Communal Society's funding of the building's reconstruction, said the group's vice president Chan Pou Sam, adding that the society is considering setting a deadline for the owners' unanimous decision. The block's reconstruction is one signature away from realization, as one street shop owner still refuses to ink the agreement, which has collected all other proprietors' signatures. Chan stressed that their plan was not intended to exert pressure on the flat owners, but yet his group would bear certain pressure under the rising architectural costs. He also added that the society's generous pledge to finance 60 percent of the reconstruction might become invalid if an agreement is not met before the deadline.

## Tourist raped twice in hotel room

**A** mainland tourist faces prosecution after he lured another Chinese visitor into his hotel room via a dating phone application, and allegedly raped her twice on the weekend.

Early in the morning of May 30, the 25-year-old victim agreed to the online invitation from the suspect, who is reportedly from the northern Chinese province of Hellingjiang, to his hotel room in Cotai. Some time into their conversation, the suspect, who claimed to be in town for gambling, suddenly forced the victim to have sex with him and raped her twice. Unable to counter immediately, the victim only managed to escape the room while the suspect was asleep.

Police authorities barged into the room some hours later and caught the suspect after the victim had approached the police in the company of a cousin who was travelling with her.

Separately, the Judiciary Police announced yesterday during a press conference that a mainland businessman had been detained following his failed attempt to extort his landlord for operating an illegal inn in the NAPE district last Saturday. Furthermore, the 35-year-old suspect also tried to accuse his landlord of stealing his belongings.

The farce came to light after the outraged local landlord called the police on the weekend. According to the authorities' account, a wallet together with a cellphone, which the suspect claimed to have been stolen, were actually untouched in his room, which he rented for three days. During the altercation between the landlord and the suspect, the latter also threatened to disclose to police that the former was renting his home to visitors if he denied the theft claim.

Finally, the mainlander faces a charge of false accusation, while the landlord was charged with running an illegal inn.

CRIME

## 20 fall victim to phone scam, PJ on the alert

**T**HE Judiciary Police (PJ) has warned residents of a telephone scam that has swindled money from at least 20 people after the victims received calls from conmen pretending to represent a mainland China authority and asking for their bank account details.

According to a PJ spokesperson cited by Lusa news agency, police authorities have received about 100 complaints regarding this type of phone scam. Twenty people fell victim to the scam, either providing their bank account details or agreeing to do a bank transfer as required over the phone.

The PJ sent a text message on Friday to Macau mobile number holders warning them of "a scam, in which the conmen



calls residents and pretends to be an official from a China law enforcement agency, prosecutions office or post office." "If you receive such a call asking for your bank account details, or passwords, or instructing you to do a bank transfer, please be aware that this is likely to be a telephone scam," it added.

Police authorities are also urging citizens to contact the cri-

me report hotline 993, in case they receive this call.

Last month, police authorities

warned citizens of another scam, in which conmen pretended to be bank employees requesting that clients provide them with their bank account details.

The number of telephone scams recorded in 2014 more than doubled the number of the previous year. Last month, the PJ reported that there had been a total of 158 cases of phone fraud since the beginning of the year, with a sum of over MOP7 million swindled. **CP**

### TWO CASES REPORTED IN ONE DAY

**LAST FRIDAY**, the Judiciary Police received two phone scam reports from local citizens in which the perpetrators, identifying themselves as the call-receivers' cousin, asked for bailout money as they claimed to be held under detention in the mainland. One of the victims lost a total of RMB50,000 as a result of the fraud, while the other one was vigilant enough to have seen through the scammer's tricks.

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# Malaysia Air begins 'hard reset' with fewer workers, cost cuts



A Malaysia Airlines ground staff member unloads luggage from a plane at Kuala Lumpur International Airport in Sepang, Malaysia

Chong Pooi Koon

**M**ALAYSIA Airlines Bhd. said it's starting a corporate revamp with a "hard reset" as it terminates about 6,000 jobs and seeks to cut costs by 20 percent to return to profitability after two air disasters last year.

The carrier invited at least 14,000 employees to join its new company as part of a turnaround that includes adjusting the size of operations and renegotiating key contracts, the company said yesterday. The old structure, Malaysian Airline System Bhd., will cease operations in August, and selected assets and liabilities will be transferred to the new company.

Malaysia Airlines is seeking to reinvent itself after stiff competition led to years of losses, even before flight MH370 disappea-

red in March last year and MH17 was shot down over Ukraine. The carrier needs time to turn around after being "technically bankrupt," and will break even only in 2018, Chief Executive Officer Christoph Mueller said yesterday.

We have to "stop this short-term firefighting," Mueller said. "Now we have to be in forestry, we have to plant trees, water them every day and wait, and do a proper job. We cannot turn this airline around off the cuff."

The carrier plans to refurbish the business-class section on some planes, and is considering selling or subleasing two of its A380 planes, Mueller said. The company will review all its existing contracts to purchase planes, he said.

Mueller joined Malaysia Airlines from Dublin-based Aer Lingus Group Plc., which he turned around in the face of competi-

tion from budget airline Ryanair Holdings Plc. He faces a similar task as Malaysia Airlines struggles to fend off AirAsia Bhd., one of the region's largest low-fare carriers.

In August, parent and sovereign wealth fund Khazanah Nasional Bhd. announced plans to cut 6,000 jobs after the carrier amassed more than 4.9 billion ringgit (USD1.34 billion) in losses since the start of 2011. Khazanah has committed to invest 6 billion ringgit to restructure the airline after taking it private in a 1.38 billion ringgit buyout.

The new company will reduce capacity and expand its more profitable domestic and regional routes in the Asia Pacific, Khazanah said in March. Mueller said the airline will remain a full-service, international carrier and will tap its partners for code sharing on global routes.

**Bloomberg**

## KFC sues Chinese companies for online rumors about its food

**R**ESTAURANT operator KFC said yesterday it filed a lawsuit against three companies in China whose social media accounts spread false claims about its food, including that its chickens have eight legs.

The case filed by China's biggest restaurant operator comes as the government intensifies a campaign to clean up rumors on social media. Internet marketers have been convicted of trying to manipulate online sentiment on behalf of clients by posting false information about competitors or deleting critical posts.

In an announcement posted on its Chinese website, KFC said one of the best-known fake rumors was that chickens used by the company are genetically modified and have six wings and eight legs.

KFC is demanding 1.5 million yuan (USD242,000) and an apology from each of three companies that operated accounts on the popular mobile phone app WeChat. It is also seeking an immediate stop to their infringements. Shanghai Xuhui District People's Court has accepted the case, according

to a press officer who would only give her surname, Wu.

KFC's China CEO Qu Cuirong said in a statement that it was hard for companies to protect their brands against rumors because of the difficulties in collecting evidence. "But the stepped-up efforts by the government in recent years to purify the online environment, as well as some judicial interpretations, have offered us confidence and weapons," she said.

The companies being sued were named as Shanxi Weilukuang Technology Company Ltd., Taiyuan Zero Point Technology Company and Yingchenanzhi Success and Culture Communication Ltd. in Shenzhen city. Calls to numbers listed for the companies either rang unanswered or were not valid.

Authorities launched a renewed campaign two years ago to clean up what they called online rumors, negativity and unruliness. Critics say the campaign was largely aimed at suppressing criticism of the ruling Communist Party. Commentaries in state media have argued that a cleanup was needed.

KFC has more than 4,600 restaurants in China. **AP**



## corporate bits

### SANDS CHINA SUPPORTS WORLD HUNGER DAY 2015



Sands China recently organized two activities for team members to support World Hunger Day as part of the community engagement efforts of the Sands ECO360° global sustainability strategy. Taking place May 28 each year, World Hunger Day aims to raise public awareness about the problem of hunger and starvation worldwide.

Sands China's support of Wor-

ld Hunger Day included a three-day Clean Plate Challenge May 26-28. It asked team members to reduce food waste by taking only what they would eat, thereby minimizing the amount of leftover food thrown out. Sands China pledged to donate MOP 1 to Caritas Macau each time a team member returned a clean plate at any of the team member dining rooms.

The challenge raised a total of MOP 60,000 for Caritas Macau. The funds will be used by Caritas Macau to purchase food packs for low-income families, enough to provide assistance to 200 families in need. Additionally, a company-wide food drive was also organized to help stock the shelves of local food banks run by Caritas.

"I'd like to thank our team members for doing their part in helping make these World Hunger Day initiatives a success," said Mark McWhinnie, Senior Vice President of Resort Operations and Development. "We have long been committed to organizing and promoting events that benefit the community, and we will continue to dedicate our efforts toward supporting worthy causes such as this."

Located next to Galaxy Macau, the Broadway Theatre, part of the new Broadway Macau complex, provides a venue for local audiences to watch Asian and international stars and performances. Broadway Macau presented its very first concert, Alan Tam 40th Anniversary Live 2015, which celebrates Mr. Tam's 40 years in the Hong Kong music industry as well as the grand opening of Broadway Macau. Alan is well known by his title as "Headmaster of Music Industry", demonstrated by tickets selling out right after the show was announced.

Awarded the highest Hong Kong musical awards twice, during the concert Alan packed in all his famous hits through the years, refreshing audiences' memories with the familiar melodies of "I Rather", "Love Trap", "Love in autumn" and "One song, one story".

### FIRST BROADWAY THEATRE SHOW WITH ALAN TAM



### British company studies natural gas project in East Timor

**T**HE government of East Timor has selected London firm Amex Foster Wheeler to conduct an engineering study for the Beacu project, which involves a liquefied natural gas processing plant in the south of the country.

Considered by sector officials in Timor-Leste to be one of the most important projects for the development of the country, Beacu, which will cover an area of between 250 and 300 hectares, has been the focus of so-called Pre-FEED and FEED engineering studies and others since 2008.

In this case the USD3.8 million contract for the Pre-FEED design includes concept studies, technical design, construction and contracting strategies, project implementation plans, cost and timing estimates.

Amex Foster Wheeler said all the work would be carried out by its team based in Malaysia and "in close consultation with Timor Gap" the Timorese oil company that is responsible for the Tasi Mane Project, which includes three development areas along 155 kilometers of the southern coast of the country.

This project includes the Beacu unit, which will be the base to supply Suai and the Betano refinery.

Preliminary studies (conceptual and feasibility studies) indicate an estimated cost of USD4.36 billion for the liquefied natural gas processing unit, with a margin of error of around 50 percent.

The liquefied natural gas unit is the "heart" of the whole project, which also includes a pipeline and maritime infrastructure. At this unit the gas carried through the pipeline is cooled to -162 degrees Celsius, reducing the volume by 600 times and making it easier to store and transport. **MDT/Macauhub**

## Cape Verde and China look to boost two-way cooperation in Beijing

**C**APE Verde and China yesterday began the 2nd meeting of the Joint Commission for Cooperation, Economic, Commercial and Technical Cooperation between the two countries during which Cape Verde plans to attract Chinese investment, the archipelago's press reported.

Citing an official statement issued in Praia, the press announced that the Cape Verdean delegation was led by the Minister of Tourism, Investment and Business Development, Leonesa Fortes, as part of an official visit to China.

During the meeting, Fortes will seek to attract and facilitate partnerships between Cape Verdean and Chinese companies interested in marine resources (algae) in the stone industry - pozzolan, ornamental stone and gravel - and minerals, including salt and to raise funds as an alternative to traditional financing for high risk projects.

The visit includes several meetings with Chinese entities, such as the Development



Guo Jinlong (r), a member of the Political Bureau of the CPC and also Beijing's Party chief, met recently in Beijing with a Cape Verde delegation led by Chairman Janira Fonseca Almada (l), who is also the country's Minister of Youth, Employment and Human Resources.

Bank of China, Export Import Bank of China, China National Tourism Administration, the China Council for International Investment Promotion, telecommunications group Huawei, the Hangzhou Chamber of Commerce and a courtesy visit to the mayor of Shanghai.

Despite the one-way trade relationship with China, Fortes said in the context of the Economic Community of West African States

(ECOWAS) there were a number of opportunities to explore that required investment, which is why Cabo Verde wanted to attract Chinese companies.

The two sides will review their diplomatic relations, take stock of the impact of China's cooperation on the economic and social development of Cape Verde and monitor the measures announced by the Africa/China Cooperation Forum, the

Forum for Economic and Trade Cooperation between China and Portuguese-speaking Countries (Macau Forum) and projects that are underway and in the pipeline.

Fortes said she would present new projects to China, and that access to finance by capitalizing national funds could become an alternative to traditional sources of financing for major growth and high risk projects. **MDT/Macauhub**

**sunny side up**

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**Tributo a Macau**

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六月十日

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## Birkin bag sells for record USD222,000 in Hong Kong



Christie's said yesterday that a Hermes designer handbag smashed a world auction record in Hong Kong. The auction house did not identify the buyer of the crocodile skin Birkin Bag in fuschia with 18 karat gold and diamond hardware. It sold for 1.72 million Hong Kong dollars (USD222,219). The previous record was set at a U.S. auction in 2011 for another Birkin Bag, in red crocodile skin, that sold for \$203,150. The Birkin Bag was designed for and named after British actress Jane Birkin. It's famous for having a price tag in the thousands of dollars and a years-long waiting list. The bag was one of more than 300 that Christie's put on the block in Hong Kong, which has emerged as a global auction center thanks to wealthy mainland Chinese. Christie's said a black Birkin Bag that's scheduled to go on the block later in the same auction may sell for even more than yesterday's record price.

## Army to hold military drills along volatile Myanmar border



China's military will hold live-firing exercises this week along its volatile border with Myanmar near where Chinese civilians were killed by stray bombs from fighting between rebels and Myanmar's government. The Defense Ministry said the exercises starting today in Yunnan province will include both ground and air elements. It didn't say how many troops would be involved or how long the exercises would last. Aircraft were warned to stay away. The drills will be held in jungle-covered mountains along China's southwestern border, directly across from where Myanmar troops have been battling ethnic Kokang rebels. A bombing run by a Myanmar plane in March killed five farmers on the Chinese side, leading to an official apology. China has complained of cross-border firing several times and urged Myanmar to restore stability. The March incident sparked widespread outrage in China, and Premier Li Keqiang issued a statement condemning it after being questioned about it at his annual news conference.

# Money talks? Nouveau riche escort children on mansion visit to "build dreams"



**WHILE** many Chinese parents chose to take their children to parks or museums to mark yesterday's annual Children's Day celebrations, one group of youngsters in south China was treated to a tour of multi-million-yuan mansions in the hopes that they would aspire to live in one.

On Sunday, a day before Children's Day, more than 50 parents took their children to visit large estates worth 4 million yuan (USD653,600) located at a spa resort in Qingyuan City, Guangdong Province.

The weekend tour aimed to help the children "build dreams" by allowing them to witness luxurious settings at the vacation getaway, according to a report that appeared in the China Youth Daily newspaper.

The article said staff overheard parents telling their children that "fortune represents social status" and "only when you aspire to make a fortune can you possibly buy a mansion worth millions of dollars."

Many of the visitors were rich locals. Some parents were wearing large rings and gold necklaces, symbols usually associated with the nouveau riche, a staff member told the paper.

"It's a frequent occurrence," the resort worker, who requested anonymity, said.

"Each weekend, we receive more than 50 such families, and this weekend more than 300 families have

visited with their children because of Children's Day."

Xinhua reporters found the tour was independently organized by parents.

The phenomenon sparked questions about the education methods of rich parents on the Internet, although many web users remain divided on the issue.

On the Sina Weibo microblogging service, a post about the tour was forwarded more than 2,100 times and commented on 2,300 times as of noon yesterday.

"How shallow is their concept of education!" read one comment by a Weibo user with the screen-name "Yongyongxiaoyu".

Others argued that there is nothing wrong with teaching children to pursue a fortune in a realistic world where money does make a difference.

China's super-rich population is rising, with the number of individuals with a net worth of at least USD1 billion currently at 430.

The mansion visit might sound like money worship, but the parents themselves argue differently.

Ma Renwen, who took his child to the resort on Sunday, told China Youth Daily that the visit is practical.

"Money might not be everything, but it certainly means something in this realistic world," said Ma, who successfully operates more than 30 chain stores selling high-end fabric across

the country.

He said as a businessman, it is important to teach his child the concepts of business and fortune, so that when he grows up, he can take over the family business.

"I think that such visits can motivate children's passion and conviction," he said.

Lan Xianming, who visited the resort with his 16-year-old son, agrees.

"When my older son was 10, I would take him to high-end property projects and auto shows," said Lan, who runs an office furniture business. "Now he is in charge of a factory on his own."

"That's why I took my younger son here."

But some parents and experts have expressed concern over such education methods.

Ms. Wang, a Beijing-based editor, said the parents' intention might be good, but they went about it the wrong way.

"I don't think visiting mansions can help 'build dreams' for young children," said Wang, mother of a two-year-old girl. "Instead, it will fuel a sense of vanity and make them feel that being rich is simply about living in fancy houses."

Social media users agreed.

"Happiness, rather than money, is the most important," said Weibo user "Xiangchangyou." "If you are not happy, what's the use of money anyway?" **Xinhua**

AP PHOTO



Square dance performers chat near anti-smoking banners displayed on the iconic Bird's Nest National Stadium on World No Tobacco Day in Beijing

# Beijing holds breath for effective smoking ban

A downtown hotpot restaurant was the first business to get an official warning for breaking Beijing's toughened smoking ban, as inspectors swooped to enforce the new regulation yesterday.

On the first day of the ban, which prohibits smoking in all indoor public places, workplaces, and on public transport, authorities sent more than 1,000 inspectors to government agencies, hospitals, schools, hotels, restaurants

and entertainment venues to ensure it is being followed.

The inspectors found cigarette butts in the hotpot restaurant's washroom yesterday morning, with the restaurant also failing to publicize the smoking complaint hotline 12320 on its no-smoking posters.

Inspectors said they will visit again in two days to check the restaurant's compliance, and warned of a fine up to 100,000 yuan (USD1,614) if it fails to comply.

The new ban was passed by

Beijing's municipal legislature in November. Individuals caught smoking in public places may be fined 200 yuan (USD32), while businesses will have to pay up to 100,000 for failing to discourage smoking on their premises.

As the world's largest tobacco maker and consumer, China has more than 300 million smokers, almost the size of the U.S. population, and another 740 million people are exposed to second-hand smoke each year.

Ma Yongsheng, who runs a restaurant in Beijing, canceled a wedding banquet reservation yesterday, as a guest insisted on smoking during the meal.

"If we continue to host guests who smoke, we'll surely be fined," Ma said.

At Beijing Capital International Airport, people gathered at two designated outdoor smoking areas to have a last puff as indoor smoking rooms in the airport's three terminals have all been closed.

While regulators have vowed strict implementation, some still doubt the feasibility of the new ban and fear authorities' resolve to curb smoking could taper over time and leave the ban as ineffective as its predecessors.

Beijing has had smoking bans in place since as far back as the 1990s, and stepped up

the campaign before the 2008 Olympics, but the bans have always been weakly enforced.

A Xinhua reporter spotted people smoking indoors in a downtown hospital yesterday.

"I hope the government's momentum to curb smoking can last this time," said someone with the screen name "@skywalker" on China's Twitter-like service, Sina Weibo. "Just don't let this ban become another barely-enforced policy nobody remembers after six months."

At a bus stop during the morning rush hour, a volunteer asked scores of people to finish smoking elsewhere before lining up.

"Most stub out their cigarettes at our request but that's the most we can do," the volunteer said. "We are not authorized to fine those who refuse to obey the ban."

The World Health Organization (WHO) suggested mobilizing the public to help enforce the ban.

"If you see someone smoking in a restaurant, tell them to stop! Talk to the manager or owner, or call the national health hotline 12320 to complain," said WHO China Representative Bernhard Schwartlander.

China signed the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC) in 2003.

The new ban also serves as a test case for a similar move nationwide. Draft legislation for a national ban has been published to solicit public opinions.

In April, China's top legislature adopted an amendment to the Advertisement Law, banning tobacco advertising in mass media, in public places, public vehicles and outdoors.

China also raised consumption tax on cigarettes at the wholesale level on May 10, a move expected to cut cigarette consumption by 4 to 5 percent and add 100 billion yuan to annual tax revenue. **Xinhua**

# Surveys show manufacturing remained weak in May

**Kelvin Chan**  
Business Writer, Hong Kong

CHINA'S factory activity remained subdued last month with both export demand and employment contracting, according to an official survey yesterday that adds pressure on Beijing for more economic stimulus.

The China Federation of Logistics and Purchasing's manufacturing index, which is based on a survey of factory purchasing managers, edged up to 50.2 in May from 50.1 the month before.



The index, based on a 100-point scale, has been hovering around the 50-mark since December. Numbers below 50 indicate

contraction.

Separately, HSBC's manufacturing index, which also uses a 100-point scale, showed that manu-

facturing contracted for a third straight month as new export business fell at the sharpest rate in two years.

HSBC's purchasing managers index edged up to 49.2, a tick higher than a preliminary reading of 49.1 in late May, and up from 48.9 in April.

The latest data on China's outsize manufacturing industry, which employs many millions of people, may spur policymakers in Beijing to roll out more measures to keep economic growth on target.

"Even though the ma-

nufacturing PMI for May expanded slightly, it's at a historically low level, and China's manufacturing industry is facing relatively large downward pressure," the federation's report said.

China's economy grew 7 percent in the January-March period, its slowest quarterly pace in six years. Recent moves by Beijing to shore up growth include cutting interest rates three times in six months and slashing the bank reserve requirement ratio. Analysts expect more measures if growth

slows more sharply.

HSBC's survey found that production contracted for the first time in 2015 and factories shed jobs, let inventories fall and cut purchasing, all suggesting that manufacturing would continue to contract, said Annabel Fiddes, an economist at Markit, which carried out the HSBC survey.

"The latest survey data therefore suggest that more stimulus measures may be required to help boost domestic demand and recover some growth momentum," she said. **AP**



North Korean women talk over pots of burning charcoal for cooking seafood on a pier leading to Jangdok Island at dusk, in Wonsan, North Korea

## NORTH KOREA

# Holiday in socialist fairyland? Pyongyang woos tourists

Eric Talmadge, Pyongyang

**I**F you're still looking for somewhere exotic to go this summer and don't mind a vacation that comes with a heavy dose of socialist propaganda and leader worship, North Korea says it's just the place for you.

Fresh off a drastic, half-year ban that closed North Korea's doors to virtually all foreigners over fears they would spread the Ebola virus — despite the fact that there were no cases of Ebola reported anywhere in Asia — the country is once again determined to show off its “socialist fairyland” to tourists.

The focus on tourism is the blessing of Kim Jong Un himself and, in typical fashion, officials have set lofty goals in their effort to please their leader.

About 100,000 tourists came to North Korea last year, all but a few thousand of them from neighboring China.

Kim Sang Hak, a senior economist at the influential Academy of Social Sciences, told The Associated Press the North hopes that by around 2017, there will be 10 times as many tourists and that the number will hit 2 million by 2020.

Pyongyang's interest in attracting tourists may sound ironic, or even contradictory, for a

country that has taken extreme measures to remain sheltered from the outside world.

But Kim said the push, formally endorsed by Kim Jong Un in March 2013, is seen as both a potentially lucrative revenue stream and a means of countering stereotypes of the country as starving, backward and relentlessly bleak.

**■ Fresh off a drastic, half-year ban over Ebola, the country is once again determined to show off its “socialist fairyland” to tourists**

“Tourism can produce a lot of profit relative to the investment required, so that's why our country is putting priority on it,” he said in a recent interview in Pyongyang, adding that along with scenic mountains, secluded beaches and

a seemingly endless array of monuments and museums, the North has another ace up its sleeve — the image that it is simply unlike anywhere else on Earth.

“Many people in foreign countries think in a wrong way about our country,” Kim said, brushing aside criticisms of its human rights record, lack of freedoms and problems with hunger in the countryside. “Though the economic sanctions of the U.S. imperialists are increasing, we are developing our economy. So I think many people are curious about our country.”

Opponents in the West say tourists who go to North Korea are helping to fill the coffers of a rogue regime and harming efforts to isolate and pressure Pyongyang to abandon its nuclear weapons and improve its human rights record. For safety reasons, the State Department strongly advises U.S. citizens not to travel to North Korea.

None of that has stopped the number of American and European tourists from gradually increasing, and such concerns are not so strong in the countries North Korea is most actively wooing — China, Russia and Southeast Asia.

“About 80 percent of the tourists who come are from nei-

ghoring countries,” said state tourism official Kim Yong Il. “It's normal to develop tourism within your region, so our country is not exceptional in that way. But we are also expanding to European countries as well.”

While the overall quality of life in North Korea hasn't shifted much in the past few years, efforts to build attractions for visitors and the infrastructure required to host them are already beginning to change the face of the capital and some scattered special tourism zones recently established across the country.

Amid the generally Spartan context of their surroundings, those attractions, which are also used by average North Koreans at much lower fees, can be quite striking.

In Pyongyang, some of the more popular tourist sites include a new, high-tech shooting range, where visitors can hunt animated tigers with laser guns or use live ammo to bag real pheasants, which can be prepared to eat right there on the spot. There is also a new equestrian center, a huge water park and revamped “fun fairs” replete with roller coasters, fast-food stands and a 5-D theater. After a year of feverish construction, Pyongyang's new international air-

port terminal could open as soon as next month.

Outside of the showcase capital, where funds, electricity and adequate lodging are much scarcer, development has been focused on the area around Mount Kumgang and Wonsan, a port city on the east coast.

A luxury ski resort was recently opened just outside of Wonsan and a number of new restaurants have sprung up along the city's beachfront area, which is popular with tourists and locals alike for swimming, clambakes and outdoor barbecues.

But like everything else, North Korea is approaching tourism “in its own way.”

Tourists of any nationality can expect constant monitoring from ever-watchful guides and a lot of visits to model hospitals, schools and farms, along with well-staged events intended to impress and promote Pyongyang's unique brand of authoritarian socialism. Like all other visitors to the North, they have precious few opportunities to interact with average people or observe their daily lifestyle.

Tourists can also expect severe repercussions if they step out of line.

Tours to Mount Kumgang by South Koreans were quite popular for about a decade until 2008, when they were halted after a South Korean housewife who walked into a restricted area was shot dead by a North Korean guard. More recently, an American tourist who impulsively left a Bible in a provincial nightclub was detained for nearly six months until the Pentagon sent a plane to Pyongyang to pick him up. **AP**

**M**ORE than 680 people in South Korea are in isolation after having contact with those infected with a virus that has killed hundreds of people in the Middle East, health officials said yesterday.

South Korea has reported 17 cases of Middle East Respiratory Syndrome since a man tested positive following a trip to Saudi Arabia and became the country's first MERS patient earlier this month. The virus in South Korea has so far been largely limited to those who stayed at the same hospital with the first patient before he was diagnosed, their family members and medical staff who treated the first patient.

South Korean Health Ministry official Kwon Jun-wook told reporters yesterday that 682 people who had close contact with the patients, such as their family members and their medical staff, were isolated at their homes or state-run facilities to prevent the spread of the disease.

Ministry officials said the number could rise.

In addition to the 17 cases of MERS in South Korea, the son of one of the patients be-

SOUTH KOREA

# More than 680 isolated over MERS virus fears



A Chinese tourist wearing a mask by way of precaution against the Middle East Respiratory Syndrome virus visits Gyeongbok Palace in Seoul yesterday

came China's first case of the virus last week after having traveled to the country despite being told by doctors to cancel his trip.

MERS was discovered in 2012 and has mostly been centered in Saudi Arabia. It belongs to the family of coronaviruses that includes the common cold and SARS, and can cause fever, breathing problems, pneumonia and kidney failure. The virus is thought to be primarily acquired through contact with camels, but it can also spread from human fluids and droplets.

There have been 1,167 cases of the virus worldwide and 479 of the patients have died, according to the European Center for Disease Prevention and Control. **AP**

17

The number of MERS cases S Korea has reported to date

MYANMAR

# Actor Matt Dillon puts rare celebrity spotlight on Rohingya

Robin McDowell, Sittwe

**A**merican actor Matt Dillon put a rare star-powered spotlight on Myanmar's long-persecuted Rohingya Muslims, visiting a hot, squalid camp for tens of thousands displaced by violence and a port that has been one of the main launching pads for their exodus by sea.

It was "heartbreaking," he said after meeting a young man with a raw, open leg wound from a road accident and no means to treat it.

Mothers carrying babies with clear signs of malnutrition stood listlessly outside row after row of identical bamboo huts, toddlers playing nearby in the chalky white dust.

"No one should have to live like this, people are really suffering," said Dillon, one of the first celebrities to get a first-hand look at what life is like for Rohingya in the western state of Rakhine. "They are being strangled slowly, they have no hope for the future and nowhere to go."

As they become increasingly marginalized, several groups are warning that the building blocks of genocide are in place.

"I know that's a very touchy word to use," said Dillon, wearing his trademark black T-shirt and jeans. "But there's a very ominous feeling here."

"I've been to some places where the threats of violence seemed more imminent," said Dillon, who has also visited refugee camps in Sudan, the Congo and elsewhere. "Here



American actor Matt Dillon poses with Rohingya children at a camp for refugees, north of Sittwe in the western state of Rakhine

it's something else. It feels more like people are going to be left to wither away and die."

Dillon said he decided to come to Myanmar following a desperate, urgent appeal by Rohingya activist Thun Khin at a Refugees International fundraiser in Washington, just over a month ago. In Japan to promote his new television series, "Wayward Pines," he decided it was a good time to make the trip.

"There are people working here, people who know a hell of a lot more about it than I do," Dillon said after hearing grumbling from some aid workers about what he hoped to achieve. "But listen, if I can use my voice to draw attention to something, where I see people suffering, I'll do that any day of the week. I'm happy to do that." **AP**

AVIATION

# Solar Impulse plane to land in Japan due to bad weather

Ken Moritsugu, Tokyo

**A**solar plane attempting to fly around the world without a drop of fuel was planning to make an unscheduled stop yesterday night in Nagoya, Japan, because of bad weather.

Swiss pilot André Borschberg took off from Nanjing, China, on Sunday on what was to be the longest leg of the journey, a six-day, 8,175-kilometer flight to Hawaii.

Instead, the Solar Impulse 2 will land in Nagoya in central Japan, organizers said.

Japanese Transport Ministry and Nagoya airport officials confirmed that they are making arrangements for an unanticipated landing at Nagoya Airport.

Elke Neumann, a spokeswoman for the Solar Impulse project, said from Nanjing that



Solar impulse lands by night

the team first noticed the bad weather pattern about 36 hours ago.

"We thought we might go through it," she said. "But between Japan and Hawaii there's no place to stop."

The safety of the pilot and the plane are a priority, and they will likely wait a few days in Japan until the weather changes, she said.

The plane will land after scheduled flights at the airport end around 10 p.m.

Solar Impulse 2 needs room to land, so it generally avoids times when commercial flights are operating, Neuman said. The pla-

ne also usually lands at night, because the winds tend to be lower.

It needs wind to be no more than 10 knots, she said.

"We are a little bit sad, because everything's functioning perfectly: The batteries are charging, there's enough sun, the pilot is in good health, he's in good condition — it's all working well," Neumann said.

The journey started in March in Abu Dhabi, and the plane has stopped in Oman, India, Myanmar and China. The flight from Nanjing to Hawaii is the seventh of 12 flights and the riskiest. **AP**

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Sen. Rand Paul, R-Ky., talks with reporters outside of the Senate Chamber following his address to the Senate in Washington

GOV'T SPYING

# NSA surveillance powers lapse after no deal in US Senate

Erica Werner and Ken Dilanian, Washington

**T**HE National Security Agency lost its authority at midnight to collect Americans' phone records in bulk, after Republican presidential candidate Sen. Rand Paul stood in the way of extending the fiercely contested program made public by NSA contractor Edward Snowden.

But that program and several other post-Sept. 11, 2001 counter-terror measures — criticized by opponents as an unconstitutional intrusion into Americans' privacy — look likely to be revived within days. In an extraordinary Sunday session (yesterday, Macau time) in the U.S. Senate, Republican Senate leaders reluctantly embraced a House of Representatives -passed bill that would extend the provisions, while also remaking the bulk phone collections program.

Although the lapse in the programs may be brief, intelligence officials warned

that it could jeopardize Americans' safety. Paul's move infuriated fellow Republicans, who exited the Senate chamber en masse when he stood up to speak. But civil liberties groups applauded as Paul forced the expiration of the once-secret program.

With no other options,

“Are we going to so blithely give up our freedom?”

RAND PAUL

Republican Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell took up the House bill, the USA Freedom Act, which the Senate voted 77-17 to move ahead on.

The White House backs the House bill. White House Press Secretary Josh Earnest said in a statement: “The Senate took an important — if late — step forward

tonight. We call on the Senate to ensure this irresponsible lapse in authorities is as short-lived as possible.”

But the Senate adjourned without final action on the bill after Paul asserted his prerogative under Senate rules to delay a final vote for a couple of days. The midnight deadline came and went. “This is what we fought the revolution over, are we going to so blithely give up our freedom?” Paul declared on the Senate floor hours earlier.

Sen. John McCain complained to reporters that Paul places “a higher priority on his fundraising and his ambitions than on the security of the nation.”

In addition to the bulk phone collections provision, two lesser-known Patriot Act provisions also lapsed at midnight. One, so far unused, helps track “lone wolf” terrorism suspects unconnected to a foreign power. The second allows the government to eavesdrop on suspects who continually discard their cellphones.

The House bill extends those two provisions unchanged, while remaking the bulk collection program so that the NSA would stop collecting the phone records after a six-month transition period, but would be authorized under court order to search records held by phone companies.

The FBI's use of the Patriot Act to collect hotel, travel, credit card, banking and other business records in national security investigations would also be extended under the House bill. Law enforcement officials say the collection of those business records is more valuable than the better-known bulk phone collections program. Ongoing investigations would be permitted to continue even though authority for the programs has lapsed.

Rebooting the phone collections program would take about a day.

CIA Director John Brennan was among those warning that letting the authorities lapse, even for a time, will make America less safe. **AP**

FRANCE

## Not eternal: Paris removes 'love locks' from famed bridge



Lovers in Paris, beware: City authorities are taking down thousands of padlocks affixed to the famed Pont des Arts bridge. The city says the locks, usually hung by couples to express eternal love, are causing long-term damage to Paris heritage sites. Last summer a chunk of fencing fell off under their weight. Authorities began dismantling the metal grills along the sides of the bridge yesterday and plan to remove 45 tons of padlocks in all. Some residents had campaigned against the locks, which started appearing about a decade ago and now cover sites across the French capital. The Pont des Arts bridge will soon have padlock-proof plexiglass panels instead, while the city explores other ways for Paris visitors to express their “amour,” including street art on the subject.

IRAQ

## Suicide attacks in Anbar kill 35 troops



Three Islamic State suicide bombers targeted a police base in Iraq's western Anbar province with explosives-laden Humvees yesterday, killing at least 35 police and Shiite militiamen, officials said. The attack on a police station in the Tharthar area north of the IS-held provincial capital, Ramadi, caused a large secondary explosion in an ammunition depot, the officials said. Another 40 security forces were wounded in the attack. Hospital officials confirmed the casualties. All officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they are not authorized to brief the media. The attack resembled a massive, coordinated assault launched on Ramadi last month that allowed IS militants to capture the city, marking their biggest gain since a U.S.-led coalition began launching airstrikes against the extremist group last August. In that assault, the IS group also used Humvees looted from Iraqi security forces. The loss of Ramadi prompted Iraqi Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi to order Shiite militiamen into the vast Sunni province, which was an insurgent hotbed during the eight-year U.S. intervention. The Shiite militiamen have played a key role in pushing the Sunni IS group back elsewhere in Iraq, but have also been accused by rights groups of carrying out revenge attacks against Sunnis, charges denied by militia commanders.

## what's ON



UNIVERSITY OF SAINT JOSEPH  
ARCHITECTURE STUDENT GRADUATE EXHIBITION  
2015 'NEW SYNERGIES'  
TIME: 2pm-7pm  
(Closed on Sunday and public holidays)  
UNTIL: June 20, 2015  
ADMISSION: Free  
VENUE: Creative Macau, G/F Macau Cultural Centre  
Building, Xian Xing Hai Avenue  
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2875 3282

WISDOM FROM THE MINIATURES  
- EXHIBITION OF SUN JIANGTAO'S STAMP  
COLLECTION OF THE LIBERATED ZONE  
TIME: 9am-9pm  
UNTIL: June 7, 2015  
VENUE: Temporary Exhibitions Gallery of IACM,  
Av. Almeida Ribeiro, 163  
ADMISSION: free  
ENQUIRIES: (853) 8988 4100

ART OF INK  
- MIO PANG FEI CALLIGRAPHY EXHIBITION  
TIME: 10am-7pm  
(Closed on Mondays, no admission after 6:30 pm)  
UNTIL: July 5, 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

CUBA TOUCH  
- INSIGHT INTO THE DAILY LIVES IN CUBA  
TIME: 10am-6:30pm  
UNTIL: July 20, 2015  
VENUE: Dare to Dream Gallery, Calçada Da Barra  
No. 16 R/C LJ A, Edif. San Chak, Macau  
ADMISSION: Free  
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2896 2820  
ORGANIZER: Dare to Dream

HISTORICAL PAINTINGS OF MACAU  
IN THE 19TH CENTURY  
TIME: 10am-7pm  
(Closed on Mondays, No admission after 6:30 pm)  
UNTIL: December 31, 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

STREET FOOD VENDORS OF MACAU  
TIME: 9:30am-7pm daily (Except Mondays)  
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## Offbeat

## GERMAN POLICE ALERTED TO ARMED MOB, FIND ASPARAGUS PICKERS

Police in rural northeastern Germany rushed out to track down a reported mob of up to 15 people armed with knives and sticks. Instead, they found a group of asparagus harvesters.

Police in the town of Ludwigslust said a man called their emergency number Saturday to report having seen "10 to 15 people armed with knives and sticks" on a local road.

Within minutes, six police cars were on their way to the scene. Officers quickly discovered, however, that the group was asparagus harvesters walking along the road with their work tools as they went to take a lunch break.

White asparagus is a popular delicacy in Germany and a ubiquitous sight on restaurant menus in late spring.

## TV canal macau

13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:30	RTPi Live
17:45	Brazil Avenue (Repeated)
18:40	TDM Sports
19:45	Soap Opera
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	TDM Interview
21:45	Comedy
22:10	Brazil Avenue
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Miscellaneous
00:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)

## cinema

## CINETEATRO

28 MAY - 03 JUN

## TOMORROWLAND

ROOM 1

2.30, 4.45, 7.15, 9.30 pm

Director: Brad Bird

Starring: George Clooney, John Walker Britt Robertson

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 130min



## PITCH PERFECT 2

ROOM 2

2.30, 4.30, 7.30, 9.30 pm

Director: Elizabeth Banks

Starring: Anna Kendrick, Skylar Astin, Rebel Wilson

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 141min

## DRAGON BALL Z: RESURRECTION "F"

ROOM 3

2.30, 4.30, 7.30, 9.30 pm

Director: Tadayoshi Yamamuro

Starring: Ji-tae Yu, Yūsuke Iseya, Ye-ryeon Cha

Language: Japanese (Chinese/English)

Duration: 93min



## SAN ANDREAS

ROOM 3

(30 MAY - 03 JUN) 7.30 pm

Director: Brad Peyton

Starring: Dwayne Johnson, Carla Gugino,

Alexandra Daddario

Language: Japanese (Chinese/English)

Duration: 114min

## MACAU TOWER

21 MAY - 10 JUN

## TOMORROWLAND

ROOM 3

2.30, 4.30, 7.30, 9.30 pm

Director: Brad Bird

Starring: George Clooney, John Walker Britt Robertson

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 130min

## this day in history



## 1953 QUEEN ELIZABETH TAKES CORONATION OATH

Queen Elizabeth II has been crowned at a coronation ceremony in Westminster Abbey in London.

In front of more than 8,000 guests, including prime ministers and heads of state from around the Commonwealth, she took the Coronation Oath and is now bound to serve her people and to maintain the laws of God.

After being handed the four symbols of authority - the orb, the sceptre, the rod of mercy and the royal ring of sapphire and rubies - the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Geoffrey Fisher, placed St Edward's Crown on her head to complete the ceremony.

A shout of "God Save the Queen" was heard and gun salutes were fired as crowds cheered.

The Archbishop and fellow bishops then paid homage to Queen Elizabeth II.

In a radio broadcast the Queen said: "Throughout all my life and with all my heart I shall strive to be worthy of your trust".

An estimated three million people lined the streets of London to catch a glimpse of the new monarch as she made her way to and from Buckingham Palace in the golden state coach.

The ceremony was watched by millions more around the world as the BBC set up their biggest ever outside broadcast to provide live coverage of the event on radio and television. Street parties were held throughout the UK as people crowded round television sets to watch the ceremony.

The crowds, some of whom had camped out overnight to ensure a prime position, were rewarded when the Queen and other members of her family, including the Queen Mother, appeared on the balcony at Buckingham Palace.

Despite the overcast weather conditions the RAF marked the occasion with a fly past down the Mall.

A fireworks display then lit up the skies above Victoria Embankment.

The Queen replaced her father, King George VI, as monarch following his death on 6 February 1952. After 16 years on the throne he passed away in his sleep and his 25-year-old daughter Elizabeth immediately became Queen.

The princess formally proclaimed herself Queen and Head of the Commonwealth and Defender of the Faith in February 1952 but the amount of planning and a wish for a sunny day for the occasion led to the long but excited wait for this day.

Courtesy BBC News

## IN CONTEXT

Over 20 million people watched the BBC coverage of the coronation. Many people crowded round neighbours' sets to watch television for the first time. The broadcast was made in 44 languages.

There was a shortage of professional coachmen to help transport dignitaries to Westminster Abbey in horse drawn carriages. Millionaire businessmen and country squires offered their services and on the day they dressed up as Buckingham Palace servants and helped take people to the ceremony.

Many commemorative souvenirs were produced to mark the occasion including a special set of four postage stamps. In 2002 the Queen celebrated her Golden Jubilee. She marked her 50 years on the throne with a mammoth tour of the Commonwealth and UK where millions turned out to celebrate during the Jubilee weekend.

The highlight of the weekend was the 'Party at the Palace' where stars from Ozzy Osbourne and Sir Paul McCartney to S Club 7 and Blue joined forces to entertain the crowds at Buckingham Palace.

YOUR STARS

Aries Mar. 21-Apr. 19

Things are moving too slowly for your comfort, but you have no choice in the matter. Life would be much easier if renewal was right around the corner, but you already know it's not. Hunker down for future financial emergencies.

Taurus April 20-May 20

Whether it's despair or elation you feel when looking at your balance, the same rule applies. You don't need any publicity about what you do or don't have in the bank, so keep the numbers to yourself.

Gemini May 21-Jun. 21

Don't let your feelings direct your actions. Throwing up your hands is a romantic gesture but it's not at all necessary. Money isn't impossible to make, it just takes a bit more calculating.

Cancer Jun. 22-Jul. 22

With all the upheaval around you, you'll be tempted to lunge for the nearest life raft. But being careful is still sound business policy, so don't get involved with anything you are unsure of.

Leo Jul. 23-Aug. 22

You can still learn simply by reminiscing about your college days. You're not exactly back to searching under the seat cushions, but you do need to look beneath the surface if you want to find a few extra pennies.

Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22

Your plans of a year and a half ago are now unrealistic goals. It's not a stretch to call them fantasies. It's time to explore your options, and you'll have to delve deep.

Libra Sep. 23-Oct. 22

Take a look around. It's not just money that's changing hands, it's entire businesses. That should give you some perspective when it comes to your own material possessions.

Scorpio Oct. 23 - Nov. 21

If you ever worried that you were respected for all the wrong reasons, now's the perfect time to find out. You may be pleasantly surprised by what you discover, so don't be afraid to look.

Sagittarius Nov. 22-Dec. 21

You're feeling moody and slow, in your waking life as well as in your dreams. It's not hard to figure out why. Money is your biggest motivator. You need to start stockpiling some, and you aren't the only one.

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19

It's a good day to make decisions, but only if you can remain detached. Remember, a fool and his money are soon parted, so don't keep any investments just for old times' sake.

Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 18

It's hard to stay calm, cool and collected when money is involved. In fact, deep feelings are erupting like lava. Wait for things to solidify before making important decisions.

Pisces Feb. 19-Mar. 20

Don't get involved with stuff you are unsure of, and you are unsure of everything. In fact, you don't know if you're in a fishbowl or in the ocean swimming with sharks, so don't bite.

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



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Easy

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6 4 5 3
5 3 4
1 5 8 2
2 1 6
2 4 3 9
8 9
4 7 1

Easy+

4 1 5 7
5 6 8 4
9 2 6
8 1 9
9 3 6
3 6 4 5
5 2 8
7 1 9

Medium

4 1 2 6
9 4 5 8
5 7 4
6 4 7 3 5
5 4 1
3 4 1 6
7 5 3
2 9

Hard

4 8 7 1 3 6
5 4 8
2 7
1 7 3
6 2 4

WEATHER

MIN MAX CONDITION

CHINA

Beijing 23 34 clear/cloudy
Harbin 16 23 thundershower/shower
Tianjin 25 34 cloudy/overcast
Urumqi 12 19 shower
Xi'an 21 24 drizzle
Lhasa 10 27 cloudy
Chengdu 22 32 shower/cloudy
Chongqing 23 29 moderate rain/shower
Kunming 18 29 clear
Nanjing 20 31 cloudy/overcast
Shanghai 20 28 cloudy
Wuhan 24 29 cloudy/moderate rain
Hangzhou 20 31 cloudy/overcast
Taipei 26 29 drizzle/overcast
Guangzhou 26 34 thundershower/cloudy
Hong Kong 28 32 thundershower

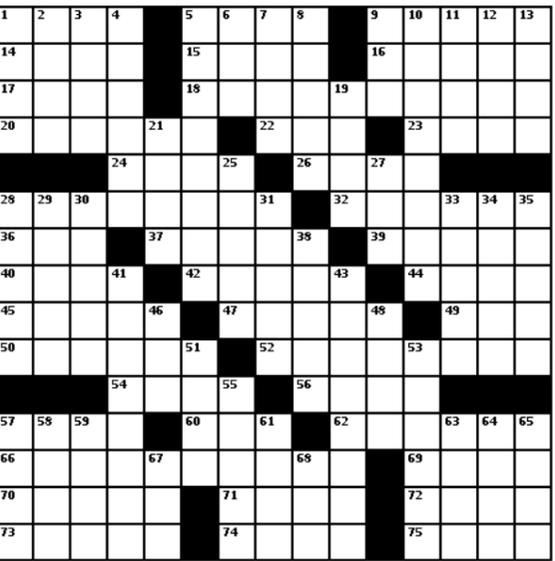
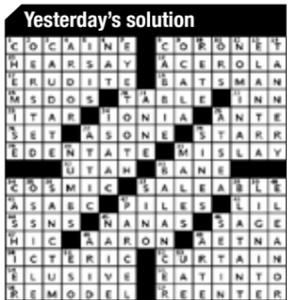
WORLD

Moscow 10 22 drizzle/cloudy
Frankfurt 15 24 drizzle
Paris 10 19 moderate rain/drizzle
London 9 13 cloudy/drizzle
New York 15 19 clear/drizzle

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Super server; 5- No-see-um; 9- Old card game; 14- Irene of "Fame"; 15- Uh-huh; 16- Fatigued; 17- Willing; 18- Part of the harness of a horse; 20- Uniting; 22- Mos. and mos.; 23- Draft picks; 24- Pasternak heroine; 26- Blue dye; 28- Domestic; 32- Washroom; 36- Holiday start; 37- Burn with water; 39- In \_\_\_ (unborn); 40- Irritate; 42- Leg joints; 44- Come down hard?; 45- Furry swimmer; 47- When prompted; 49- Flying formation; 50- Closer; 52- Conclusive trial; 54- Turkey; 56- To \_\_\_ (just so); 57- About; 60- Olympics chant; 62- Recess; 66- Sweetheart; 69- Very, in Vichy; 70- Betel palm; 71- I've Got \_\_\_ in Kalamazoo; 72- Manipulates; 73- Old-style fax; 74- Had on; 75- Brood;

DOWN: 1- Scopes trial org.; 2- First son of Adam and Eve; 3- ... saw Elba; 4- Form of lottery; 5- Trinket; 6- Code-cracking org.; 7- Ethereal; 8- Aquarium fish; 9- Possess; 10- Stone of great size; 11- Ancient Semitic for "Lord"; 12- Author \_\_\_ Stanley Gardner; 13- Cereal grasses; 19- Ain't right?; 21- Alpo alternative; 25- A Bell for \_\_\_; 27- Marker; 28- Wading bird; 29- Egg-shaped; 30- Hostess Perle; 31- Actress Verdugo; 33- Depart; 34- Great Lakes tribesmen; 35- Apartment sign; 38- Bing Crosby's record label; 41- Of necessity; 43- Proper; 46- Fam. member; 48- Pulitzer-winning biographer Leon; 51- Defeat decisively; 53- Rooflike structure; 55- Balderdash; 57- At the drop of \_\_\_; 58- Shrivelled, without moisture; 59- Chinese weight; 61- Jason's ship; 63- Estimator's phrase; 64- Prez's backup; 65- Latin being; 67- Strain; 68- Dinghy need



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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
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Va Nam unit M Taipa 2 Bedroom Apartment Near Old Taipa Village HKD 12,500 / 830 sq ft Ref: 14030404

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NASCAR

# Johnson makes history with 10th win at Dover

Dan Gelston  
Sports Writer, Dover (Del.)

**J**IMMIE Johnson took the congratulatory call from his boss, then flipped the phone for a selfie.

The six-time series champ and crew chief Chad Knaus sandwiched the 60-pound trophy and smiled for a familiar photo.

"You've only got 10 of 'em," a fan yelled at the victory lane celebration.

Johnson said: "We'll keep them coming!"

Johnson had already mastered the Monster Mile like no other driver. His latest win earned him a slice of NASCAR history that etched his name in the same class as five Hall of Fame drivers.

With his No. 48 Chevrolet on cold tires, Johnson got hot down the stretch Sunday to win at Dover International Speedway and become the fifth driver with 10 or more Sprint Cup victories at a single track.

"It was cool to have a track that I enjoyed so much turn into a track I could win at," Johnson said. "We've been able to keep that feeling going for a lot of years."

Unlike his other nine Dover wins when he led at least 175 laps in each race, Johnson led only 23 laps for this perfect 10. Johnson has 10 wins in 27 career starts on the concrete mile track. He needed five extra laps beyond the scheduled 400 because a late accident brought out the caution.

He has four wins this season, 74 in his career and has won at least four times in a season 11 times.

On deck, Johnson could catch Dale Earnhardt for seventh

on the career wins list with 76.

"It's right there in front of me, so I look at it and think, wow, this is incredible," Johnson said. "Yes, it's a priority for me and something I want to do. But I'm almost in shock that we're there. Seventy-four race wins, 10 here, you can't dream that big."

Johnson drank a beer in victory lane and took a quick call from team owner Rick Hendrick.

"I know what I'm capable of and felt just fine doing it," Johnson said. "And, I've got a great rhythm. I've got great support at home."

No active driver owns a track like Johnson does Dover.

Johnson joined NASCAR Hall of Famers Richard Petty (Martinsville-15, North Wilkesboro-15, Richmond-13, Rockingham-11, Daytona-10), Darrell Waltrip (Bristol-12, Martinsville-11, North Wilkesboro-10), Earnhardt (Talladega-10) and David Pearson (Darlington-10) as drivers to win 10 races at a single track.

The Hendrick Motorsports driver swept Dover in 2002 and 2009 and also won races in 2005, 2010, 2012, 2013 and 2014.

Kevin Harvick was second, followed by Kyle Larson, Casey Kahne and Aric Almirola.

"I figured it would be tough to have a shot at Jimmie," Larson said.

Harvick held a comfortable lead until the field was bunched on a late caution. Kyle Busch, who was in the top five, connected with Brian Scott to end the race for each driver. Busch, who poked his head inside Scott's window for a chat, was unhurt in his second points race since he suffered leg and ankle injuries at Daytona.

Busch needs a win and to hit the top 30 in the points standings to become eligible for the Chase for the Sprint Cup championship.

Harvick and Johnson both stayed out on old tires during cautions. Knaus gambled that the No. 48 Chevrolet was as stout on four cold tires as others would be on two or four fresh ones.

He was right. Johnson never lost control, even with two more cautions, including one that came after Clint Bower, Denny Hamlin and Kurt Busch all tangled on the track. Casey Mears wrecked to bring out the final caution with three laps remaining.

"I was trying to be smart with my line and I guess guys on two tires weren't all that fast," Johnson said. "The No. 4 (Harvick) and I did just fine on old tires and held those guys off."

Martin Truex Jr. led the most laps (131) for the third straight race, yet failed again to win. He was sixth.

Tony Stewart finished two laps down in 26th at the track where he last won a Cup race on June 2, 2013.

Stewart's pit crew hustled to recover chunks of concrete in his stall. This was the second straight year there were broken slabs of concrete during the race. The race last June was stopped 160 laps into the race after Ryan Newman's car knocked up hunks of concrete from the track.

Dale Earnhardt Jr. has said he wanted Dover to ditch concrete for asphalt.

Earnhardt was among a small group of drivers that included Hamlin and Harvick who met with NASCAR officials on Saturday night to discuss issues in the sport, including safety.



NASCAR driver Jimmie Johnson (48) holds the trophy for winning the SpongeBob SquarePants 400 Sprint Cup Series auto race at Kansas Speedway in Kansas City, Kan.

"We talked about a lot of things, things that will hopefully make our sport better, our cars better, make them a better show for the fans," Hamlin said. "I think all that stuff being said, it's a process, it takes time and hopefully we get this deal better."

Johnson wasn't there. "I don't think I was invited to that meeting," he said, smiling. "Haven't won enough races or championships." AP



Meb Keflezighi

ROCK 'N' ROLL MARATHON

# Keflezighi runs fastest masters half marathon of 1:02:29

**M**EB Keflezighi won the USA Track & Field Masters Half Marathon title yesterday with a time of 1 hour, 2 minutes, 29 seconds, the fastest ever for a runner 40 or older.

The race, part of the Suja Rock 'n' Roll Half Marathon, was the first

competition as a master for Keflezighi, who lives in San Diego.

Keflezighi, best known for his stirring victory in the 2014 Boston Marathon, broke American masters records for 10 miles and 15 kilometers.

Jordan Chipangama of

Flagstaff, Arizona, won the men's open half-marathon in 1:02:27 and Keflezighi was second overall.

"My goal was to run to win and I did that. I wish I won the overall. But second place is a good place," Keflezighi said.

Japan's Eri Hayakawa won the women's half marathon in 1:10:50.

Igor Campos, 31, of nearby Chula Vista, won the men's marathon in 2:37:05. Lenore Moreno of West Covina, California, won the women's marathon in 2:41:39. AP

opinion

World Views

William Pesek

STOP CALLING CHINA A CURRENCY MANIPULATOR

Christine Lagarde's people say China's currency is no longer undervalued. Jacob Lew's argue it still is. There's a lot at stake in the debate: The yuan can't gain status as a global currency reserve if China is thought to be manipulating its value. So who should we believe, the head of the International Monetary Fund or the U.S. Treasury Secretary?

It's worth asking Ben Bernanke. Now that the former Federal Reserve chairman is in the private sector, he can say what he really thinks - and, as he pointed out in a recent speech in Seoul, it's not wise to ignore political factors when managing the rise of the Chinese economy. Bernanke argued that if Washington had heeded IMF requests to allow China to play a larger role in global institutions, Beijing wouldn't now be creating the USD100 billion Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank, which threatens to undermine the existing global financial system.

It's worth extending Bernanke's point to the yuan debate. Japan's yen is down 30 percent since late 2012 (hitting a 12-year low this week) while the yuan has risen during the same period. So the IMF has good reason to contradict America's assessment and bolster China's case for reserve currency status. But there are two further reasons why the IMF must stand firm, no matter what U.S. officials and lawmakers say.

First, China might go it alone. As Bernanke points out, the West is playing hardball with Beijing at its own risk. The AIIB is already diminishing the relevance of the World Bank and Asian Development Bank. What's to keep Beijing, flush with \$3.7 trillion of reserves, from now opening its own bailout fund for governments facing balance-of-payments shortfalls? China proposed a similar idea during the region's 1997 economic crisis. Although the idea died a quick death at that time amid fears the IMF and U.S. Treasury would lose influence, it might attract more interest now - especially if China promises to demand less austerity from needy countries like Greece.

"If the IMF were to sidestep the explicitly stated desire of China's government," says Eswar Prasad of Cornell University in Ithaca, New York, "it would create more bad blood in an already contentious relationship regarding currency matters." He worries it would "crystallize emerging market policymakers' concerns that the IMF remains an institution run by and for the benefit of advanced economies." That would encourage nations to rally around Beijing's alternative lending institutions, and could deal a fatal blow to the post-World War II global financial architecture.

Second, Chinese economic reform is accelerating. Bernanke is right that the yuan has a ways to go before it can become a major reserve player. But a new Swift study shows the yuan is Asia's most-active currency for payments to China and Hong Kong and number five globally. Convertible or not, the yuan is too big to ignore. In that sense, its inclusion in the IMF's special drawing rights system - along with the dollar, euro, yen and pound - is a matter of when, not if.

Moreover, the makers of China's monetary policy are committed to economic reform - and their efforts are forcing change on the entirety of the Chinese government. Central bank Governor Zhou Xiaochuan is a disciple of Zhu Rongji, the former premier (1998-2003) who did more than any leader since Deng Xiaoping to internationalize China's economy. Zhou's lobbying of the IMF on behalf of the yuan has forced the Communist Party to commit to financial reform. The effectiveness of Zhu's strategy was evident during China's 2001 entry into the World Trade Organization, which eventually pried the nation open to foreign investment and competition. Zhou's plans for a freer yuan would curb the party's influence over the economy, and force transparency on the financial system and state-owned enterprises.

Serious people can disagree about what the real value of the yuan should be (and Lagarde and Lew certainly do). And with a U.S. presidential election approaching, it's a safe bet China's commitment to economic fair play will be a big subject of discussion in the year ahead. But let's not treat China as a minor player in this drama. The world's second-biggest economy is run by a government with loads of cash, vast ambitions and lots of options. As Washington learned the hard way with AIIB, it's better to make room for China than give it reason to walk alone.

THE BUZZ GOOGLE TRIES TO DEMYSTIFY PRIVACY CONTROLS WITH NEW APPROACH

Google is making its privacy controls easier to find and understand in an attempt to make the more than 1 billion users of its digital services feel more comfortable about the personal information that they give the Internet's most powerful company.

The simpler approach debuting this week features a redesigned "My Account" hub where all of Google's key privacy controls can be found. Ac-

countholders can also undergo a check-up that will break down which of the company's various services are gathering information about them.

The new system represents Google's tacit admission that its previous setup confused and frustrated people. Until now, the privacy controls were spread across far-flung sections of Google's website with few explanations of the pros and cons of adjusting each setting.

Station	Air quality
Roadside	10-30 Good
High Density Residential Area	25-45 Good
Ambient	20-40 Good

SOURCE: DSI/MG

WORLD BRIEFS

**AUSTRALIA**'s political opposition hopes to harness momentum from the Irish gay marriage referendum after it proposed a law yesterday that would recognize same-sex marriages, which the country's conservative prime minister opposes. Center-left Labor Party leader Bill Shorten became the first leader of a major Australian political party to back a bill to overturn a national ban on gay marriage.

**GREECE** As Greece and its creditors struggle to reach a deal that would get the country more rescue money, Athens is looking at ways that might buy it more time. One would be asking the IMF to bundle together all its repayments due this month, meaning it would no longer face a repayment on Friday.



AP PHOTO

**VIETNAM-USA** Defense Minister Phung Quang Thanh and U.S. Defense Secretary Ash Carter said the two nations are expanding their defense cooperation to include plans to conduct military operations together. Carter also said that the U.S. will provide USD18 million to Vietnam to buy vessels for the Coast Guard. The Pentagon chief urged Vietnamese officials to give up their reclamation projects in the South China Sea. China's rapidly expanding building projects have raised tensions and caused concerns among the United States, Vietnam and other countries in the region.

**NIGERIA** A runaway oil tanker truck exploded in a crowded bus station in the south of the country, igniting 11 other vehicles and killing 69, Nigeria's Red Cross said yesterday. Red Cross chairman Peter Emeka Kathy said about 30 other victims have been hospitalized with severe burns.

**USA** The U.S. Supreme Court has sided with a Muslim woman who did not get hired after she showed up to a job interview with clothing retailer Abercrombie & Fitch wearing a head scarf. The justices said yesterday that employers generally have to accommodate job applicants and employees with religious needs if the employer at least has an idea that such accommodation is necessary.

Prague 68 invasion film angers Czechs, Slovaks



Ladka Bauerova and Lenka Ponikelska

A Russian film about the 1968 Soviet-led invasion of Czechoslovakia has incensed the Czech and Slovak governments, who said it distorts history by justifying the armed crackdown on the democratic "Prague Spring" movement.

The two former federation partners, who split peacefully in 1993, protested the way the documentary portrayed the invasion as a friendly move to protect against a potential threat from the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. Both countries' foreign ministries condemned the film for using Soviet-era images and propaganda techniques. The film "grossly distorts" the facts, Czech Foreign Minister Lubomir Zaoralek said in a statement after summoning the Russian ambassador yesterday.

The invasion was a "long-lasting tragedy for Czechoslovakia and its people," the Slovak ministry said on its website. The documentary, which aired on state Rossiya 1 television May 23, "is trying to rewrite history and falsify historical truths about this dark chapter of our history."

Soviet tanks, accompanied by troops from other satellite nations, rolled into Czechoslovakia in August 1968 to crush the so-called Prague Spring - a cultural and political awakening that began to loosen the Communist government's restrictions on individual freedoms. The invasion came 12 years after the bloody suppression of an anti-Communist uprising in Hungary.

As the channel is state-run, "we are convinced that the government of Russian Federation will take adequate steps to prevent distortions," the Slovak ministry said.

The conflict comes on the

eve of Slovak Prime Minister Robert Fico's scheduled meeting with Russian President Vladimir Putin and Prime Minister Dimitry Medvedev on Tuesday. They will discuss oil and gas imports to Slovakia, a transit country for deliveries to other European states. The country of 5.4 million is also a neighbor of Ukraine, which is struggling to fight pro-Russian separatists in a war the European Union and the U.S. say is being stoked by Putin's government. Russia says it's not involved.

The spat over the film signals further deterioration of relations between Russia and the EU, which the two ex-Communist nations joined in 2004. Last week Russia barred 89 EU politicians and diplomats from entry, including four Czechs. Zaoralek and Czech Prime Minister Bohuslav Sobotka have condemned the list, along with other politicians.

"Along with the unexplained blacklisting of some Czech and EU politicians, it's more proof of the deterioration of Russian democracy and the onset of Brezhnev-like thinking and behavior," said Czech European Parliament deputy Pavel Telicka, alluding to Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev, who oversaw the invasion and ruled the bloc for almost two decades. **Bloomberg**

THE DECISIVE MOMENT

Roberto Bettini via AP



Mountain prize. This weekend, fans crowd the road to the Colle delle Finestre as race leader Alberto Contador climbs during the 20th stage of the Giro d'Italia, Tour of Italy cycling race from Saint-Vincent to Sestriere.