



### EU-MSAR BUSINESS PLATFORM LAUNCHED

The new EU-Macau business platform aims to aid the diversification of the local economy

P5 MDT REPORT



### JEWELRY SALES FALL IN MACAU, HONG KONG

Chow Tai Fook, the world's largest listed jewelry chain by revenue, said full-year profit fell 25 percent

P7



### THINGS LEARNED FROM BARCELONA'S CHAMPIONS LEAGUE WIN

P19 ANALYSIS

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### WORLD BRIEFS

**CHINA** A 3-year-old girl has died after falling from a bouncy castle that was blown into the air in southern China's Guangxi region. The official Xinhua News Agency reported that the girl was playing in the inflatable castle outside a supermarket on Thursday when a freak gale blew it away.

**CHINA-USA** American officials said Friday that China-based hackers are suspected of breaking into the computer networks of the U.S. government personnel office and stealing identifying information of at least 4 million federal workers. A spokesman for the Chinese Embassy in Washington called such accusations "not responsible and counterproductive."

**MALAYSIA** Rescuers on Malaysia's highest peak yesterday searched for six climbers after recovering 13 dead from a strong earthquake that had trapped scores of trekkers. [More on p13](#)

More on backpage

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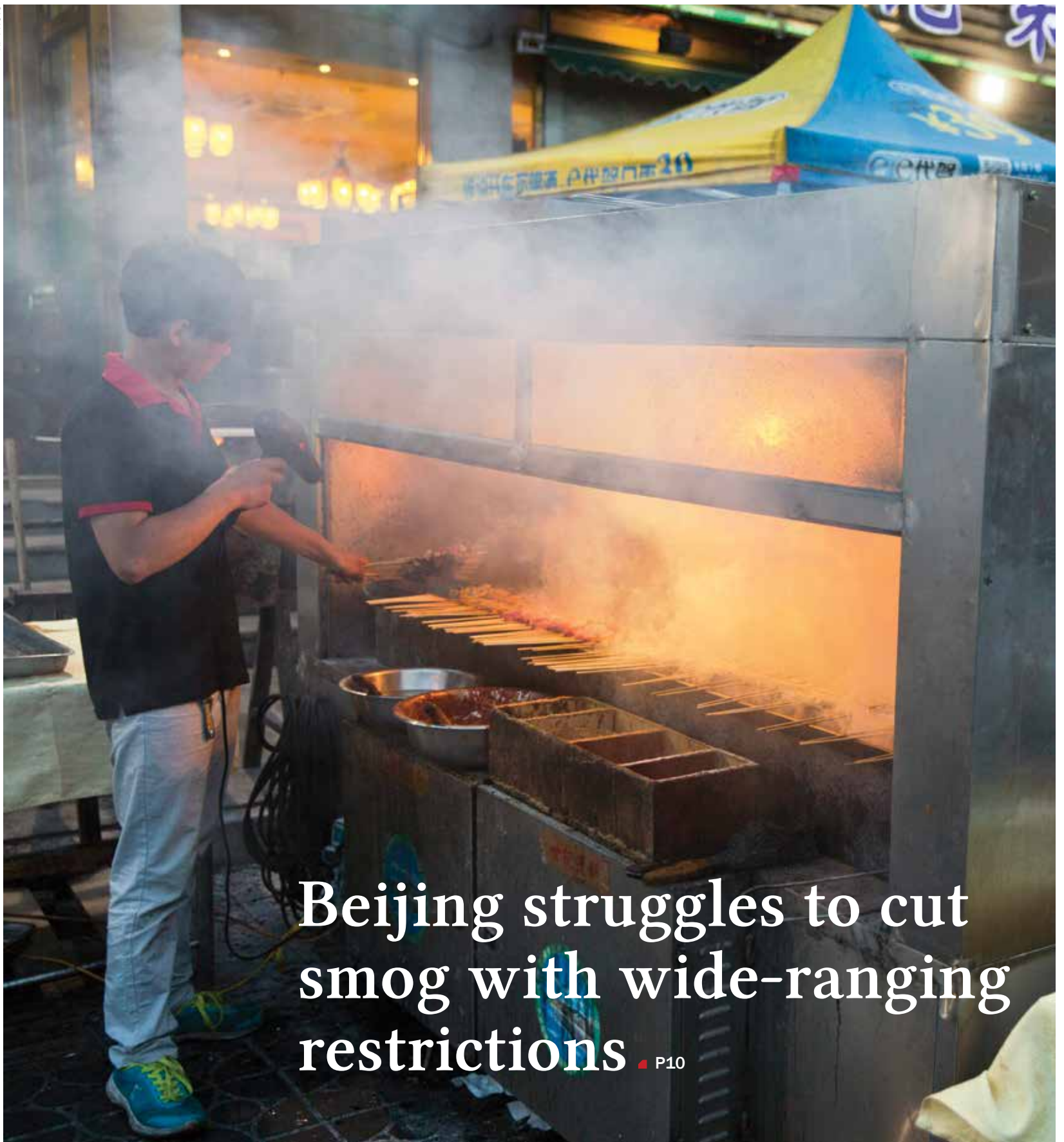
**US in search of strategy to contain China's island-building**

F1

# Draft national security law triggers local concerns

P4

AP PHOTO



## Beijing struggles to cut smog with wide-ranging restrictions

P10



## Police bust unlicensed kitchen with illegal workers

**T**HE Public Security Police (PSP) raided an unlicensed food factory that had hired illegal workers on Friday morning. The kitchen, selling about a thousand boxed meals to workmen from nearby construction sites each day, had been operating for half a year at a venue in Taipa that allegedly belongs to grassroots labor group, the Macau Steel-fixing Association.

According to the PSP, the kitchens had been producing 800 to 1,200 meal boxes each day and selling them to a number of large-scale construction sites at the price of MOP20. The ve-

nue's hygiene conditions were extremely poor and did not meet the standards for producing and operating food products, as confirmed by the Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau (IACM)'s Food Safety Centre.

The unlicensed kitchen was raided in the PSP's surprise inspection of the labor group's venue, based on intelligence. Eight illegal workers and one local employer under suspicion were arrested in the bust. The kitchen was shut down immediately and the food products destroyed.

The PSP checked a total of 14 people's identification documents and detained eight. **BY**

### STATISTICS

## Residents' deposits increase by 3.2 pct



**R**ESIDENTS' deposits increased 3.2 percent in April over the preceding month, data released by the Monetary Authority of Macau shows. MOP, HKD and CNY and other foreign currencies' deposits increased at respective rates of 0.6, 6, 0.4 and 4.4 percent, while USD deposits decreased by 1.8 percent. Non-resident deposits grew 0.8 percent to reach MOP238.4 billion.

Public sector deposits with the banking sector increased 8.4 percent to MOP123 billion.

Total deposits within the banking sector rose 3.2 percent from the previous month to MOP824.4 billion. Domestic loans to the private sector increased 1.7 percent from the previous month to MOP360.1 billion. External loans grew 1.2 percent to MOP358.7 billion.

## Mildly mentally-impaired residents disqualified from welfare support



The first 'MCE Cares- Special Olympics Sports Fun Day' took place yesterday. Hetzer Siu

**M**ANY locals classified as mildly mentally challenged by the authorities in their first assessment have been expelled from the official registration system under the Social Welfare Bureau, which grants medical and transport welfare support to its license-holders, said Hetzer Siu, director of the Macau Special Olympics.

The group's head told the media, after a sports day co-organized with Melco Crown Entertainment Limited yesterday, that the establishment of a residential care service promised earlier by the government might hardly serve the actual needs of aged people with intellectual disabilities in the city, as the authorities should concentrate more on opti-

mizing the supporting facilities in neighborhoods.

Since the end of last year, according to Siu, over 40 cases were eliminated from the official database after another assessment review, with most of the welfare grantees in the cases currently employed.

"I have no idea why the government has dropped so many people with mild mental disability out of the system. The entire number of registered cases might fall sharply," said Siu. "They could care more about the issues of community care and double-aging."

The head of the non-profit organization said that only if the government offered specific reasons behind the massive elimination, and on what benchmark the as-



Hetzer Siu

essment was based, could they disperse the public's concerns.

As the mentally impaired population with aging parents could reach almost a half of its entire population in the coming decade, the Macau Special Olympics director hopes that the authorities can gradually beef up their efforts

to develop the city's neighborhoods into a disabled-friendly environment in the absence of their parents in the near future.

"More than residential care, it's more important to make them live on their own in the neighborhoods, whether or not there is a complete mechanism of supporting facilities for them without restraining them in limited space," said Siu. "Otherwise, it's no different from keeping them in prisons."

He further pointed out that the government's long-term plan for the disabled was most likely subject to the bureau, whose information and data, as he proposed, had to undergo a stringent annual review in order to catch up with the current situation. **Staff reporter**

### MACAU REPRESENTED IN LOS ANGELES WORLD SUMMER GAMES

**T**HE SPECIAL Olympics Macau will deploy a total of around 85 athletes to the upcoming 2015 Special Olympics World Summer Games in Los Angeles on July 21, competing in eight categories. Ao Ieong In,

a local bocce player, was just elected to be among the ambassadors from 12 countries, to promote the spirit of the Special Olympics through her own life experience in the following years.

## Local graduates worried about economic prospects

**F**RESH graduates at the congregation ceremony of the University of Science and Technology held last Saturday expressed concerns over the local employment market after the city recorded its twelfth consecutive month of plummeting gaming revenue.

Among the 1,150 attendees, out of a total of 2,500 graduates this academic year, students majoring in hotel management and tourism admitted that the unpleasant economic downturn in the field of hospitality and gaming was worrying.



The University of Science and Technology congregation ceremony

"I'm worried, so I want to look for a job as a clerk. I also might take some courses," a female student told TDM.

"I want to work in hotels because the major I did is related to hotel management. I'm also worried about the situation, yet so many hotels are opening soon, there should be plenty of opportunities," another graduate added.

The school's president chair professor Liu Liang advised students in his address that no matter how tough and long their roads ahead might be, they would surmount the rising obstacles with their "humanistic qualities" and "professional knowledge." **Staff reporter**

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# Draft national security law triggers local concerns

Brook Yang

MACAU'S inclusion in the country's proposed legislation on national security has triggered concerns over potential limits on freedoms enjoyed in the Special Administrative Regions.

While some see the new draft law as a political statement more than a formal implementation, some believe it is an important piece of mainland legislation affecting the rights of people in the SARs, and worry it implies a set of stringent regulations for the region's stability.

The bill's latest draft outlines a broad scope of national security concerns covering sovereignty, politics, economy, technology, culture, ecology and the military, outlining the SARs' as well as Taiwan's duties for the first time.

Among a total of 82 articles, Macau and Hong Kong are both mentioned twice. Article 11 states that "Safeguarding China's sovereignty and territorial integrity is the common obligation of all Chinese people, including compatriots in Hong Kong and Macau as well as Taiwan," whereas Article 36 further



A Chinese flag flies in front of a construction site in the Zhujiang New Town district of Guangzhou, China

mandates "the Hong Kong SAR and the Macau SAR should fulfill responsibilities to safeguard national security."

These responsibilities mean that various areas of national interest – including not only sovereignty and territorial integrity, national unification, political regime, but also the sustainable and healthy development of the economy and society, the security of the financial system, food, energy, nuclear, as well as

protection of ecology – should be relatively free from danger and not under internal or external threats.

Moreover, the law stresses socialist core values' dominance in the field of ideology and prevention of unhealthy cultural infiltration. It also calls for national sovereignty in cyberspace, including the prevention of cyber-attacks, cyber-theft and spread of harmful information.

The draft law was published on the National People's Congress (NPC)'s official website for a month-long public consultation that concluded last Friday. In an opinion submitted to the NPC, the Macau Journalists Association alleges that some of the definitions in the draft law are inconsistent with the SAR's local laws and social conditions, such as "unhealthy culture" and "national sovereignty in cyberspace."

The group advocates that the proposed legislation should not add "additional legal obligations" to Macau, as the "One Country, Two Systems" crucial principle is safeguarding Macau's existing legal system to remain unchanged."

The existing law was enacted to prohibit acts of treason, secession, sedition,

subversion, theft of state secrets, and acts by foreign and local political organizations deemed to endanger state security. The journalists' association said it is concerned whether the new National Security Law will be extended to the MSAR as an annex to be attached to the Basic Law, or that the local law for national security will request a corresponding amendment.

"The authorities can already play an adequate role in the maintenance of stability without citing the [No. 2/2009] law, we really cannot see any necessity to revise the law and move the more stringent regulations to the MSAR," it stated, adding that, "if the law has to be revised, clauses protecting human rights, press and speech freedoms must be added to ensure journalists won't inadvertently breach the law when fulfilling their duties."

Drawing on how the proposed National Security Law will be implemented as it "merely lays down the general principles of national security," John Chan, a founding member of Hong Kong's Democratic Party, commented in the South China Morning Post that, "there must be sufficient safeguards against a wrong judgment, if not abused by government officials, when applying the law."

Chan suggests the need for "sufficient checks and balances in place to ensure that mainland officials cannot arbitrarily raise the seriousness of a petty crime – if it were committed by someone the authorities did not like – to the level of endangering national security."

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Catarina Pinto

COOPERATION

# EU-Macau business platform to help diversify local economy

**T**HE head of office of the European Union to Hong Kong and Macau, Vincent Piket, has assured that the new EU-Macau business platform aims to aid the diversification of the local economy.

Mr Piket said Macau and the European Union have agreed to set up a EU-Macau business platform, whose agenda will be outlined in the coming months.

"The first meeting is planned for November. What we hope and are aiming for is that this platform will – in a very pragmatic way – identify areas in which Macau and the EU should do more, particularly in the framework of the diversification agenda of the government," he stated.

Speaking on the sidelines of the Macau European Chamber of Commerce (MECC) gala dinner held on Friday, Mr Piket highlighted MECC's role as a partner to boost EU trade, working also as a platform to discuss EU-Macau economic relations.

Although bilateral trade between the EU and Macau dropped by 11 percent last year to EUR613 million, Mr Piket recalled that, "the trade volume remains very high if you take into account the small size of the Macau area."

"It's part of the overall economic picture of both Macau and the EU, but we do think that it will go up in the coming two years," he added.

Mr Piket recalled that luxury goods, food & beverages and



**This platform will identify areas in which Macau and the EU should do more**

VINCENT PIKET

the automobile service remain core sectors of the EU-Macau trade. Furthermore, he believes that we will see an increase in the services trade, tourism and environmental services.

But the EU is even more promising in terms of innovation: "What we really want is to cooperate with Macau in innovation. So [we're aiming at encouraging] a lot of cooperation with the main universities here



in order to boost innovation."

The Macau European Chamber of Commerce held its summer gala dinner on Friday, launching for the first time the MECC Awards for Euro Excellence in Luxury, Food & Beverage, and Innovation.

Macau Legend Development Ltd., owned by casino tycoon David Chow, won the award

in the luxury category, while CESL Asian won the Innovation award, and enterprise Vang Kei Hong won the Food & Beverage award.

The awards seek to encourage local organizations to embrace Macau's long history of Sino-Western commercial and cultural exchange, and to develop new partnerships for the future.

Ambrose So, honorary chairman of MECC and CEO of casino operator SJM said, "The chamber has made great progress to further its mission in the past year, including a cooperation agreement signed with the European Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong to promote trade relations between Europe and the Pearl River Delta region."

Mr So told reporters on the sidelines of Friday's gala dinner that his company's new property, under development on the Cotai Strip, will feature European brands such as the Versace and Karl Lagerfeld hotels.

"As you know Macau is a center for amusement, leisure and luxury brands. So we will have quite a number of luxury brands from Europe, and European services as well as restaurants," he said.

## Smoking lounges are 'a good solution,' says Ambrose So

**T**HE CEO of casino operator SJM, Ambrose So, has stressed that smoking lounges are a good solution not only in casinos but other properties as well.

"I think this will be a good solution to balance people's right to choose [to or not to smoke]," he told reporters on the sidelines of a Macau European Chamber of Commerce gala dinner on Friday.

Mr So added that installing smoking

lounges does not go against the principle of a full smoking ban, as "those who smoke need to have a chance to do so, but when they smoke they should not disturb others."

If a full smoking ban is implemented, Mr So acknowledged that gaming revenue would suffer. "The gaming revenue has suffered due to a complex of different elements, and the smoking, of course,

is part of it. I cannot predict as to how much it will be affected by the smoking ban. But I am sure that there will be a certain effect on the gaming revenue," he stated.

Furthermore, Mr So added that for visitors, gaming is a form of entertainment, and so is smoking. If one part is taken away, "they will enjoy the casino less. That's what I feel."

Brook Yang

## Mainland plot available for construction waste disposal

**A**UTHORITIES will consult mainland China for assistance with the waste generated in local construction works. The acting director of the Environmental Protection Bureau, Vai Hoi Ieong, told media yesterday that Guangdong's Taishan city has reserved a 164-hectare landfill for disposal and treatment of Macau's inert construction and demolition materials. The cooperation is expected to meet Macau's demand in inert waste

disposal for the next ten years.

When asked whether the scheme meant the authorities would pay the bill for waste production, Vai said the government would study a charging system to be imposed on the developers responsible for the construction works, and consult the public this year, as currently the

city has no charge for the production of inert waste. Vai estimated about eighty percent of the aforementioned inert waste could be reused for land reclamation.

"Bigger issues may occur if they treat [the inert waste] by themselves. The government will probably need to assume full responsibility in the end, because

there are certain requirements such as the materials' composition or radiation measurement. In that case, it might be harder for the government to regulate. Taking reference from neighboring regions, if the waste producers submit fees, the government has the responsibility to strengthen out the final materials. It's just a question

of charging in which stage," he explained.

The official presided over an annual community event to mark World Environment Day at Tap Seac Square yesterday, promoting the awareness of "waste reduction at source" in local society.

Vai stated during the event that this year's World Environment Day theme is "sustainable

consumption and production" with the slogan "Seven Billion Dreams. One Planet. Consume with Care."

He appealed to citizens to reduce unnecessary waste, reduce use of plastic bags, and to support recycling.

The event, a joint campaign under the environmental cooperation between Macau, Hong Kong and three neighboring cities in Guangdong, drew a large group of residents to its stage performances, family-friendly games booths and themed workshops.




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#### Manhattan Taipa

(Ref: 15030488)  
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Luxury residence in Central Taipa. Spacious open plan living / dining room. 5 star facilities including gym, golf simulator, swimming pool, sauna, BBQ facilities and private cinema.

Close to supermarkets, restaurants, cafes, shops and walking distance to Cotai Strip this is the perfect family or executive home.



#### Old Taipa Village, Vai Fat Taipa

(Ref: 15040499)  
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# Chow Tai Fook net falls 25 pct on weak China, Macau sales

**C**HOW Tai Fook Jewellery Group Ltd., the world's largest listed jewelry chain by revenue, said full-year profit fell 25 percent as sales weakened in China and major markets such as Hong Kong and Macau.

Net income fell to HKD5.46 billion (USD704 million) for the 12 months ended March from HK\$7.27 billion a year earlier, Hong Kong-based Chow Tai Fook said Friday. That compared with the HK\$5.9 billion average estimate of 23 analysts compiled by Bloomberg.

Jewelry sales fell 16 percent in China and 33 percent in Hong Kong and Macau, as Chinese shoppers cut back on luxury spending amid a slowing economy and the government's austerity campaign. The jeweler plans to focus its expansion on the mainland by ad-

**Jewelry sales fell 16 percent in China and 33 pct in HK and Macau**



A customer looks at gold jewelry, center, as employees work inside a Chow Tai Fook Jewellery Group Ltd. jewelry store in the Central district of Hong Kong

ding as many as 160 points of sales, while consolidating its retail network in the two cities.

"Profit contribution from mainland China exceeded those from Hong Kong and Macau for the first time and became our biggest profit booster," Chow Tai Fook finance director Hamilton Cheng said on Friday. "This has proven that our business strategy in China over the past 10 years is right."

Same-store-sales at outlets open at least a year fell 24 percent, Chow Tai Fook said. Revenue dropped to HK\$64.28 billion, compared with the HK\$66.3 billion average analyst estimate.

Shares of Chow Tai Fook fell 0.3 percent to close at HK\$9.18 in Hong Kong before the announcement. The benchmark Hang Seng Index fell 1.1 percent.

Chow Tai Fook is seeking a 20 percent reduction in rent for some of its Hong Kong stores when contracts come up for renewal this year, as sales of luxury items plunged in the city, Managing Director Kent Wong said in an interview in May.

The company said in November it plans to open new stores outside its main Hong Kong and China markets, as overseas travel becomes increasingly popular for the Chinese. **Bloomberg**

HEALTH

## Two suspected MERS cases test negative

**T**WO suspected cases of Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) in Macau have tested negative, according to the Health Bureau (SSM).

Two Chinese citizens were taken to the public hospital last week with MERS associated symptoms, SSM said in a statement on Friday.

A 30-year-old Chinese man who works in Uganda, Africa, was in Macau to attend a conference at the Venetian hotel. He was rushed to hospital with symptoms of diarrhea, but did not have a fever, SSM said.

The second case involved a 57-year-old Chinese woman who works for a local hotel. She had recently returned to Macau after travelling in Sou-

th Korea between May 20 and 25. The patient presented symptoms of diarrhea and respiratory infection. She had no fever either.

The patient said that while visiting South Korea, she did not seek treatment at any hospital nor had any contact with patients or local medical staff.

Both cases tested negative and patients will be treated accordingly, SSM said.

Last Thursday, the bureau denied rumors that a South Korean woman had been isolated for possible MERS after she sought treatment at Tap Seac's Public Health Center.

Until now, there are no suspected cases of MERS in the city. How-

ever, authorities are still searching for a South Korean visitor who entered Macau after coming into contact with a MERS patient last week (May 26) on Asian Airlines flight OZ723 from Seoul to Hong Kong.

Meanwhile, Macau's Fire Department has carried out a drill to test its response in case of a Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) outbreak.

The department said in a statement that it is ready to deal with potential MERS cases. Furthermore, it has reinforced communication with the Health Bureau to provide timely emergency services to citizens in need.

The department has urged those who may have

symptoms associated with MERS to request an ambulance to take them to the public hospital. At the emergency rooms, citizens should also provide relevant information, namely countries which they have traveled to recently.

The department added that while driving a possible MERS patient to the hospital, staff would wear adequate protection gear and surgical masks.

The Health Bureau has taken further measures to cope with a possible MERS outbreak by ensuring that anyone visiting or using public emergency rooms in the peninsula or emergency services in Taipa will be required to wear a surgical mask.

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), symptoms of MERS include fever, cough, and shortness of breath. Gastrointestinal symptoms such as diarrhea have also been reported. **CP**

MUSIC

## Jazz legends play sold out concert



Herbie Hancock and Chick Corea

**J**AZZ legends Herbie Hancock and Chick Corea displayed their musical mastery with improvisational takes on well-known tunes before a sold-out concert at the Macau Cultural Center Grand Auditorium on Friday.

With a combined collection of over 30 Grammy awards, Hancock and Corea are influential jazz pianists and seen as rare examples of constant reinvention and progression, after more than five decades of unparalleled musical creativity.

The legendary keyboard duo went a long way back, from the great Miles Davies bands of the 60s to the stadium filling, genre-shattering "Head Hunters" and "Return to Forever" of the 70s, when both artists started to build their careers.

The concert was the last stop of a tour that included concerts in Taipei, Sydney and Melbourne. After Macau, Chick Corea will perform in Germany while Herbie Hancock will resume his busy schedule back in the U.S.

## Angela Leong's theme park awaits gov't approval

**C**ASINO operator SJM's executive director, Angela Leong, says she is still waiting for the government's approval to turn her plans for a theme park into reality.

Ms Leong told media last week that the new resort project, located next to SJM's Lisboa Palace in Cotai, is comprised of five hotels with different themes. "I've waited for five years. Like many other citizens and friends, I'm also very [much] looking forward to it. (...) We have the ability to develop," she said.

The project will feature family-oriented entertainment, including a Hello Kitty theme park, on a plot of land in Cotai. The development rights are owned by a company named Macau Theme Park and Resort, previously revealed to be controlled by Ms Leong.

A separate MOP800 million investment deal to build a similar park on the neighbo-

ring Hengqin Island was later signed among several companies. Ms Leong stated that her company has nothing to do with that project.

"There will still be Hello Kitty elements; a theme to be used in about a hundred hotel rooms," she said, adding that the company would need to look for new themes that have not yet been used in neighboring regions. "We will add in new entertainment elements, depending on the Cotai Strip's development."

Angela Leong was speaking on the sidelines of a traditional blessing ceremony on Thursday for SJM's three men's teams that will be participating in the upcoming Macau International Dragon Boat Races. At the Nam Van Lake Nautical Centre, the company executives lit incense sticks, cut a suckling pig, and dotted the eyes of dancing lions, as part of the traditional ritual for the racers' success. **BY**



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Josh Funk, Business Writer, Omaha

# Dalian Zeus bids USD2.3m for lunch with Warren Buffett

A Chinese company that develops online games bid more than USD2.3 million Friday to win a private lunch with Warren Buffett.

Beijing-based Dalian Zeus Entertainment Co. bid \$2,345,678 to win the online auction. The Glide Foundation uses the auction proceeds to help the poor and homeless in San Francisco.

The 2015 bid was still well below the 2012 winning bid of \$3,456,789 — the most expensive charity item ever sold on eBay. Last year's winning bid was \$2,166,766.

Many people want Buffett's advice because the 84-year-old is revered as an investor and philanthropist. Buffett is chairman and chief executive of Berkshire Hathaway, and more than 40,000 people attended the company's annual meeting in May to listen to Buffett answer questions.

Over the past 15 years, the lunch auction has raised \$17.9 million for Glide, which provides meals, health care, job training, rehabilitation and housing support to the poor and homeless. The nonprofit relies on the event to generate part of its roughly \$18 million annual budget.

Buffett has said the lunches generally last at least three hours



Berkshire Hathaway Chairman and CEO Warren Buffett

and cover a variety of topics. The only topic off-limits is what Buffett plans to invest in next.

"Every year, it's an interesting experience for me," Buffett said. "I've met a lot of great people in connection with it. Made new friends. Hired a person. Had a lot of good steaks, so I can't complain."

One past winner, Ted Weschler, received a job offer after spending nearly \$5.3 million to win the 2010 and 2011 auctions. Weschler now works as an investment manager for Berkshire and gets to chat with Buffett on a regular basis.

The winners of the lunch auction often dine at Smith & Wollensky steakhouse in New York City, which donates at least \$10,000 to Glide each year to host the lunch.

But some of the past winners who wanted to remain anonymous chose to dine at one of Buffett's favorite Omaha, Nebraska, steakhouses.

Regardless of the location, the winner can bring up to seven friends. **AP**

## Korean Air, Asiana step up efforts to ease MERS fears

Kyunghee Park

KOREAN Air Lines Co. and Asiana Airlines Inc. are disinfecting planes and offering special training to cabin crew, seeking to ease passengers' concerns as Middle East Respiratory Syndrome claims more victims in South Korea.

Korean Air is sterilizing planes that fly to its three Middle Eastern destinations before and after their flights, the airline said in an e-mailed statement Friday. Asiana is disinfecting all of its 74 aircraft, it said.

Nearly 12,000 people have canceled plans to visit South Korea because of the deadly virus, according to the Korea Tourism Organization.

"The spread of MERS seems to be affecting inbound travel demand for Korean Air and Asiana," said Um Kyung A, an analyst at Shinyoung Securities Co. in Seoul. "Still, much of that may be offset as outbound travel is expected to increase as the summer peak season has started."

Fear of MERS could prompt travelers to choose Japan or other destinations, undermining the Korean tourism in-

dustry, Shinyoung's Um said. So far, some 3,500 travelers from China, 700 from Taiwan, 200 from Hong Kong and 120 from Japan have canceled plans to visit, the tourism organization said.

About 4.6 million people visited South Korea in the first four months of the year, up 12 percent from a year earlier, according to the tourism organization. The largest number - 2.1 million - came from China, followed by 655,553 from Japan and 216,753 from Taiwan.

The first MERS case in China was a South Korean man who arrived in Hong Kong on an Asiana flight from Seoul late

last month, then traveled to Huizhou in Guangdong Province. Cabin and ground crew who had contact with the man have been quarantined until Tuesday, according to the airline.

"To ensure safety, Asiana decided to perform additional disinfection of the passenger fleet," Asiana said in a statement. "Asiana is trying its best to alleviate concerns about MERS among passengers."

The airlines are training cabin crew to identify passengers who show symptoms of the disease and isolate them from others onboard. Korean Air has placed hand sanitizers and masks on its flights to Dubai, Riyadh and Jeddah.

**Bloomberg**

### corporate bits

#### DOG BEHAVIOR EXPERT CESAR MILLAN ENTERTAINS AT THE VENETIAN MACAO



Dog behavior expert Cesar Millan was in Macau for the Cesar Millan Live - Love your Dogs Tour Saturday night at The Venetian's Cotai Arena

with his one man show that both entertained and taught attendees how to better interact with their dogs. The Nat Geo People star

brought his "Love your Dogs" tour to the city. Prior to the show, a dog casting was held to select dogs to participate in the event as there are no pre-trained dogs in the show, instead using real dogs showing real behavior situations.

Known for his hit television series "Dog Whisperer with Cesar Millan" and his new series "Cesar To The Rescue," Millan was performing in Macau for the very first time. The show saw Cesar convey his love for dogs and how the relationship between dog and master can be very fulfilling. During the live show he shared lessons and performed live dog demonstrations that included identifying dog behavior triggers, techniques to fix common misbehaviors and how to read your dog's body language in order to prevent behavior problems.

The new, limited edition Rolls-Royce Phantom Limelight Collection has been presented to guests in Hong Kong in a closed-door preview. The Bespoke Phantom Limelight Collection comprises only 25 cars worldwide. It has been designed for customers who spend their lives in the public eye and on the world stage. The concept is tailored to highly successful, busy individuals who are chauffeured and spend time in the back of a motor car.

With one of the highest concentration of Phantom cars in the world, the HK/Macau region is the natural place to launch the Phantom Limelight Collection in the Asia Pacific region, following its global debut at Auto Shanghai 2015. Luxury entrepreneur Stephen Hung last year placed the largest-ever order of Rolls-Royce Phantoms.

#### ROLLS-ROYCE PHANTOM LIMELIGHT COLLECTION DEBUTS IN HK



Attending the launch, Michael Schneider, Regional General Manager, Sales, for Rolls-Royce Motor Cars in the Asia Pacific region said, "Over the years there has been a close, enduring relationship between Hong Kong, Macau and Phan-

tom. It is a region where a particularly high proportion of our cars are chauffeur driven and we are confident that our discerning customers will appreciate the Limelight Collection's authentic luxury that is quintessentially Rolls-Royce."





A restaurant worker barbecues meat skewers in Beijing

# Beijing struggles to cut smog with wide-ranging restrictions

Jack Chang, Beijing

**WHEN** Dong Yingli first opened her east Beijing meat skewers restaurant six years ago, her chefs cooked the lamb, chicken hearts and assorted treats over an uncovered grill, with giant fans blowing the clouds of pungent smoke from the sidewalk into the middle of the street.

Elsewhere in this sprawling capital city, four coal-fired power plants belched exhaust into the smoggy skies, while countless steel and cement factories in neighboring provinces emitted millions of tons of cancer-causing particles into the air.

Now, more than a year since Chinese Premier Li Keqiang declared war on pollution across the country, Beijing's massive anti-smog fight is transforming this 20-million-person metropolis in ways both big and small. Still, as was evident on several days over the past week, when a thick gray pall filled the streets, the Chinese smog battle is far from won.

Authorities in Beijing are shutting down coal-fired power plants within the city limits

and have tried to reduce vehicle exhaust by forcing many residents to wait years to win a license plate. The capital last Monday launched the country's strictest ban on smoking indoors. Officials have even tried to convince people to cut back on the centuries-old tradition of setting off fireworks during Chinese New Year, though booms and crackles still rang out across the city in February.

In the predominantly Muslim neighborhood where Dong runs her restaurant, inspectors have become a regular sight as they make sure vendors have installed thousands of dollars' worth of ventilation and filters. Though Dong doesn't think her business had much to do with the state of Beijing's air, she says the extra enforcement in general has made breathing easier.

"The environment has gotten a lot better here," Dong said at a sidewalk table on a recent smoggy evening. "There used to be so much smoke here, it was hard to even see. This needed to be done."

Despite all the reforms, official figures show Beijing's average density of PM2.5 — harmful particles that are small enough

to enter bloodstreams — was nine times the World Health Organization air quality safety level in the first three months of the year. That still marked a 19 percent drop from pollution levels a year before.

**More than a year since Premier Li Keqiang declared war on pollution across the country, the Chinese smog battle is far from won**

The city has shown it can bring back days-long stretches of blue skies for high-profile events such as last year's Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation group meeting, but only by wielding the toughest of measures, such

as encouraging residents to leave town and closing factories more than 120 miles away. Keeping the skies clean on a daily basis will require more permanent fixes, said Li Xiang, with Beijing's Environmental Protection Ministry.

"Changing air pollution is a long-term project," Li said. "In other cities, like London and Los Angeles in the U.S., it took about 50 years to reduce air pollution and show significant change. ... Beijing has made significant improvements, but meeting people's expectations will take some time."

The anti-pollution fight has become a particularly sensitive task for image-conscious Chinese leaders as the country becomes known globally as much for its severe pollution as its economic growth.

Environmental woes have also become one of the top causes of social unrest in China, as well as a major health hazard. Studies show pollution causes more than a million premature deaths annually in China and shortens life spans by an average of five years.

Lax enforcement of the new environmental restrictions is

a clear obstacle to cleaning up the capital's air.

For example, although Beijing has banned open-air barbecues within its Fourth Ring Road, clouds of skewer smoke are common sights in the twisting alleyways and roads throughout the city center. Many drivers regularly flout restrictions that require cars to stay off the roads on certain days of the week.

The biggest problem, however, is much of Beijing's smog drifts in from beyond its borders, especially if winds blow in from the south or east.

Heavy industry in neighboring provinces, in particular Hebei, Shanxi and Shandong, account for 28 to 36 percent of the fine particulate in Beijing's air, according to Chinese state media. Shutting down those industries would hit one of the most economically vital areas in the country.

An analysis by the environmental group Greenpeace showed the five smoggiest parts of China all sit just hundreds of miles from Beijing, with the capital itself suffering the country's fourth-worst air quality average.

"You have to work with the surrounding region and control the heavy industries there," said Fang Yuan, a campaigner in Greenpeace's East Asia office.

Yet without much of the international media and diplomatic corps watching, like they do in the capital, companies have been much slower shutting down cement, chemical and other industrial factories elsewhere in the northeast.

About a three-hour drive from Beijing, on the outskirts of the city of Tianjin, hundreds of angry residents took to the streets last week to protest what they say are the rising emissions of the giant Rock Check steel plant, which churns about a mile from a teeming housing complex. The protesters say they suspect the plant has caused outbreaks of lung cancer in the area.

A neighbor who would identify herself only by her surname, Hang, said she and other protesters have blocked coal-carrying trucks from the plant and wouldn't leave the streets until the plant either closes or cuts emissions to a tolerable level.

A Rock Check spokesman said last week the company was considering an interview request, but subsequent phone calls to him rang unanswered.

"Why does Beijing have so much pollution?" Hang asked as the factory's multiple smokestacks puffed smoke high into the sky. "It's because of the areas around it. It's all like this. Beijing hardly produces any of its own pollution anymore. We have industry all around us. It doesn't matter which way the wind blows." **AP**



Christopher Bodeen, Jianli

# Rescuers, families bow in silence to honor boat dead

**N**EARBY ships blared horns for three minutes yesterday and rescuers bowed in silence to honor the more than 430 victims of the Yangtze River capsizing, as specialists began working on DNA samples from relatives to identify the dead.

The toll from last Monday's overturning of the Eastern Star cruise ship rose to 431 dead with 11 people still missing, said Hu Kaihong, the vice director-general of the press bureau of the State Council Information Office. Fourteen people survived, mostly by swimming or drifting. Three were pulled by divers from the overturned hull Tuesday.

After the ship was pulled upright by cranes and thoroughly checked by Saturday, the search for additional bodies turned to the river downstream, Hu said. Authorities planned to expand the search from the Hubei province disaster site as far east as Shanghai, more than 1,000 kilometers away.

Transport Minister Yang Chuantang presided over the ceremony yesterday on the huge crane vessel that had been used to pull the Eastern Star up, saying simply, "Please observe silence."

Hundreds of military and police personnel and others took off their hats and bowed as vessels blared their horns. State broadcaster CCTV showed some relatives also bowing as they watched the event on te-



Rescuers bow during a memorial service near the raised capsized Eastern Star ship on the Yangtze River in Jianli county

levision from where they were staying nearby in Jianli county.

Authorities have tightly controlled access to the site and said relatives would be taken there when necessary arrangements had been made. Dozens

were driven to a part of the riverbank about 2 kilometers away from the disaster site on Saturday to lay flowers, too far away to see the boat.

Yesterday marked the seventh day since the tragedy, the first

commemorative event in the Chinese cycle of mourning.

Authorities have attributed the overturning of the cruise ship late last Monday to a freak storm with tornado-like winds, but also have placed the survi-

ving captain and his first engineer in police custody.

The boat was carrying 456 people, many of them elderly tourists, for a cruise from Nanjing to the southwestern city of Chongqing.

Wang Hua, who lost her parents in the disaster, said the couple had been enjoying their retirement. Her 77-year-old father, a former judge, made sure they traveled each year, and they had been all around mainland China and to Taiwan.

"They were just ordinary people. Their biggest concern was causing trouble for others," Wang said in an interview organized by the local propaganda bureau.

Forensic teams were using DNA matching to identify the remains, but haven't said how long the process will take.

Passengers' relatives have raised questions about whether the ship should have continued its voyage after the storm started in a section of Hubei province and despite a weather warning earlier in the evening.

On Saturday night, relatives were taken by bus to an area upriver of the ship, where they burned incense and tossed flowers into the Yangtze in memory of the dead. **AP**

# Senior travel booms with Yangtze a popular spot

Jack Chang, Beijing

**W**HEN Li Caohua retired in her late 50s, the doctor immediately joined millions of other Chinese seniors and hit the road to see more of her giant country.

At the top of her destination list was tropical Hainan island in the south and the ancient villages around her home city of Beijing. Then there was the most grandiose of China's landscapes — the mythic brown waters of the Yangtze River and its mist-enveloped Three Gorges.

Over the decades, Li survived such horrors of 20th century Chinese history as the man-made famines that killed more than 30 million people in the late 1950s and the political anarchy of the Cultural Revolution that followed. Now, as she and hundreds of other seniors danced, played cards and chatted



An elderly Chinese woman is pushed in a wheelchair near the entrance to the Temple of Heaven park in Beijing

Thursday in the winding walkways of Beijing's Temple of Heaven, Li said it was her time to play.

"We are fortunate in China that we can travel, and I've seen so much," the 60-year-old woman said. "We're all traveling now to a lot of places."

Travel agencies and pa-

ckages catering to elderly Chinese say business is booming, amid overall growth in the country's travel industry. The number of senior tourists in China jumped by 58 percent last year compared to 2013, according to the state-run China Daily newspaper, and 62 percent

of Chinese senior citizens join organized tours.

One such tour ended tragically last Monday night when a river cruiser carrying more than 450 people, mostly elderly tourists, capsized in a heavy storm in the Yangtze.

The tour was organized by the Shanghai Xiehe Tourism Agency, with the ship run by the state-owned Chongqing Eastern Shipping Corp., which specializes in Yangtze River travel. The ship, the Eastern Star, was plying the river upstream from Nanjing near the eastern coast all the way inland to Chongqing, a trip of 10 days and about 1,400 kilometers.

There are many versions of senior-friendly trips designed for different income groups, with some low-cost options charging 3,000 yuan, or about USD480, for five days on Hainan island,

not including airfare, said Beijing travel agent Qi Chun Guan. For Yangtze River travel, most groups fly into the metropolis of Chongqing and then travel downstream to the city of Yichang, Qi said.

"Before, the elderly saved all their money," Qi said. "Now, they want to go out and see the rest of the world. These people have seen their share of suffering in their lives. Now, with economic development, it's so different from previous generations."

The boom in travel has been one economic bright spot to a graying population that's presenting China with one of its most serious policy challenges.

With U.N. data showing the number of Chinese over age 65 projected to almost double to 210 million people by 2030, the country's retirement system will struggle to keep up, especially as China's one-

child policy limits the number of working-age people who can pay for the pensions and meager benefits of their elders, said Yong Cai, an assistant sociology professor at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

"It's very clear that the next 10 to 15 years down the road will not be so good for the pension system," Yong said. "Xi Jinping has been saying China has to deal with the new economic reality and part of this is a new demographic reality."

One 55-year-old property manager, who would only identify himself by his family name of Shu, said he took two-day trips to towns around Beijing with other older Chinese, paying 600 yuan, or about \$100, for each excursion.

"If you have the money, you go out and play," Shu said. "I've learned to like it." **AP**



Thanyarat Doksone, Bangkok

## HUMAN TRAFFICKING

## Thailand scrambles to boost image

THAILAND is eager to show its newfound toughness on human trafficking, taking reporters on patrols and tours of former camps, cooperating with neighboring countries and the U.S., and arresting dozens of officials — including a high-ranking officer in the military that now controls the country. The junta even had a “National Anti-Human Trafficking Day.”

The Southeast Asian country is trying to dissuade Western governments from leveling economic sanctions, but it has a daunting enemy: history.

“Thailand remains major center for human trafficking.” Those words were emblazoned on a huge headline in a Thai daily newspaper printed nearly three years ago. The country’s answer was largely to ignore the problem, until recent events made that impossible.

The discovery of 36 bodies at abandoned traffickers’ camps near Thailand’s southern border with Malaysia has intensified international pressure on Thailand to crack down on smugglers. So has a subsequent crisis involving thousands of migrants who were stranded at sea by their traffickers — and whose boats were pushed back by Thai officials. Those migrants, mainly Bangladeshis and



In this May 5 photo, border patrol police officers dismantle an abandoned migrant camp on Khao Kaew mountain near the Thai-Malaysian border

ethnic Rohingya migrants from Myanmar, are just part of a human-trafficking problem that also includes Thai fishing boats that have used slave labor.

Last June, Thailand and Malaysia were put on a blacklist in a U.S. State Department assessment on human trafficking, a downgrade that can jeopardize its lucrative seafood and shrimp industries. The European Union also threatened Thailand with a ban on seafood import by the end of the year

unless it drastically changes its policies on illegal and unregulated fishing.

A new State Department assessment is due this month, and Thailand is pushing for an upgrade with efforts that included its first-ever Anti-Human Trafficking Day on Friday. The opening ceremony at the prime minister’s Government House was followed by discussion about the problem and an awards ceremony for a journalist, police and officials who

have helped expose human trafficking problems.

“Today, we have to admit that this has been a problem in Thailand for a long time,” Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-ocha said as he opened the event with an hour-long speech.

Yet even Friday’s event raised questions about Thailand’s seriousness. The journalist who was honored reported on trafficking from the country’s inland north, not the south and the sea, where the crisis has been most immediate. Weeks earlier, when a Bangkok television reporter drew broad attention to the issue by getting on a migrant boat to shoot video, Prayuth obliquely referred to her as a troublemaker.

Human-rights activists and others have long accused Thai authorities of collusion in the trafficking industry — claims that police, military and government officials have long denied. But as the migrant camps, graves and boats drew global attention, pressure grew on the government to respond.

In a widening human-trafficking investigation, more than

50 people have been arrested in a month, including local politicians, government officials, police, and, in the past week, a senior-ranking army officer. About 50 police officers in the southern provinces were also removed from their posts and investigated for possible involvement in trafficking syndicates.

The junta-appointed legislature passed a new anti-human trafficking law that mandates harsher penalties, and human trafficking-related court cases will get a shortcut in the judicial system to prosecute suspects more quickly.

“Thailand needs to show that they are consistent with law enforcement,” said Sunai Phasuk, a senior researcher of Human Rights Watch. “The arrest (of an army officer) showed that no one will be left untouched this time, but at the same time, it also made us question why have they allowed this to happen for years.

“Thailand has been accused of having the culture of impunity of state officials in the past, but this crisis offers a first chance to break that culture,” he said. AP

AD

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SOUTH KOREA

# 5th person dies of MERS virus

Tong-hyung Kim, Seoul

A fifth person in South Korea has died of the MERS virus, as the government announced yesterday that it was strengthening measures to stem the spread of the disease and public fear.

Sixty-four people in South Korea have been infected by Middle East Respiratory Syndrome since last month in the largest outbreak outside the Middle East. Hundreds of schools have closed and more than 2,000 people are isolated at their homes or in facilities after having contact with patients infected with the virus, health officials said.

Acting Prime Minister Choi Kyung-hwan said yesterday that there was no reason to believe that the virus would significantly spread further in the country.

"So far, all the MERS cases have been hospital-associated, and there has been no case of an infection in other social settings. We think we have a chance at putting the outbreak under total control," Choi told a news conference.

While the virus has no vaccine, health experts say it spreads through close contact with infected people and not through the air.

The U.N. health agency has re-



Protesters wear masks as a precaution against the MERS virus during a rally against the government's labor policy in Seoul

ported that there's no evidence yet in South Korea of "sustained transmission in the community."

Departing from its earlier policy, the government announced the names of the 24 hospitals where the MERS patients

have been diagnosed or had been treated before their condition was confirmed. This will allow people who have visited those facilities in recent weeks to report themselves if they are showing symptoms similar to MERS-related illnesses, Choi

said.

While the government had earlier identified one hospital in a city south of Seoul where the first MERS case was confirmed, and another in southern Seoul that has been a significant source of infections, it had been

reluctant to release the full list of hospitals over concerns that it would cause a disruption in services if people started avoiding them.

Choi said the government will also strengthen its monitoring of the hundreds of undiagnosed patients who are quarantined at their homes because officials believe they might have contracted the virus. It includes tracking their whereabouts through cellphone signals.

## Patients' whereabouts will be tracked through phone signals

More than 1,200 schools were closed at the end of last week in reaction to fears about the spreading virus, according to the Ministry of Education. The number will surely rise today after education authorities in Seoul and the neighboring Gyeonggi Province yesterday ordered more schools in their regions to participate in the temporary closures.

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 has spread primarily through contact with camels, but it can also spread from human fluids and droplets. AP

Eileen Ng, Kuala Lumpur

MALAYSIA

# Climber says 'lucky to live' as quake kills 13

RESCUERS on Malaysia's highest peak yesterday searched for six climbers after recovering 13 dead from a strong earthquake that had trapped scores of trekkers. One survivor said she waited for a rescue helicopter that never came.

A magnitude-5.9 earthquake on Friday sent rocks and boulders raining down the trekking routes on 4,095-meter-high Mount Kinabalu in eastern Sabah state on Borneo island.

Nine of the bodies found Saturday were flown out by helicopter, while the other two were brought down by foot, said district police official Farhan Lee Abdullah.

Most of the other climbers made it down the mountain in the darkness early Saturday, some with broken limbs and one in a coma.

Amanda Peter said local



In this Friday, June 5 photo, climbers trek down the Timpohan Trail with the help of local mountain guides on Mount Kinabalu in eastern Sabah state on Borneo

guides told her group of 21 climbers that a helicopter would pick them up, but when it did not, they decided to walk after a frustrating nine-hour wait.

"There were risks of us dying up there of cold overnight," said the 23-year-old Sabah native.

"The guide said we either die of waiting or we die trying. So we all chose to try walking down ourselves."

She said she saw two bodies lying on a flat rock on the way down. "It really affected me as it could have been me. I was lucky

to be given a chance to live," she said.

She said that the descent was "very risky and we were all starving, dehydrated and tired but at least we tried saving ourselves."

Sabah Tourism Minister Masidi Manjun said in a tweet "it's easy to pick on weaknesses" of the search-and-rescue operation and "I'm sure they are many."

He said the shortcomings will be examined, but "now is not the time to blame."

The two dead retrieved Friday evening were a 30-year-old local guide and a 12-year-old Singaporean student, Farhan said.

Police said earlier Saturday that they were looking for 17 other peo-

ple, including eight Singaporeans and one each from China, the Philippines and Japan. The rest are Malaysians. The nationalities of the 11 dead recovered Saturday were not immediately clear.

About 60 rescuers and four helicopters were combing the mountain, where loose rocks and boulders that fell during the quake-blocked part of the main route.

The quake also damaged roads and buildings, including schools and a hospital on Sabah's west coast. It also broke one of the twin rock formations on the mountain known as the "Donkey's Ears."

The mountain will be closed for three weeks for maintenance work, and flags will be flown at half-staff in Sabah today to

mourn the victims.

Sabah Deputy Chief Minister Joseph Pairin Kitingan blamed the tragedy on a group of 10 foreigners who "showed disrespect to the sacred mountain" by posing naked at the peak last week. He said a special ritual would be conducted later to "appease the mountain spirit."

The foreigners, who included two Canadians, two Dutch and a German national, broke away from their entourage and stripped naked before taking photos at the mountain peak on May 30, officials have said.

Five of the tourists are believed to still be in Malaysia and will be barred from leaving on the offense of gross indecency, according to police. AP



USA

# 2 murderers escape NY prison using power tools

**HUNDREDS** of law enforcement officers searched through the night for two convicted murderers who used power tools to cut through steam pipes and escaped from a maximum-security New York state prison by climbing through a manhole blocks away.

The U.S. Marshals Service and FBI joined the hunt for Richard Matt and David Sweat, who were discovered missing from their beds — which were filled with clothes to appear as though they were sleeping — Saturday morning in the Clinton Correctional Facility.

Officials said it was the first escape from the maximum-security portion of the prison, which was built in 1865.

Roadblocks were set up in the area, which is



Law enforcement officers with bloodhounds stand guard at the Clinton Correctional Facility in Dannemora, N.Y.

about 32 kilometers from the Canadian border, and bloodhounds and helicopters were being used to search for the men, officials said.

Gov. Andrew Cuomo described the two as extremely dangerous. "It's very important that we locate these individuals," he said.

Canadian broadcaster

CTV News reported that officials were concerned the men may attempt to enter Canada through Ontario or Quebec, and safety alerts were broadcast to police officers in the Greater Toronto Area.

Sweat, 34, is serving a sentence of life without parole after he was convicted of first-degree murder for killing a

sheriff's deputy in July 2002. Matt, 48, is serving a sentence of 25 years to life for the kidnapping, dismemberment and killing of his former boss in 1997. He was returned to the U.S. from Mexico, where he had fled to and late was arrested for fatally stabbing another American outside a bar in a robbery attempt.

The two men's adjoining cells were empty during a morning check, said Anthony Annucci, the acting state corrections commissioner.

"A search revealed that there was a hole cut out of the back of the cell through which these inmates escaped," Annucci said. "They went onto a catwalk which is about six stories high. We estimate they climbed down and had power tools and were able to get out to this facility through tunnels, cutting away at several spots."

Investigators were looking into how the men acquired the tools, and whether any were missing from contractors at the prison. **AP**

TURKEY

# Citizens head to the polls in crucial parliamentary election

**TURKEY** was holding a crucial parliamentary election yesterday that will determine whether ruling party lawmakers can rewrite the constitution to bolster the powers of President Recep Tayyip Erdogan.

Erdogan himself was not on the ballot. Still, the election is effectively a referendum on whether to endow his office with extraordinary powers that would significantly change Turkish democracy and prolong his reign as the country's most powerful politician.

Erdogan's ruling Justice and Development Party, the AKP, is expected to win significantly more votes than any opposition party but it must win a supermajority of the 550 seats in parliament to change the constitution.

All eyes will be on the results for the main Kurdish party, HDP. If it crosses a 10 percent threshold for entering parliament as a party, that would extinguish AKP's constitutional plans.

The vote comes amid high tensions following bombings Friday during a HDP rally that killed 2 people and injured scores. Yesterday, Prime Minister Ahmet Davutoglu said a suspect had been detained in the case, but provided no other details.

More than 53 million voters in Turkey and abroad are eligible to choose the deputies to the Grand National Assembly. If the ruling AKP wins a majority of 330 seats, it could call for a national referendum to change the constitution. If the party captures 367 seats, it could vote in a change without a referendum. **AP**

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Frances D'Emilio, Rome

PEOPLE SMUGGLING

# UK warns 500,000 migrants could try Mediterranean crossing

**N**AVAL vessels from Italy, Britain, Ireland and other countries steamed toward the waters off Libya on Saturday to rescue the latest wave of migrants from smugglers' boats. British authorities warned that up to 500,000 people could attempt the perilous crossing this summer.

Capt. Nick Cooke-Priest, on the British warship HMS Bulwark, told reporters aboard: "Indications are there that there are 450,000 to 500,000 migrants in Libya who are waiting at the border" for voyage from the North African country's Mediterranean coast in hopes of reaching Italian shores.

Also aboard the Bulwark, part of a multi-nation patrol and rescue force, was British Defense Secretary Michael Fallon. "We could see hundreds of thousands trying to cross this summer," Fallon told reporters who asked about the captain's half-million figure.

During Saturday, a total of 3,480 migrants had been safely rescued in 15 separate operations, the Italian coast guard said. Calls for help went out via satellite phone earlier in the day from the smugglers boats, which



Migrants disembark from the German Navy ship Hessen, at the Reggio Calabria harbor, southern Italy

included six rubber dinghies and nine fishing boats, all some 72 kilometers off the Libyan shoreline, the coast guard statement said.

Pitching in to save the migrants were Italian coast guard, navy and border police boats and aircraft, a tug boat, two German military ships, the Hessen and the Berlin, and an Irish naval ship LE Eithne.

One Italian navy ship, the Vega,

rescued hundreds of migrants from five boats alone on Saturday. Another Italian naval vessel, the Driade, rescued 560 migrants, while the LE Eithne, rescued 310 people, a day after it saved 113 migrants.

Fallon said Europe needed to "pool intelligence, get after the gangs themselves" which are based in Libya and organize the smuggling.

"We can try to cut off their finan-

cing. People are making money out of misery, and we can do more there track down the money."

About 170,000 migrants were rescued at sea last year by Italy. If the British estimates prove true, this year's arrivals could far outstrip last year's.

Italian authorities investigating the Libya-based smuggling operations say reliable intelligence is hard to come by, given that Western diplomats have long left Libya, wracked by violence following the 2011 demise of the Moammar Gadhafi regime. Rival governments command different parts of the country, and tribal and militia clashes aggravate the chaos.

Italy has pressed European partners to do more to help it rescue and shelter masses of migrants fleeing poverty, persecution and conflicts in Africa, the Middle East and Asia.

So far this year, tens of thousands of migrants have arrived

in Italy, with many rescued by vessels from Ireland, Malta, Britain and elsewhere. Italy's coast guard frequently dispatches nearby cargo ships to go to the rescue. Humanitarian organizations also help with rescues at sea, which often occur when smugglers set sail in a dozen or more boats when seas are calm.

Earlier Saturday, police in Sicily detained a suspected migrant smuggler who they said had tried a new tactic of putting only a few passengers aboard a small boat in a bid to land undetected on Italian shores. Ragusa police said a Tunisian man was detained for investigation of smuggling after 12 fellow Tunisians aboard a wooden boat told authorities he promised to sail them to an isolated beach near Trapani, western Sicily, at night so they could slip away undetected. Instead, police say the suspect bungled the route and was spotted by an Italian naval vessel. **AP**

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## what's ON

LI CHENG HSUN X HUANG PO HSUN GROUP EXHIBITION  
 TIME: 10am-7pm  
 UNTIL: June 30  
 VENUE: Flugent ART Gallery, Rua S. Paulo 54-58B  
 ADMISSION: free  
 ENQUIRIES: (853) 2872 3429

GALLERY COLLECTION  
 TIME: 9am-6pm (Mondays to Fridays)  
 UNTIL: June 30, 2015  
 VENUE: Macpro Gallery, Avenida da Praia Grande, no.417-425, Centro Comercial Praia Grande, 2° andar, Macau (nearby the Old Court)  
 ADMISSION: free  
 ENQUIRIES: (853) 2833 7828

MACAU SCIENCE CENTRE  
 TIME: 10am-6pm daily (Except Thursdays)  
 ADDRESS: Avenida Dr. Sun Yat-Sen  
 ADMISSION: Exhibition Centre: MOP25  
 Planetarium (Dome/Sky Shows): MOP50  
 Planetarium (3D Dome/3D Sky Shows): MOP65  
 ENQUIRIES: (853) 2888 0822

FORMER HOME OF REVOLUTIONARY LEADER YE TING  
 TIME: 10am-6pm daily (Except Wednesdays, open on public holidays)  
 VENUE: 76, Rua Almirante Costa Cabral  
 ADMISSION: Free  
 ENQUIRIES: (853) 8399 6699

HUMAN ROOTS  
 TIME: 11am-7pm (Closed on public holidays)  
 UNTIL: July 2, 2015  
 Admission Free  
 VENUE: IAOHIN Gallery, Rua da Tercena No.39A  
 ENQUIRES: (853) 2892 1908

FAM: MACAU ANNUAL VISUAL ARTS EXHIBITION 2015— CHINESE PAINTING AND CALLIGRAPHY CATEGORY  
 TIME: 10am-8pm  
 UNTIL: August 2, 2015  
 VENUE: Old Court Building  
 ADMISSION: Free  
 ENQUIRIES: (853) 8399 6699

## Offbeat

## LAS VEGAS STRIP CLUB RECRUITS RECENT HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES



New advertisements outside Little Darlings strip club in Las Vegas encourage recent high school graduates to apply, promoting stripping as a way to earn money for college.

KVVU-TV reports that Little Darlings manager Rick Marzullo says the ads fit in with the character of Las Vegas. The signs have slogans like "Now auditioning the class of 2015" and "Pay your way through college."

Marzullo says he is offering a way for young women 18 and older to make good money in a struggling economy.

He says entertainers at his club make up to USD1,000 a night and he has noticed more and more women turning to stripping to help with rising college costs. AP

## TV canal macau

13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:30	RTPi Live
17:50	The Illusionist (Repeated)
18:40	Non Daily Portuguese News (Repeated)
19:40	Soap Opera
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	TDM Sports
22:10	The Illusionist
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Non-Daily Portuguese News
00:00	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
00:40	RTPi Live

## cinema

## CINETEATRO

04 JUN - 10 JUN



SAN ANDREAS\_  
 ROOM 1  
 (2D) 2.30, 4.30, 9.30 pm  
 (3D) 7.30 pm  
 Director: Brad Peyton  
 Starring: Dwayne Johnson, Carla Gugino, Alexandra Daddario  
 Language: Japanese (Chinese/English)  
 Duration: 114min

PITCH PERFECT 2\_  
 ROOM 2  
 2.30, 4.30, 9.30 pm  
 Director: Elizabeth Banks  
 Starring: Anna Kendrick, Skylar Astin, Rebel Wilson  
 Language: English (Chinese)  
 Duration: 141min

TOMORROWLAND\_  
 ROOM 2  
 7.15 pm  
 Director: Brad Bird  
 Starring: George Clooney, John Walker Britt Robertson  
 Language: English (Chinese)  
 Duration: 130min



DANNY COLLINS\_  
 ROOM 3  
 2.15, 4.00, 5.50, 9.30 pm  
 Director: Dan Fogelman  
 Starring: Al Pacino, Annette Bening, Christopher Plummer  
 Language: English (Chinese)  
 Duration: 106min

DRAGON BALL Z: RESURRECTION "F"  
 ROOM 3  
 7.45 pm  
 Director: Tadayoshi Yamamuro  
 Starring: Ji-tae Yu, Yūsuke Iseya, Ye-ryeon Cha  
 Language: Japanese (Chinese/English)  
 Duration: 93 min

## MACAU TOWER

04 JUN - 10 JUN

TOMORROWLAND\_  
 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



## 1978 WOMAN TAKES WORLD SAILING RECORD

Naomi James has broken the solo round-the-world sailing record by two days. Her 53 ft yacht Express Crusader crossed the finish line in Dartmouth at 0911 BST after almost nine months at sea. The 29-year-old also became the first woman to sail solo around the globe via Cape Horn - the classic "Clipper Route". A huge crowd of well-wishers and a Royal Marines band welcomed the New Zealand born Devonshire sailor home after her 27,000 mile (43,452 km) journey.

Mrs James looked fit and relaxed as she stepped onto British soil for the first time in 272 days to be greeted by her husband, Rob.

But she has had to endure weeks without a radio, the failure of her rigging during gales in the Southern Ocean and her boat capsizing. The record-breaking yachtswoman admitted she had thought about giving up her attempt when she lost her mast.

"In my mind was the thought: 'How can you go round the Horn with a ship that's not seaworthy?' - so I thought about turning back," she said. Mrs James said she was already planning to take part in a single-handed transatlantic race but was looking forward to a bath and a sleep first. "For the past 10 days since the Azores it's been murderous," she said.

Courtesy BBC News

## IN CONTEXT

Naomi James was made a Dame in 1979 in recognition of her achievements.

She gave up sailing in 1982 after suffering badly from sea sickness during the two thousand mile Round Britain Race.

Her husband fell overboard and drowned the following year while sailing off Salcombe, Devon.

She remarried in 1990 and moved to the United States.

In February 2001, after 94 days at sea, Britain's Ellen MacArthur became the fastest woman to sail the world.

Four years later, in 2005, she became the fastest person to sail solo non-stop around the world - in 71 days and 14 hours.



YOUR STARS

Aries Mar. 21-Apr. 19 Avoid the temptation to dive too deeply into the details of today's big mess...

Taurus April 20-May 20 Try to talk things over with your sweetie or family today - you are more in touch with your emotions...

Gemini May 21-Jun. 21 You are at the center of the whirlwind today - what's not to love? Your energy is just right for multitasking...

Cancer Jun. 22-Jul. 22 You can't cope with all the distractions that surround you - it may be time for you to get out and just work on your own...

Leo Jul. 23-Aug. 22 You impress someone with your wit, charm or some other refined quality - and it could get you far on a day like today!

Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22 Your mental energy is incredibly powerful right now - so much so that you might actually find a quick answer to a really difficult question...

Libra Sep.23-Oct. 22 You know perfectly well that there's more than one of you tucked away in there - but on a day like today, it's a mixed blessing!

Scorpio Oct. 23 - Nov. 21 You need to take a little extra care today - things may not go your way if you're not paying attention!

Sagittarius Nov. 22-Dec. 21 You can't just stand still while everyone around you blathers on without taking action. It's time to step up and demand an answer - otherwise, you may find that you're still here an hour later.

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19 You've got to settle down and decide on what has to go - there's too much stuff, too many people or maybe even too many thoughts crowding your mental space.

Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 18 You need to step up your romantic game - things are just getting interesting! Make sure that you're paying close attention to the people around you...

Pisces Feb.19-Mar. 20 Don't let anyone pin you down on any specific plans today - you need more time to make up your mind and get all the info.

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Easy

9x9 grid for Easy Sudoku puzzle.

Easy+

9x9 grid for Easy+ Sudoku puzzle.

Medium

9x9 grid for Medium Sudoku puzzle.

Hard

9x9 grid for Hard Sudoku puzzle.

WEATHER

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

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Tennis matches are divided into these; 5- Earthquake; 10- Corrosion; 14- Voice of America org.; 15- Funny Anne; 16- Romain de Tiroff, familiarly; 17- Hindu lawgiver; 18- Arm bones; 19- Capital on the Aare; 20- Exterior; 22- Walks with long steps; 24- Wrathful; 26- The continent; 27- Protective spectacles; 30- Everglades bird; 32- Sleep disorder; 33- Airline since 1948; 34- \_\_\_ d'oeuvre; 38- Cry \_\_\_ River; 39- He's a catch; 42- By means of; 43- Performs; 45- Disturb; 46- Harvests; 48- Sausalito's county; 50- Threatening words; 51- Femme \_\_\_; 54- Private Pyle; 56- Person devoted to love; 58- Footstalk; 62- San Francisco's \_\_\_ Tower; 63- Golden Horde member; 65- I could \_\_\_ horse!; 66- Author \_\_\_ Stanley Gardner; 67- Apply, as pressure; 68- IRS IDs; 69- Observed; 70- Judicial rulings; 71- Afternoon affairs;

DOWN: 1- Japanese wrestling; 2- Son of Isaac and Rebekah; 3- Hue; 4- Wurst; 5- Dirty mark; 6- Conger catcher; 7- 007 creator Fleming; 8- Ladies of Sp.; 9- Very skillful; 10- Revival; 11- Hives; 12- Throat problem; 13- Uptight; 21- Relative by marriage; 23- Regret; 25- Shouting; 27- Explorer Vasco da \_\_\_; 28- Crude cartel; 29- Midge; 31- Scottish Celt; 33- "The Time Machine" people; 35- Cameo shape; 36- Tears; 37- Freelancer's encl.; 40- Apprehended; 41- Made a mistake; 44- Improve in appearance; 47- Most strange; 49- The Greatest; 50- Code of silence; 51- Confronts; 52- Dean Martin's "That's \_\_\_"; 53- Sheer fabric; 55- Dizzying designs; 57- Cab; 59- Jewel \_\_\_; CD container; 60- Sicilian peak; 61- Colleen; 64- Shamus;



USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Table of useful telephone numbers including Emergency calls, Fire department, PJ (Open line), PJ (Picket), PSP, Customs, S. J. Hospital, Kiang Wu Hospital, Commission Against Corruption (CCAC), IACM, Tourism, and Airport.



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Old Taipa Vai Fat 1 Bedroom Apartment Simply Furnished HKD 13,000 / 650 sq ft Ref: 15040499

Macau Nape Area Macau 2 Bedroom Apartment Overlooking Grand Lapa Resort HKD 16,500 / 1,288 sq ft Ref: 15030482





## ROLAND GARROS

# Williams overcomes Safarova, flu for 20th major tennis title

Danielle Rossingh

A day after missing practice because of flu, Serena Williams beat Lucie Safarova for the French Open title, her 20th major singles tennis victory. The top-ranked American defeated the 13th-seeded Czech, 6-3, 6-7 (2-7), 6-2 on the main Court Philippe Chatrier at Roland Garros. It's the third French Open title for the 33-year-old Williams, who also won in 2002 and 2013.

"The match was complicated," Williams said in French after winning. "Lucie played very well, she was very aggressive, she wasn't scared. I got a bit nervous. It's a dream that I've won."

Williams tied Martina Navratilova and Chris Evert with 18 majors at the U.S. Open, and then added her 19th Grand Slam title at the Australian Open in Melbourne. Saturday's win means she's now two shy of Steffi Graf's haul of 22 grand slams singles titles, the most in the Open era.

After almost hitting her opponent in the warm-up with a prac-



Right-handed Serena Williams of the U.S. returns with a left-hand in the final of the French Open

tice serve, Williams held her first two service games with an ace. After nailing a winner off a 127 kilometers-an-hour second-serve to set up break point, Williams ripped a forehand return to go up 3-1, and won the set with a big serve. She was leading 4-1, 40-15, in the second set, when she suddenly lost concentration.

With Safarova moving her around the court more, she started to make mistakes and lost four games in a row, including two on a double fault. Serving to stay in the set at

5-4 down, Williams screamed and swore before holding. Williams was two points away from winning the match at 6-5, 30-15 when Safarova rallied back to break with two baseline winners that landed on the line. A forehand error handed Safarova four set points in the tie-break, which she took as Williams netted a forehand return.

Williams's struggles on her serves continued in the final set, as she got broken with a wayward forehand in the opening game and had another expletive-filled

outburst. Serving for a 3-1 lead, it was Safarova's turn to waver, dropping serve on a double fault. After holding to love for 2-2, Williams once again swore loudly, and this time was given a warning by the umpire. After she broke on an error, Williams played a left-handed forehand in a long baseline rally at 4-2 after she got wrongfooted.

Serving to stay in the championship at 5-2 down, Safarova handed Williams three match points on a forehand error. A big forehand return by Williams which her opponent dumped in the net gave her the match, and her 20th title.

Williams had a difficult path to

the championship match, struggling all week with flu and skipping both her practice and a pre-final press conference Friday. In a statement issued by tournament organizers Friday, she said she'd been feeling "lousy" and needed time to recover after she "just kind of collapsed" after her semi-final win on Thursday.

Williams dropped the opening set in four of her six matches in Paris on the way to the final. She'd been down a set and a break in her third-round match with former top-ranked Victoria Azarenka, a round after an error-strewn performance against Anna-Lena Friedsam, a German ranked 104 spots below her. In the last 16, Williams was a game away from losing against fellow American Sloane Stephens, while she once again lost the opening set to Tímea Babos of Switzerland in the semifinals.

Safarova, the fifth lefthander into a major women's final since tennis turned professional in 1968, has now lost all nine matches against Williams. **Bloomberg**

## SAFAROVA CLINCHES DOUBLES TITLE

A DAY after pushing Serena Williams to three sets in the women's final, Czech Lucie Safarova finally got her hands on the Roland Garros winner's trophy. Safarova and her American partner Bethanie Mattek-Sands yesterday defeated Australia's Casey Dellacqua and Kazakhstan's Yaroslava Shvedova, 3-6, 6-4, 6-2 to win the French Open women's doubles championship.

AD

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John Leicester, Berlin

# Things learned from Barcelona's Champions League win

**L**OOKING ahead to next year's Champions League final: Can the newly crowned champion, Barcelona, defend the European title it won so spectacularly against Juventus?

The record book would suggest not: Not since Milan in 1990 has a team won the European Cup twice in a row.

But Barcelona's 3-1 victory in Berlin on Saturday threw up strong reasons to believe that the now five-time winner could make it six very quickly, perhaps as soon as next year.

Here are five lessons learned from Barcelona's pulsating performance in Berlin:

## THE ENRIQUE EFFECT

In his first season as Barcelona coach, Luis Enrique has crafted a team that goes for the jugular faster. The basic style of play hasn't changed vastly: Barcelona still keeps the ball as much as it can. It had 62 percent of the possession against Juventus and its default position is still to build attacks methodically from the back.

Goalkeeper Marc-Andre ter Stegen avoided hit-and-hope long kicks up-field in Berlin's Olympic Stadium, because doing so would only have given more of the ball to Juventus.

But there is more adventure in Enrique's setup, a greater willingness to try other options going forward. Exhibit A: Barcelona's first goal came not from a long-winded exchange of short passes or a dribble from Lionel Messi. Instead, Messi got the attack started with a long diagonal pass from midfield. That landed for Jordi Alba, who quick as a flash passed to Neymar. The Brazilian then slipped the ball to Andres Iniesta, who neatly flicked it to Ivan Rakitic to score.

The combination was dizzyingly quick and devastating for Gianluigi Buffon, left with no chance from such short range in the Juventus goal.



Xavi Hernandez holds the trophy after the Champions League final match between Juventus Turin and FC Barcelona at the Olympic stadium in Berlin Saturday. Barcelona won the match 3-1.

## SUAREZ PROVIDES BITE

Having the strength and guile of Luis Suarez up front is one reason why Barcelona can be more direct in its attacks. Barcelona did its image no favors when it bought the striker after his infamous chomp of Italy defender Giorgio Chiellini's shoulder at the 2014 World Cup. The \$110-million transfer from Liverpool made it look as though Barcelona was condoning the bad behavior that earned Suarez a lengthy ban.

But, for lack of a better word, the Uruguay striker does provide real attacking bite for Barce-

lona. He can make goals on his own, without the usual intricate buildup of play that is Barcelona's trademark. Teammates look for him, even with long up-field passes that former coaches at the club, notably Pep Guardiola, didn't advocate.

Suarez got Barcelona's second goal against Juventus, breaking a second-half 1-1 deadlock, and came close to scoring more.

**IVAN THE TERRIBLE** The swansong of Xavi Hernandez, for so long the engine of Barcelona's midfield, could hardly have ended better. He lifted the

big-eared trophy in his 151st, and last, Champions League appearance for the only club he has ever played for. The 35-year-old's next stop is Qatar, where a new club awaits. He came on a second-half substitute against Juventus, replacing Andres Iniesta.

But instead of a hole where Xavi once dominated, Barcelona now has Rakitic. The Croatian midfielder, bought from Seville in the offseason, has slotted in like hand in glove alongside Iniesta in Barcelona's midfield, bringing vigor that Xavi no longer has and develo-

ping an intuitive understanding with Messi and Co., despite not having come up through the Barcelona youth system like his famous teammates.

It was Rakitic who popped up in the Juventus box to decisively and confidently score Barcelona's opener after just 3 minutes and a handful of seconds.

## MESSI STILL GOLDEN

Messi didn't score. He didn't even have a brilliant game. Even a four-time world player of the year can't be stellar every time. But Messi still finishes the season with 58 goals in 57 appearances, a ratio a whisker higher than a goal per game.

His giant contribution to Barcelona's triple haul of European Cup, Spanish league title and Spanish Cup should see Messi voted as Ballon d'Or again this year, in place of Cristiano Ronaldo.

**AND JUVENTUS?** The loss leaves the Italian champion with an unwanted statistic: It is now the first team to suffer six European Cup final defeats.

That's not its only worry. Playing in the stadium where he won the 2006 World Cup with Italy, goalkeeper Buffon showed cat-like reflexes in keeping out a flurry of Barcelona shots. But at age 37, he is getting very long in the tooth for a club that will play Champions League again next season.

Andrea Pirlo, 36, will be a big pair of shoes to fill if this was the midfielder's last game for Juventus. Paul Pogba, at 22, could be the face of Juventus' future — but only if he isn't lured away from the club by even bigger, richer sides that covet the strength and talent he showed in bursts against Barcelona. **AP**

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opinion

Rear Window

Severo Portela



SMOKE CURTAIN

Who could have guessed that the smoking ban in casinos would return to haunt gaming operators? Given, of course, the much more relevant issues the industry is now facing, like the 40% slide down and the imperative restructuring that comes with a new normal chiffre d'affaires; the rebalancing of VIP and mass market ratio, the non-gaming segments of the business, and the SMEs' role and slice, just to mention a few.

It looks like the dispute can be limited to those who want the government to submit a draft bill with a full smoking ban in casinos, and those who want the government to allow the VIP operations to keep closed smoking rooms. The casino workers affiliated with the Macau Federation of Trade Unions (FAOM) - reputed to be a conservative and pro-Beijing labor organization - are unequivocally for the full ban, while a junkets association is urging the government to allow smoking lounges within the so-called VIP gambling zones.

The blanket ban on smoking has the government's blessings, even if some hope for a bridge between the public health stance Secretary Tam is taking, and Secretary Leong's economist reading. The Macau Executive has only one position on the matter: that of Chui Sai On.

Macau's universal ban stance has received additional political coverage from Beijing... coming from the capital's new smoking law that forbids smoking in public places. Even the International Airport's closed smoking rooms have been replaced by al fresco cigarette facilities. Looks like smoking days are over.

In this scenario, no wonder that only the junkets operating in the Macau Special Administrative Region are voicing an open, but quite polite, opposition to a full smoking ban, or rather they just want the government to make an exception. We must consider the fact that directly-elected lawmaker Zheng Aiping has been accompanying the junkets association to meetings with high level local officials. This legislator, elected in Mak Soi Kun's ticket, is making a non-aligned name for himself.

As for the casinos' top-bananas, in this time of assessment and evaluation of contractual compliance, no wonder they are just watching carefully for new cues from the government.

However, this obvious public health issue can and should be assessed and measured with regard to money and liberty. Regarding the effect of the smoking ban on VIP tables, it is well accepted the English experience of a 10% downturn, which makes one wonder why anyone would worry about such a small decline! It is the same rationale supporting the new normal of gaming revenue.

So, we have to consider that at least the 10% does not apply to Macau, and the impact of a full smoking ban on the VIP rooms is much more significant. Perhaps a more feasible idea would be to revamp the industry, to create a family-friendly integrated resort, to build a new leisure destination...but you cannot have a NEW gambler in a VIP room. The vices associated with sleazy old gaming joints run from drinking to drugs, from smoking to sexual misbehavior and swearing. Is it possible to keep the smoking?

As for the abovementioned liberties, I would like to add a disclaimer that I'm a born-again non-smoker, but I do not know if that affects my set of human liberties.

THE BUZZ WOMEN'S RIGHTS MINISKIRT PROTEST FIZZLES IN TUNISIA

Only a handful of women have answered a call by a Tunisian rights' group to protest the repression of women in the Muslim world by demonstrating in miniskirts. About a dozen mini-skirted women took part Saturday afternoon in the protest organized by Tunisia's League for the Defense of Secularism and Freedom.

Lilia Kammoun, a teacher at the protest, said Tunisia is regressing. She said "it's sad that

we're moving backward. My mother used to wear a miniskirt. I used to wear a miniskirt. And today, my daughter is hesitating to wear one. That's unfortunate." Counter-demonstrators waved signs with slogans like "This is shameful, you're thinking with your sexual organs." Protest organizers blamed the low turnout on women's fears of their families and of Islamic extremists.

TRAVEL

Beach seclusion off Cambodia's southern coast



A secluded beach in Koh Rong, Cambodia

Kristi Eaton, Koh Rong

I was in need of a digital detox (aren't we all nowadays?), but instead of heading to a swanky resort that simply locked my phone away for the duration of the stay, I headed to an undeveloped island off the southern coast of Cambodia.

Koh Rong island has lush jungle and unspoiled white-sand beaches — but no roads. It takes about an hour to get there by high-speed ferry from Cambodia's southern beach town of Sihanoukville.

Once docked, I bypassed the throng of backpacker-

friendly hostels known for cheap dining and wild parties to celebrate full moons, and headed to a secluded resort called Pura Vita. Hotel staff welcomed me at the dock, where I joined an older French couple in hopping in a rickety fishing boat to make the 15-minute journey to Sonaya Beach.

While the term resort might suggest luxury, this one, while restorative, was pretty simple. Made up of about 20 bungalows, it was so remote that electricity was only available by generator for four hours each night. And forget about logging on to Facebook, Instagram or Twitter. Internet access was virtually non-existent in this off-the-beaten-path locale.

Instead, I spent my days lazily eating breakfast at the onsite restaurant before walking the few feet to the pristine white-sand beach

and crystal-clear water. I'd dip in and out of the water and stroll along the stretch of land before taking a late afternoon nap or spend hours reading a book as the waves splashed before me.

Diving and snorkeling as well as jungle trekking is available for visitors looking for an adrenaline rush.

A full moon party one night along the rows of hostels near the island's pier interrupted my quiet retreat — even from miles away — but otherwise the resort offered the tranquility that I needed.

It's "Thailand 30 years ago," Pura Vita owner Vanny Ea said of her isolated oasis. The resort has slowly grown over the years from just one bungalow and restaurant, but Ea said she wants to make sure both the resort and the island remains a calm and serene experience for her guests.

But word is getting out. Local media reported in February that American reality show "Survivor" is filming future seasons on the island. AP

IF YOU GO...

**KOH RONG** is about one hour via high-speed ferry from Sihanoukville. Sihanoukville is about a five-hour bus ride or three-hour taxi ride from Cambodia's capital of Phnom Penh. Pura Vita is an isolated resort located on Koh Rong's southeast coast. Pura Vita resort: <http://www.puravitaresort.com>. Bungalows run approximately USD65 to \$75 per night and include breakfast.

THE DECISIVE MOMENT

Paulo Coutinho



The Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau Bridge (Delta Bridge), that's currently under construction, seen from close to Lantau Island, Hong Kong.

Station	Air quality
Roadside	5-25 Good
High Density Residential Area	25-45 Good
Ambient	15-35 Good

SOURCE: DSI/MG

WORLD BRIEFS

**BANGLADESH** India and Bangladesh on Saturday finalized a much-delayed land swap agreement to settle a long-running border dispute. The deal — initially reached in 1974 but only recently ratified by India's Parliament — calls for the transfer of 111 border enclaves to Bangladesh in exchange for 51 that will become part of India. More than 50,000 residents will get citizenship after the agreement is implemented.

**BOSNIA** Pope Francis heard about the horrors of Bosnia's fratricidal war of the 1990s and its slow process of healing Saturday as he visited Sarajevo to urge Muslims, Orthodox and Catholics to put the "barbarity" of the past behind them and work together for a peaceful future.

**SAUDI ARABIA**'s Supreme Court has upheld a verdict against a liberal blogger who was flogged in January after being found guilty of insulting Islam and breaking technology laws. Raif Badawi was sentenced last year to 1,000 lashes and 10 years in prison. He was banned from traveling abroad for 10 years and fined USD266,000.

**YEMEN** A series of pre-dawn Saudi-led airstrikes yesterday targeted the headquarters of Yemen's armed forces in the rebel-held capital, killing at least 22 people, security and hospital officials said.

**JORDAN** A government official says Jordan has approved a request by the family of former Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz to bury him in the kingdom. Aziz, 79, was Saddam Hussein's staunchest defender to the world and the only Christian in the Iraqi dictator's inner circle. He died Friday after suffering a heart attack in an Iraqi prison.



**UK** Britain's royal family has released the first official photos of month-old Princess Charlotte, photographed by her mother in the arms of elder brother Prince George. Kensington Palace issued four images Saturday, taken by the Duchess of Cambridge in mid-May at Anmer Hall, the family's home in eastern England.