



FULL SMOKING BAN 'CAN HURT' REVENUE
David Chow argues that competition within the gaming industry is high. He says other jurisdictions allow smoking

P2



TAIWAN FESTIVAL STARTS NEXT WEEK
The cultural event features exhibitions, artistic performances and talks at the Sun Yat Sen Memorial House

P6



QUEEN OF RIESLING IN MACAU

P7 MDT REPORT

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WORLD BRIEFS



CHINA The latest weapon in the fight against cheating on China's all-important college entrance exam is a six-propeller drone. *More on p11*

PAKISTAN The Pakistani army says an overnight clash near the Afghan border in the restive North Waziristan tribal area killed 19 militants and seven soldiers.

NEPAL The families of five Nepalese civilians killed in a U.S. military helicopter crash on an earthquake relief mission last month demand compensation, saying it took weeks to get confirmation of their relatives' deaths.



JAPAN's economy grew at a faster pace than initially estimated in the January-March quarter on stronger consumer and corporate spending, though economists anticipate slower growth in April-June.

TURKEY's ruling party is left with few options for a new government after it was stripped of its parliamentary majority and opposition parties ruled out joining it in a coalition pact. *More on p15*

ERITREA A United Nations commission of inquiry says Eritrea's government is responsible for systematic and widespread human rights violations and keeps its people in a state of fear through a "pervasive control system."

More on backpage

Health Bureau raises MERS response level.

P3,12



Portuguese tend to be left out of local politics

P5 REPORT

Malaysia earthquake death toll rises to 16

P12

Full smoking ban 'can hurt' revenue, David Chow says

Catarina Pinto

MACAU Legend Development Ltd. CEO, David Chow, has acknowledged that implementing a full smoking ban could hurt gaming revenue.

The casino tycoon recalled that competition within the gaming industry is high, and other jurisdictions across Asia and other parts of the world still allow smoking inside casinos. "We need to see whether it's good for competition. This is a special industry," he told reporters on the sidelines of the opening ceremony of Macau's new antique gallery in Fisherman's Wharf.

Mr Chow hinted that if gamblers in VIP rooms are forced to leave the casinos when they want to smoke, it would be

uncertain as to whether they would return to gamble there afterward. "In the gaming industry, every minute counts," he stressed.

"I have been in the casino industry for over 40 years and I believe those who are saying that the smoking ban can hurt [gaming revenue] a little. Because other casinos in Asia still allow smoking. Customers look for better service and smoking is part of the better service," he added.

Nevertheless, Mr Chow acknowledged that the health issues triggered by smoking are indeed serious, particularly taking into account the fact that many young people now smoke.

The best option, he said, "is to stop selling cigarettes." "If we are worried about general heal-



David Chow laughs

th, I think we should ask the government to stop selling cigarettes. If they stop selling cigarettes worldwide, I think it's fair for competition," he added.

Asked to comment on the number of casino concessions whose contracts will expire between 2020 and 2022, Mr

Chow reiterated once again that he suggests the government open up the market to allow companies to bring something new to the city, not only within the gaming industry.

"Anybody that can bring something new to the market in Macau and develop good things here, I think the government cannot [let the market be] controlled just by three companies, we have to be more open. We need to be more international, and not rely just on China either," he said.

"The license is one thing; it belongs to the Macau government. I am not talking about licenses but about the market and what's good for Macau," he added.

Macau Legend Development operates casinos under the li-

cense of billionaire Stanley Ho's SJM Holdings Ltd.

Macau Legend Development inaugurated the first venue of the Fisherman's Wharf redevelopment project in February - the Harbourview Hotel. It comprises 389 rooms and 55 suites.

With the opening of the Harbourview Hotel, Macau Legend Development is able to expand its gaming offerings, as it was granted 35 additional gaming tables by the Gaming Inspection and Coordination Bureau in October last year.

With more hotels in the pipeline, Macau Legend is due to apply for more gambling tables. However, Mr Chow did not disclose the total number they will be aiming for, as "it will depend on the market."

Macau Legend already owns and operates three hotels, the Landmark Macau, Rocks Hotel and Harbourview Hotel. Under construction are two premium five-star hotels, the Legend Palace Hotel and the Legendale Hotel, with their completion scheduled for 2016 and 2017 respectively.

COURTS

Former public hospital manager convicted of fraud

THE Court of First Instance (TJB) has sentenced a former Macau public hospital manager to a suspended sentence of eighteen months for fraud, according to media reports.

Rui Vasconcelos e Sá, who was part of the hospital's management team and also served as a pharmacist, was accused of fraud after having requested and used false prescriptions, resulting in his swindling Macau's administration out of MOP139,000. He was also accused of unjustified absences from work.

The local newspapers have reported that the case went to trial a week ago, but the acts in question date back to between May 2011 and April 2012.

The ruling stated that Mr Sá had left Macau 68 times between 2006 and 2011 during his working hours. However, he had allegedly signed attendance shifts.

Furthermore, the court also found that Mr Sá had been able to obtain hundreds of drugs with which to treat chronic diseases. These drugs required medical prescriptions, which were provided by surgeons Rui Furtado and Antó-

nio Martins. Newspaper Ponto Final quoted the Health Bureau as saying that the two surgeons had not been under investigation because at the time "they had not breached any [internal] rule," while also acknowledging it was uncommon to write prescriptions without communicating with the patients in person.

Through the scheme, Mr Sá had also booked several false external medical appointments, using the names of two Portuguese nationals holding Macau permanent IDs.

The court found that Mr Sá was also frequently absent from work, and often travelled to mainland China, Shanghai and Thailand.

According to the court ruling, he was absent from work for a total of 68 days during his working hours and still received a MOP93,488 salary.

The one year and six month sentence is to be suspended if Mr Sá pays MOP232,000 in compensation to the Health Bureau within the next 30 days.

Rui Sá is a Portuguese citizen born in Angola. He currently lives in Portugal and works in the medical and pharmaceutical field.

CRIME

Dogs thrown to death from public housing complex

THE bodies of three puppies were discovered yesterday lying on the Edifício do Lago fourth block terrace of the public housing complex in Taipa, according to police.

However, a captioned picture that has been widely circulated on social media showing two dead puppies indicated that a total of eight animals were thrown to their deaths by someone at the residential building over the weekend.

The puppies' tragic death has sparked massive outrage on the Internet as netizens clamored to bring the culprit to justice. Yet the brutal incident once again shed light on the city's insufficient animal rights legislation. Currently, the law protecting animals from physical abuse is under review by the first standing committee of the Legislative Assembly.

"We don't exclude the human factors, yet there is no witness or surveillance on the scene to confirm the cause of the deaths," said the police

representative, who also told the media that the perpetrator was not punishable by any laws. Furthermore, no one so far has been identified by police authorities as responsible for the brutal killings.

Separately, the police announced yesterday that they are conducting an investigation into a mainland website. This follows reports from staff from the Macau Museum last Friday, which claimed that the site was using the museum's official name to launch a deceptive auction, which allegedly aimed to swindle money from participants.

According to a Judiciary Police officer, the museum officials received an email from a local citizen that evening seeking to verify the authenticity of the event outlined on the website, which called for valuable Chinese artifacts in a collection activity endorsed by the city's official museum. After being alerted by the mail enquiry, the staff then sought a police investigation into the website, which was later identified as originating from Guangdong province, based on its ID.

The police added that so far no loss in connection to the fake auction has been reported, while the Cultural Affairs Bureau has already issued a statement clarifying that no endorsement has been granted to the company. They also warned the public to remain vigilant. **Staff reporter**

DOMESTIC HELPERS SUSPECTED OF THEFT

THE JUDICIARY Police have conducted a manhunt for two foreign domestic helpers who allegedly ransacked their local employers' residence and took away several valuable items of jewellery, as well as cash and

accessories. The stolen items are worth MOP690,000 in total. News of the crime emerged as the closed-circuit camera installed in the flat revealed the theft to the victims, who then called the police.

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Brook Yang

Health Bureau raises MERS alert level to high

MACAU'S health authorities raised their response to the Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) from a standard alert to a high-level alert yesterday evening, as the virus's outbreak in South Korea was regarded as placing neighboring regions at greater risk.

The Health Bureau (SSM) held a press conference yesterday to announce that its approach to addressing the deadly virus had been lifted to the second alert level in a four-level scale, under which a mask is required to be worn when entering local health-care facilities as a precaution against MERS. Meanwhile, it issued a travel recommendation advising local citizens to avoid going to South Korea unless absolutely necessary.

"This is not a travel alert; we are just suggesting that citizens avoid travel to South Korea if it's not really necessary, for instance going for tourism. If one really has to go there, one must evaluate the risk before departure and be aware of personal hygiene while in the country by washing hands frequently, avoiding visiting medical institutions and wearing a mask in public," said the SSM director Lei Chin Ion.

With South Korea's confirmed infection cases continuing to increase, of which many belonged to third-level infection [which means that new cases have emerged without contact with the first pa-



Lam Chong, Lei Chin Ion and Lei Wai Seng

tient to bring the virus in], the SSM now notes a higher risk of epidemic breakout within the community, although currently the disease in Korea has only been spread within medical institutions.

Lei explained that "there is so far no evidence that the virus would be contracted from human to human, but the outbreak risk in the community is increasing." In response to this increased risk, the bureau has decided to carry out further measures, such as body temperature checks at immigration for every passenger arriving from Korea.

The number of inbound passengers from Korea to Macau is estimated at 500 to 700 every day, most of whom disembark from a total of three direct flights, according to Lei.

"South Korea is considered a neighboring region to Macau; when a neighboring region's outbreak extends to its community, we will raise our response to the serious level," he added.

Health authorities also tightened their detection of suspected cases to fever and respiratory symptoms. They will increase their reserves of MERS virus testing reagents

This is not a travel alert; we are just suggesting that citizens avoid travel to South Korea

LEI CHIN ION

to 2,000 whilst deploying test personnel around the clock. In addition, visiting hours at public hospitals will be shortened.

In addition, the SSM has cancelled compulsory attendance among its staff to mandatory exchange events, including an international annual conference in nursing to be held in Seoul this month. Moreover, Lei said that all the administrative officials in the Health Bureau, as well as those in affiliated hospitals and medical centers, are suspended from taking holidays in order to remain alert and firm at their posts.

According to Lei Wai Seng, head of the Emergency De-

partment at Hospital Conde S. Januário, a typical test result indicating MERS could come out within three to six hours, depending on whether or not the procedure goes smoothly. As for possible venues to be used for quarantine, the SSM has requisitioned the Youth Hostel located in Coloane, and a Vacation House in Hac Sa Beach as a back-up.

Furthermore, he revealed that a previous isolation center located in Coloane's mountaintop is being rebuilt and is expected to begin operations in the third quarter of this year. By then, the government would no longer need to rent civic facilities for quarantine.

As for residents' concerns over a "potential epidemic spread" caused by the use of the Youth Hostel for quarantine, the head of the Centre for Disease Control and Prevention, Lam Chong, stressed that "people under quarantine are healthy but only identified as close contacts with MERS patient. Besides, one is not allowed to leave the isolation center and will be immediately sent to the hospital once any sign of infection appears."

PROBLEMATIC KOREAN VISITOR NOT FOUND

REGARDING THE bureau's search for a Korean visitor who entered Macau after coming into contact with a MERS patient on a flight to HK, Lei Chin Ion said the visitor's whereabouts in the city are still unknown. However, so far none of the passengers who have identified themselves

as having been in close contact with the index patient have reported symptoms. The missing visitor's chance of infection is thus estimated as "not high." "If there's still no symptoms after the 14-day incubation period, there will be no need to keep searching," he said.

HK RAISES LEVEL TO 'SERIOUS'

THE HONG Kong SAR government yesterday raised its MERS response level to "serious" and advised the public to avoid traveling to South Korea.

HK secretary deems national security law unnecessary

HONG Kong's Secretary for Justice Rimsky Yuen Kwok-keung argued that there is "no need" to introduce China's bill to introduce national security in Hong Kong, since the Basic Law outlines more specific obligations for the region. According to the South China Morning Post, the secretary mentioned that no legal reason existed to forgo the controversial Article 23 of the Basic Law. The article serves as the basis of Hong Kong's version of national security laws. An anti-subversion bill based on Article 23 was pro-

posed but was shelved indefinitely following a large-scale protest in 2003.

"With universal suffrage, the [voters] will ask, 'Will you launch Article 23? What do you think about Article 23?' It then rests on the people to make a decision," Yuen noted. "Because Article 23 already exists, I do not think there is any need [to incorporate the national bill]" he said.

As the Times reported yesterday, the draft national security law proposed by Beijing last month highlights Macau and Hong Kong's security obliga-

tions for the first time, stating it was the "common obligation of all Chinese people, including people in Hong Kong and Macau" to safeguard China's sovereignty and territorial integrity. It also states that Hong Kong and Macau must fulfill their responsibilities to safeguard national security.

The Macau Journalists Association submitted its views on the draft law to the National People's Congress, stating that some definitions in the bill are inconsistent with the laws and social conditions of the Special Administrative Regions.

Student arrested for alleged child sexual assault

A 19-year old male secondary school student has been arrested for allegedly sexually assaulting a 9-year-old boy at school.

According to the Judiciary Police (PJ), the suspect and victim attend the same school in the North District. They became acquainted with each other during after-school football activities when the former was serving as a teaching assistant. After gaining the young boy's trust, the suspect apparently conducted significant sexual activities with him in a

school toilet twice in April and May.

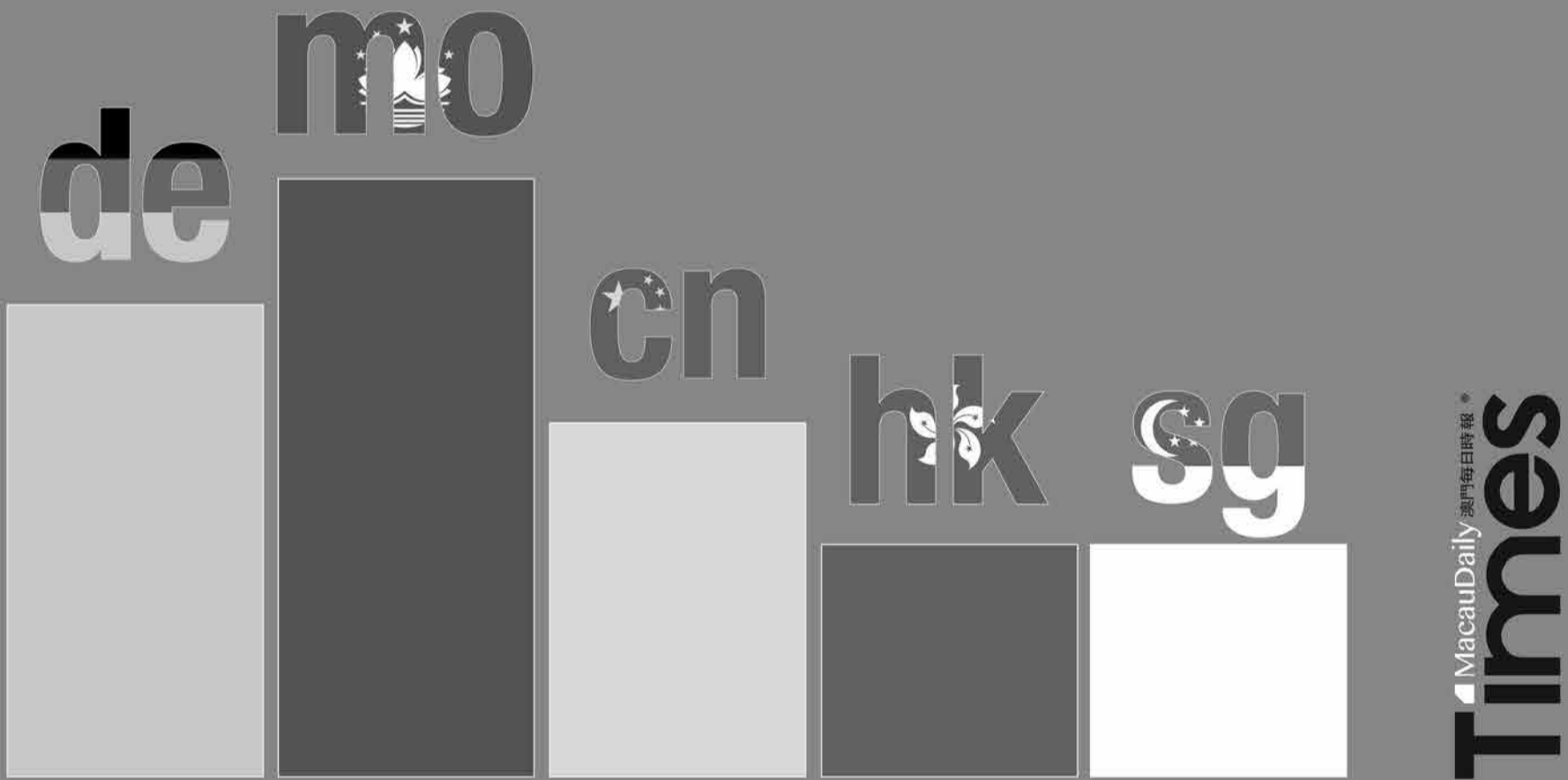
The behavior was revealed and reported by a teacher last Saturday when the two students were found topless in the toilet. The suspect has since been transferred to the procuratorate and will be charged with the crime of sexual assault of a child. The PJ also informed the Education and Youth Affairs Bureau of the case and has appealed to parents to communicate more with children and teach them correct sexual behaviours and values.

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Costa Antunes



Leonel Alves

The Portuguese left out of local politics

THE Portuguese used to constitute the majority in Macau politics, but today few have a prominent voice. Nowadays, having a Portuguese background alone does not necessarily prevent people from going into politics, but they do face a major obstacle: winning the trust of the Chinese community.

João Manuel Costa Antunes is the only Portuguese national who emigrated from Portugal to work in Macau and still holds a position on the board of an institution. For over two decades, Mr Costa Antunes took the helm at the Macau Government Tourist Office (MGTO). In 2012, he left MGTO to become the coordinator of Macau's Grand Prix.

"I had to change drastically. Unfortunately I am unable to read Chinese and don't unders-

tand a lot of the language. So I needed to bring on board people who would help me communicate. I have never faced major challenges for not being able to speak Chinese, but we need to be fast in communica-

“The Portuguese will have a place here as qualified staff but not in political and administrative posts

COSTA ANTUNES

ting," he said.

To guarantee the support of citizens, Portuguese nationals wishing to join the public service must prove that they truly want the post that they are pursuing. Mr Costa Antunes recalls a moment, which he believes confirmed his determination to stay in Macau.

Back in 1998, the then-governor Rocha Vieira had invited him to coordinate Macau's handover ceremony for the following year.

He accepted the challenge, but on one condition: "I work under the framework of the Portuguese administration. I can only coordinate [the handover ceremony] if I become an employee of Macau's administration. I cannot leave on the same plane the governor will take. No one would believe me. How could I win the trust

of the people if I would leave in such a short period of time at such an important time for Macau?"

Mr Costa Antunes says he considers himself pragmatic and believes it would make little sense to aim for a wider presence of Portuguese people in Macau politics, especially given that there is currently a lack of commitment from younger generations of Portuguese nationals living in Macau.

"The administration cannot bear the risk of someone saying: My leg hurts, I have to leave. There's a need to set up a platform, a critical and stable basis. The Portuguese people will have a place here as qualified staff but not in political and administrative posts," he concluded.

None of the lawmakers in the Legislative Assembly (AL) are Portuguese nationals or have been born and raised in Portugal, but there are still two Macanese who speak both Portuguese and Chinese. Leonel Alves, for instance, has been serving as lawmaker since before the handover and witnessed the changes the AL experienced when the administration also changed.

He too believes that a return of Portuguese nationals to Macau politics is unlikely.

"In the past the Portuguese did not identify so strongly as expatriates. Many people who came to Macau after 1999 already felt like immigrants, whereas when the Portuguese came here in the 1970s or 1980s, it wasn't the same, it was as if this was one of Portugal's neighborhoods," he stressed.

According to Mr Alves, the Portuguese now see their stay in Macau as temporary and that's "why they do not buy a house or a left-hand driving vehicle." "They feel they're immigrants. So that, translated into politics, means that an immigrant might not feel comfortable spending his/her time dealing with public affairs," he explained.

Other lawmakers, such as José Pereira Coutinho, also stand out. The Macanese was first elected lawmaker in 2005 and today he is considered one of Macau's most prominent voices.

He acknowledges that his background has its advantages: "Being Portuguese helps. The Chinese community sees me as someone who isn't linked to any exchange of favors with the Chinese government. [People] tend to raise doubts about the background of a Chinese citizen lawmaker."

“In the past the Portuguese did not identify so strongly as expatriates. Many people who came to Macau after 1999 already felt like immigrants

LEONEL ALVES

Mr Coutinho said he would only renounce Portuguese citizenship if he were to be elected Chief Executive – a post that requires Chinese nationality.

On the other hand, lawmaker Coutinho acknowledged the challenges he has encountered, as he also had to earn the trust of the Chinese community.

He believes that for a Portuguese to know how to deal with the Chinese community as if they were one of them, they must master Cantonese. "There's a need to fully master Cantonese (...) How could you build trust if you can't communicate with [Chinese] people?"

Portugal's National Day is celebrated tomorrow. **MDT/Lusa**

COOPERATION

Lusophone partnerships help local companies

PARTNERSHIPS between Portuguese and Chinese companies are helping to facilitate the development of projects in Lusophone countries, said the president of the Macau Engineering and Construction Association, Tang Hon Cheong.

"There are Chinese companies that have been established in Macau for years (...) and even Portuguese companies, because Macau is a platform between China and Por-

tuguese-speaking countries. We have a good contact network and good law firms, import and export companies, so there's a possibility of partnerships with big Chinese companies to explore the Portuguese-speaking language markets," he stressed.

Mr Tang was speaking at the 6th International Infrastructure Investment and Construction Forum (IIICF), which was held in Macau last week. Under

the framework of IIICF, a ministerial meeting on infrastructural development between China and the Portuguese-speaking countries was also held.

Agreements between Chinese and Macau companies for the construction of residential units and roads in Mozambique were signed during the two-day forum.

"Private companies in Macau cannot participate in these large scale business deals abroad,

because they're not large enough. But in Macau we have also large Chinese companies, and they have their own connections. I believe that if we partner with these companies, while cooperating with Portuguese enterprises, we could achieve great results," he explained.

Furthermore, he suggested that the Macau government could play a role in encouraging Macau companies to venture overseas. Mr Tang recal-

led that by opening its financial reserves, the government could provide financial support for local companies looking to invest in the infrastructure market abroad.

The Portuguese Consul General to Macau and Hong Kong, Vítor Sereno, who attended the ministerial meeting last week, noted the vast potential that could be explored, namely through Forum Macau.

He concluded by saying

that, "the legal framework of each Portuguese-speaking country is similar. Therefore, I believe Portugal has a crucial role in this sense."

According to organizers, about 120 agreements involving USD2.5 million were signed during the IIICF. The forum gathered over 1,000 attendees from 15 countries. The coming edition will be held here next year between June 2 and 3. **MDT/Lusa**

No plans for new airport runway

The Civil Aviation Authority has failed to identify a need to build a second runway at the Macau airport, due to the fact that the current single-runway system has been assessed as being able to increase its passenger carrying capacity to 15 million people. The bureau's head, Chan Weng Hong, mentioned in a reply to an inquiry posed by a lawmaker that building a new runway would further complicate air traffic control and coordination in the area above the Pearl River Delta region. Chan added that the bureau is negotiating with its mainland counterpart to allow some inbound airplanes to pass by Zhuhai when landing, as currently flights are not allowed to fly low when crossing Zhuhai due to noise restrictions.

FESTIVAL

Taiwan looking to further cultural exchanges

Catarina Pinto

TAIWAN is looking to foster cultural exchanges with Macau, said Lu Chang-Shui, director general of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office. Mr Lu is one of the organizers of the Taiwan Festival taking place in the city between June 18 and 22.

"In our Macau office, we have been striving to promote the culture between Taiwan and Macau. We're hoping that more artists from Macau could go to Taiwan; we would like to see more cultural exchanges between artists," revealed Mr Lu.

The Taipei Economic and Cultural Office and the Kwang Hwa Information & Culture Center are launching a Taiwan Festival leg titled "Reading Taiwan Lifestyle" in Macau for the first time. Running from June 18 to 22, the festival features a series of exhibitions, artistic performances and talks, all taking place at the Sun Yat Sen Memorial House and surrounding garden.

Lucy Lu, director of the Kwang



Lucy Lu and Lu Chang-Shui

Hwa Information & Culture Center in Hong Kong, told a press conference on Friday, "Taiwan is looking to capture the attention of people from Macau and encourage them to better understand the culture of Taiwan."

"Everyone that has visited Taiwan talks about a unique Taiwanese cultural atmosphere. It's a very relaxing atmosphere. That's why we have chosen this memorial house to hold the festival. We thought we should bring this atmosphere to Macau while also bringing life to this build-

ding," she said.

Mr Lu added that Taiwanese culture could be found in several places other than theatres and operas. "We have 24 hour book and coffee shops, where you can also enjoy our culture."

It's that relaxing and cultural engaging atmosphere that organizers are striving to bring here. The festival opens on June 18 with a concert by Voco Novo A Capella, a Taiwanese group that has won a gold medal at an Austrian Jazz festival.

On June 19, the same group will

perform with singer and contemporary nanguan musician XinXin Nanguan. Nanguan is a style of Chinese classical music, originally from Fujian province.

Organizers have also invited lighting master Chou Lien, best known for his Statue of Liberty lighting project. In a city of neon lights, Mr Chou hopes to find inspiration for a lighting project that he will present on June 19.

On June 20, a new concept of library will be presented to Macau citizens by Spencer and Anson Ng. Back in Taiwan, they have developed a new project, through which they've built a magazine library.

Ms Lu said that they "are not selling any products, they sell space and time to read magazines."

In Macau, they will be holding a mock magazine library and will partner with local bookshop Pin-to.

Folk and country musician Li Chien Fu will be performing on June 20, and the World Champion of Coffee Roasting, Jacky Lai, will give a talk on June 21.

Judy Wu and Pan Lee will host "Earth Singing" on June 21, a project aimed at recording the sounds of nature and animals to later create music.

The festival also features two exhibitions by a Taiwanese photographer and a contemporary artist.

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Oliver Weber, Executive Chef at MGM Macau (left), German wine queen Janina Huhn (center) and Holger Deh, Executive Pastry Chef (right)

Vanessa Moore

FOOD & DRINK

Queen of Riesling

IT'S always been every little girl's dream to become a princess, but in Germany things are done slightly differently. Instead of wanting to be a regular old fairytale princess, aspiring little German girls dream of becoming the "Wine Queen". Elected every year by the country's winemaking provinces, the Wine Queen is the worldwide face of its most celebrated grape variety, the light and fruity Riesling. And as this year's elected Queen, flaxen-haired Janina Huhn has been travelling the world promoting the versatile vintage, taking her all the way to Hong Kong and Macau where she spoke at a Riesling wine tasting lunch held last week at MGM Macau.

"It's a tradition which is 66 years old, and I'm the 66th German Wine Queen", explained 25-year-old Janina over lunch at MGM's Grand Imperial Court. "The Wine Queen is an official ambassador for German Wines. It's really hard to become the Wine Queen, you have to do a competition with other girls; you have to answer a lot of questions about wines, you have to show your wine knowledge, you have to do improvised speeches and things like that", she added. "And in the end a jury of 70 people elect the new Wine Queen. And last year in September I was the lucky one".

As part of her royal duties, Janina is now an expert in all matters Riesling-related, and sharing her knowledge about her country's wine industry

and its star grape is all part and parcel of the job description. "The Riesling grape has a very versatile character", the Wine Queen explained to a roomful of media gathered for the wine tasting. "It includes lemon - this would be the very refreshing type of Riesling; then you see something like peach and apple, which is kind of in between, a little bit more body; and when it comes to ripe Riesling or the noble sweet Riesling, you will also have some hints of honey and also some tropical notes", she illustrated. "So there's a big diversity in Riesling".

Germany has 13 wine growing

Besides being known as a white wine country, most people think that German wine is mainly sweet. This is the wrong image

JANINA HUHN
GERMAN WINE QUEEN

regions located primarily in the East and South West of the country, all with their own special character. "We are not a country of very big producers on hectares and hectares of land but small producers who do very characteristic products", Janina stated. "It may be a surprise to some people but Germany produces almost 40% red wine. This is quite large compared to the image Germany has worldwide as a white wine country".

A light and refreshing white wine, Riesling is praised for its versatility with food, pairing excellently with French gastronomy while also matching remarkably well with Chinese and other Asian cuisines. Often mistakenly thought of as just a sweet wine, the grape's differing degrees of complimentary acidity and varying degrees of dryness and sweetness also help to bring out the idiosyncratic flavors of many Asian culinary dishes, including the spicy Sichuan squid prepared with bell peppers and Crispy fried Yunnan ham marinated with honey that were served from Imperial Court's menu. Out of MGM's featured selection of wines, the "Balthasar Röss, Hattenheimer Schuttenhaus Kabinett" had an off dry, fruity and floral aroma that paired excellently with both dishes.

"Besides being known as a white wine country, most peo-

ple think that German wine is mainly sweet. This is the wrong image", revealed Janina. "Over 60% of our production is dry or off-dry. So dry wines are very important for our country. There's been a change in the last 20 to 30 years in the minds of the wine growers; they have an international experience, they had an education in other wine countries and they came back with the knowledge that dry wine is very good, so we are producing a lot more dry wine than sweet wine today", she explained.

Consequently, to promote the wine to local audiences, this June, for the second consecutive year MGM Macau is participating in Deutsche Riesling Weeks by presenting an assortment of Riesling wines across its eateries. French bistro Aux Beaux Arts, ABA Bar, Chinese Imperial Court and Grand Imperial Court are all creating special Riesling-matched dishes, while the Pastry Bar and Grande Praça Café both have a selection of Riesling-paired sweet treats.

Moreover, according to Hong Kong-based wine consultant and marketer Tersina Shieh, the yearly campaign currently ongoing in both Hong Kong and Macau to promote Riesling was "initiated by wineries, importers, F&B outlets and retailers to form a whole chain to allow the consumer to celebrate

the diversity of Riesling", and of course, most importantly "to enjoy the wine". Previously running for two weeks, the occasion was extended to a month-long event last year and is now set to last the whole of June. 30 F&B outlets in HK and Macau are participating, with 1/3 of those being Asian, including Cantonese, Sichuan, Japanese, Shanghaiese, Thai and Indian.

Returning to lunch, the next wine featured on the tasting menu, the "Donnhoff Horheimer Kirscheck Spätlese" a fruity, medium sweet wine with a bit of tart acidity and very ripe sweetness matched perfectly with the freshness of the two main courses of Shrimp and Cod from the a-la-carte menu of Aux Beaux Arts. It also brings out the best in the restaurant's other rich and creamy French seafood dishes such as Baked Maine lobster mornay. Finally, when dessert was served, the "Dr. Lossen Wehlener Sonnenuhr Auslese" - which has a dense, intense flavor that offers up a rich sweetness with crisp acidity, revealing hints of saffron-like botrytis - paired perfectly with an innovative creation of White chocolate ganache with Riesling vinegar ice cream, plus a second sweet course of indulgent individual dark chocolate cakes infused with Riesling.

The assorted selection of Riesling wines are available throughout the month of June, and Riesling lovers can try them all out at any of MGM's a-la-carte restaurants, as well as by taking advantage of a full tasting array of three Riesling glasses at ABA Bar.

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Brandon Bailey and
Ryan Nakashima, San Francisco

Apple wants a lead role in streaming music

APPLE'S iTunes helped change the way music-lovers bought their favorite songs, replacing plastic discs with digital downloads. Now the maker of iPods and iPhones wants to carve out a leading role in a revolution well underway, with a new, paid streaming-music service set to launch this summer.

With millions of listeners already tuning in to streaming outlets like Pandora and Spotify, analysts and music-industry sources say Apple has been gearing up to launch its own service, aimed at winning back some of those customers and nudging longtime iTunes users into a new mode of listening.

Apple is expected to announce the service at its annual conference for software developers, which was set to kick off yesterday in San Francisco (this morning, Macau time). In a keynote session, CEO Tim Cook and other executives are also expected to show off new features in Apple's operating software for iPhones, iPads and Macintosh computers, as

AP PHOTO



Pedestrians cross the street in front of the Moscone Center, which is hosting the Apple Worldwide Developers Conference, in San Francisco

Streaming media is increasingly important to the computer-using experience, so it's important for Apple to have a role there

BEN BAJARIN
ANALYST, CREATIVE STRATEGIES

well as tools for building new apps for the Apple Watch. Analysts also expect enhancements to the mobile-payment service known as Apple Pay.

The world's biggest tech company makes most of its money from selling handheld gadgets, like the popular iPhone, and other computer hardware. But Apple uses its annual World Wide Developers Conference to highlight the software, online services and apps that make those devices indispensable to consumers around the world.

Along with a new music service, industry experts had been expecting Apple to announce a

new streaming-video package and upgrades for its Apple TV service. But that may be delayed, according to reports by the New York Times and the tech blog Re/code, which said Apple is still negotiating with broadcasters and isn't ready to announce the video service.

That puts the spotlight on Apple's music initiative. Analysts say the company needs to build a robust streaming business if it wants to maintain its central role in the popular-music ecosystem. Most recordings today are still sold through digital stores like iTunes, which opened in 2003.

But those sales have declined, while streaming services are rapidly gaining subscribers and revenue.

"Streaming media is increasingly important to the computer-using experience, so it's important for Apple to have a role there," said Creative Strategies analyst Ben Bajarin.

About 41 million people globally now pay for streaming music from Spotify, Deezer and other outlets, according to the International Federation of the Phonographic Industry, which says subscription revenue grew 39 percent last year to USD1.6 billion. Overall download sales

fell 8 percent to \$3.6 billion.

Apple Inc. bought the Beats headphone maker and music streaming service for \$3 billion last year, but publishers' data confirmed by royalty tracking company Audiam shows Beats Music had just 303,000 U.S. subscribers as of December, compared to 4.7 million in the U.S. for market leader Spotify.

While Apple wouldn't comment last week, a person familiar with its plans said Apple has an ambitious goal to sign up 100 million subscribers for a new streaming service that will cost \$10 a month and compete with other on-demand services such as Spotify and Rhapsody. Beats users will be migrated over before eventually closing down, and buyers of songs and albums on iTunes will also be presented with the option to purchase a subscription instead.

Along with a lengthy three-month free trial period for the paid service, the company also plans to bolster its free offering, iTunes Radio, with a live online radio station featuring DJs like former BBC host Zane Lowe and artists Pharell, Drake, Muse and David Guetta.

The person spoke on condition of anonymity because negotiations between the company and record labels were private.

"They are very late to the game on streaming," said analyst Van Baker at the Gartner research firm. But he said Apple can still catch up by making it easy for iPhone owners to use the new service. That's a huge pool of potential customers: Apple sold 61 million iPhones in the last quarter alone.

Aside from music, analysts expect Apple will tout improvements to other services like Apple Pay and Siri, the voice-activated digital assistant for iPhones and iPads. Apple has also hinted it will release programming tools for its new smartwatch. **AP**

corporate bits

SANDS RESORTS COTAI STRIP SIGNS AGREEMENT WITH LANDER REAL ESTATE



Sands Resorts Cotai Strip Macao announced that the company has entered into a long-term strategy partnership with mainland property development company Lander Real Estate Co., Ltd., to co-develop sporting events both nationally and abroad. The contract signing cere-

mony took place in Hangzhou, China.

"This strategic partnership will see our companies co-developing major sports offerings together, especially boxing events - a sport that continues to become increasingly popular in China," said Dave Horton, global chief marketing officer of Las Vegas Sands Corp. & Sands China Ltd. "Sporting events are one of the many ways our company works to diversify Macau's tourism landscape. Sands Resorts Cotai Strip Macao will work with Lander Real Estate to build upon the recognition of Macau and Sands Resorts Cotai Strip Macao as the home of the best boxing events in Asia."

MCDONALD'S GLOBAL SALES TOP ESTIMATES AS NEW CEO SEEKS COMEBACK

McDonald's Corp. reported May sales that narrowly topped analysts' projections, a sign the company is making progress under new Chief Executive Officer Steve Easterbrook.

Global same-store sales fell 0.3 percent in the period, the Oak Brook, Illinois-based company said in a statement yesterday. Analysts predicted a 0.9 percent drop, according to Consensus Metrix.

Easterbrook, who took over the CEO job in March, has vowed to pull McDonald's out of its prolonged slump and transform the world's largest restaurant chain into a modern, progressive burger company.

He announced a turnaround plan last month that includes reorganizing the company's leadership, cutting costs and returning cash to shareholders.

McDonald's shares rose in early trading after the results were released. The stock had gained 2 percent through the end of last week.

McDonald's announced in May that it would stop providing monthly sales data. The company will give its June numbers - along with its quarterly earning report in July - but that will be it. Most other companies in the fast food and retail industries already stopped making monthly sales numbers public.

CTM LAUNCHES FREE WI-FI AT CARITAS LIBRARY



CTM is expanding its Wi-Fi hotspots around Macau. With the collaboration of Caritas Macau, starting from yesterday onwards, free CTM Wi-Fi service is now available at Caritas Library.

Residents visiting Caritas Library can enjoy free CTM Wi-Fi service for 30 minutes after successfully logging in to the network, with no limits on the

number of times users log in.

Secretary General of Caritas Macau Paul Pun expressed his appreciation to CTM for its support in providing Caritas Library users with free Wi-Fi, while CTM's Vice President of Commercial, Ebel Cham said that the company will continue to expand its Wi-Fi hotspot coverage through collaboration with different parties.

HONG KONG

Actor Tony Leung receives French arts honor



Hong Kong actor Tony Leung celebrates with actress Carina Lau

To his long list of accolades, Hong Kong actor Tony Leung is adding one with French flavor. France's consul general made the 52-year-old actor an "Officer of the Order of Arts and Letters" at a ceremony yesterday attended by Leung's wife Carina Lau and his friends including director Wong Kar-wai. Consul General Arnaud Barthelemy praised Leung for his achievements in acting and thanked him for bringing together the cultures of France and Hong Kong. Leung said he wanted to share the honor because he didn't make his films alone. "I think this honor should be shared with all those who have worked with me in films for the last 30 years," Leung said. Tony Leung Chiu-wai is considered one of Hong Kong's finest actors, especially in his collaborations with Wong such as "Ashes of Time," "Chungking Express" and "In the Mood for Love." That role won him a best actor award at the Cannes Film Festival. Their last film, the kung fu epic "The Grandmaster," was a critical and commercial success. France made Wong a "Commander of the Order of Arts and Letters" in 2013.

3 Hong Kong tourists killed, 3 injured in Thai road accident

A Thai driver and three Hong Kong tourists were killed, and three others were injured in a road accident on a highway in western Thailand, police said yesterday. The passenger van carrying 6 tourists from Hong Kong lost control and flipped over while driving on a highway in Cham district in Petchaburi province, police Lt. Sayumphu Siththikul said. He said police were investigating why the car braked suddenly, skidded across the road and slammed into trees by a storm drain in the middle of the road on Sunday evening. Sayumphu said the tourists were related and were on their way to Thailand's southern province of Chumphon before the van crashed. He said the injured passengers were sent to a provincial hospital in Petchaburi, which is 100 kilometers southwest of Bangkok. Road accidents are common in Thailand, where safety standards are poor and road rules are weakly enforced.

US gov't challenges mainland tourist's injury claim



Niagara Falls

Carolyn Thompson, Buffalo

THE United States government is defending itself against a Chinese tourist's USD10 million injury claim with the testimony of a surprising witness — a border agent the government initially fired and charged criminally in the case.

Customs and Border Protection employee Robert Rhodes, who was cleared of wrongdoing and reinstated, said he jumped at the chance to testify in the lawsuit filed by Zhao Yan, even though the U.S. government's prosecution of him left him bankrupt.

"I wanted the truth out," Rhodes told The Associated Press during an interview in his attorney's office, while Zhao's claim was being heard by a federal court.

Rhodes was charged in July 2004 with violating Zhao's civil rights following a confrontation at a U.S.-Canadian border inspection station in Niagara Falls, where he was stationed.

At the time, prosecutors said the 17-year veteran officer used excessive force when he used pepper-spray

on Zhao, put his knee on her back and pressed her head into the pavement. She and two other women had run from the inspection station instead of obeying officers' orders to come inside after they detained a drug suspect they thought may have been with them.

■ The border agent used pepper-spray on Zhao, put his knee on her back and pressed her head into the pavement

U.S. authorities still maintain that Rhodes "did strike and hit Zhao with his knee and forcibly drive her head into contact with the pavement, resulting in bodily injury" to the 38-year-old woman, according to court documents. But now they

say Rhodes did not use more force than was necessary and that Zhao's injuries were her own fault because she ran from the officer and then kicked, punched and scratched him before two other officers arrived and helped restrain her on the ground.

"In this action, the question of whether Zhao bears responsibility for the confrontation with Rhodes is a critical issue," Assistant U.S. Attorney Mary Roach wrote in a court filing.

U.S. Attorney William Hochul, who did not head the office when Rhodes was charged, declined to comment, a spokeswoman said, because the trial is ongoing.

Zhao was never charged in the case and sued the United States soon after the incident. The case immediately provoked anger in China after pictures of the businesswoman, her face swollen from pepper spray and her eyes and forehead bruised, were widely published.

Rhodes and his attorney, Steven Cohen, have long believed the U.S. was pressured by China to prosecute and that Rhodes was an easy

target because he was openly gay and had complained about discrimination on the job.

"If they really believed that Rob acted inappropriately in July 2004, then they should have said to Zhao Yan, 'OK, let's pay you for the injuries you sustained and be done with it,'" Cohen said. "For the U.S. attorney to vigorously defend that now and say, 'No, Zhao Yan was in the wrong and the government was in the right,' is at the very least hypocritical."

Zhao contends she suffered "great humiliation and ridicule and was injured in her credit and reputation" and that she sustained "severe, permanent and painful injuries, internal as well as external" at the hands of Rhodes and the two other agents.

Following unsuccessful mediation attempts, U.S. Judge Elizabeth Wolford began trying the case without a jury on May 11. The trial continued yesterday.

Zhao's attorneys from the Paul William Beltz firm did not respond to several telephone and email requests for comment. **AP**

Paul Traynor, Jianli

Relatives weep at morgue after Yangtze ship disaster

MANY relatives wept openly as they arrived yesterday at a morgue for a last look at bodies of loved ones among the more than 430 people killed in the Yangtze River capsizing of the Eastern Star cruise boat.

One man carried a framed picture inside a white plastic bag of his relative, as smoke rose from the morgue's nearby crematorium in the Hubei Province riverside community of Jianli. Authorities identified bodies from DNA samples donated by relatives, who had the option of a last look at bodies before cremation.

Under Chinese tradition, families will have the bodies cremated at a local morgue and then bring the ashes to their home communities for burial.

The death toll in the June 1 disaster near Jianli stood yesterday at 434 following a thorough search of the now-upright ship over the weekend. Eight people are still missing, and authorities said they would search downriver more than 1,000 kilometers as far as Shanghai.

Fourteen people survived the late-evening capsizing during a severe storm, most of them by



Wang Hua, who lost her father and mother aboard the capsized ship Eastern Star, grieves during an interview with foreign journalists organized by gov't officials in Jianli county

swimming or drifting. Three were pulled out by divers from the overturned hull the day after disaster, when rescuers heard yells from within.

Chinese authorities have attributed the accident to sudden, turbulent winds. They also have placed the surviving captain and chief engineer in police custody, though they have released no details of any pending investigation into their conduct.

Some passengers' relatives say they believe authorities have not focused enough on the possibility of human error, including misjudgment about carrying on with the cruise during the storm rather than anchoring.

The overturning of the multi-decked, 77-meter Eastern Star is China's worst boat disaster since the sinking of the SS Kiangya off Shanghai in 1948 during a civil war, which is believed to have killed anywhere from 2,750 to nearly 4,000 people. AP

Drone is latest weapon against school exam cheating

THE latest weapon in the fight against cheating on China's all-important college entrance exam is a six-propeller drone.

The contraption flew over two testing centers in Luoyang city in central China's Henan province to scan for any unusual signals being sent to devices smuggled by students taking the annual test. No such signals were detected Sunday, the first day of the exam, a Henan province news website said.

The drone cost hundreds of thousands of yuan (tens of thousands of dollars) and is as big as a gas station pump when extended, said Lan Zhigang, from Luoyang's Radio Supervision and Regulation Bureau.

"A drone has its advantages. In an urban area full of tall buildings, various barriers limit the operating range of devices on ground, while the drone can rise up to 500 meters and detect signals over the whole city," Lan said.

Almost all Chinese high school graduates must take the test — more than 9 million students started it Sunday — and the sco-



Security personnel guard the entrance to one of the schools where the annual Gao Kao or national college entrance exam will be held in Beijing

res are the key criterion for which tier of university they can enter.

Pressure is immense and many students spend months cramming. Parents travel to the cities where the tests are given to stay with their children during the exam, which can last two or three days. Those who fail can repeat a year or try to find a low-paying, blue-collar job.

Cheating is common gi-

ven the high stakes, and methods include selling supposed answers, hiring surrogate test-takers and using wireless equipment to communicate during the test.

The Education Ministry said Saturday that it had arrested 23 people since late May over attempts to arrange cheating. Students caught cheating can be barred from taking the test for up to three years. AP

Trade shrinks for a third month in latest growth slump

CHINA'S exports fell for a third month in May, while imports slumped the most in three months, underscoring a sluggish domestic environment that may trigger more monetary policy support.

Overseas shipments fell 2.8 percent from a year earlier in yuan value, the customs administration said in Beijing yesterday. Imports slid 18.1 percent, leaving a trade surplus of 366.8 billion yuan (USD59.1 billion). U.S. demand helped prevent a deeper decline in shipments abroad.

The trade slowdown coincides with a slump in investment growth that is putting Premier Li Keqiang's 2015 growth target of about 7 percent at risk. In response, officials have eased monetary policy and engineered a debt swap for local governments so they can keep funding infrastructure projects.

"What concerns me is the weaker-than-expected import growth in May, suggesting the domestic demand recovery is uncertain," said Zhao Yang, chief China economist at Nomura Holdings Inc. in Hong Kong. "Monetary policy will continue to ease to support domestic demand."

The Shanghai Composite Index gained 2.2 percent at the close, the highest since January 2008 on expectations the government

may roll out more stimulus.

China's exports fell 2.5 percent last month from a year earlier in dollar terms, while imports plunged 17.6 percent, leaving a trade surplus of \$59.49 billion, customs data showed.

Imports were at the slowest pace since November as a downturn in construction linked to a weak property sector hurt demand.

"The fall in imports show weak domestic demand, even after excluding the price factors" of commodities, said Ding Shuang, chief China economist at Standard Chartered Plc in Hong Kong.

Early indicators for China's economy in May had provided tentative hints at stabilization, with the official and the HSBC Markit purchasing managers' indexes edging up, Bloomberg economists Fielding Chen and Tom Orlik wrote after the trade data. Yet total trade posted an 8 percent annual contraction in the first five months of the year, compared with the government's target of 6 percent growth for 2015.

"Weakness in external and domestic demand requires a more aggressive policy response," Chen and Orlik said. "Further policy easing is needed to support the economy and ensure it expands at a pace close to the government's 7 percent target."

Bloomberg

Tong-hyung Kim, Seoul

SOUTH KOREA

6th person dies of MERS virus

SOUTH Korea yesterday reported its sixth death from Middle East Respiratory Syndrome as authorities were bolstering measures to stem the spread of the virus that has left dozens of people infected.

A total of 87 people in South Korea have been infected by MERS since last month in the largest outbreak outside the Middle East. About 1,870 schools have closed and more than 2,000 people are isolated at their homes or state-run facilities after having contact with patients infected with the virus.

An 80-year-old man, who tested positive for the virus last week while being treated for pneumonia, died yesterday and became the country's sixth death linked to MERS, according to a statement from the Health Ministry.

Departing from its earlier policy, the government on Sunday disclosed 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, officials said.

The government had earlier refused to reveal the names of those hospitals saying it would cause a disruption in services if people started avoiding



Passengers wear masks as a precaution against MERS as they use their smartphones on a subway train in Seoul

them. The disclosure came two days after the government first identified one hospital at the heart of the virus's out-

break in South Korea.

Deputy Prime Minister Choi Kyung-hwan told a news conference Sunday 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 said.

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

The U.N. health agency has reported that there's no evidence yet in South Korea of "sustained transmission in the community."

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.

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**

MALAYSIA

Earthquake death toll rises to 16, two Singaporeans still missing

Eileen Ng, Kuala Lumpur

THE death toll from an earthquake that trapped scores of climbers on Malaysia's highest peak rose to 16 yesterday as rescuers searched for two Singaporean climbers still missing.

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

Nine of the bodies found Saturday were flown out by helicopter, while two were carried down, police said. Five more bodies have now been recovered.

State tourism minister Masidi Manjun said the victims were seven Singaporeans, six Malaysians, and a Filipino, Chinese



In this Friday, June 5 photo, climbers wait for helicopter rescue on Mount Kinabalu in eastern Sabah state on Borneo

and Japanese national each.

He said a Singaporean student and teacher were still missing.

Singapore yesterday flew flags at half-staff to mourn the victims, part of a school outing to the mountain.

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 guides told her group of 21 climbers that a helicopter would pick them up, but they decided to walk out 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.

Masidi said in a tweet that "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."

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 were being flown at half-staff in Sabah yesterday 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 group 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.

Nicolas Doire, spokesman for Canada's Department of Foreign Affairs, said consular officials in Malaysia have contacted local authorities and are assisting the two Canadians who are among those barred from leaving Malaysia.

Foreign Affairs would not confirm the identity of the Canadians, citing privacy concerns, but Malaysia's foreign affairs ministry identified them to The Canadian Press as siblings Lindsey Petersen and Danielle Petersen. **AP**

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GERMANY

Climate change, terror on agenda for 2nd day of G-7 meeting

Frank Jordans, Elmau

AFTER spending much of the first day talking about Ukraine, leaders of the Group of Seven wealthy democracies shifted their focus yesterday to global issues including climate change, terrorism and the threat from diseases such as Ebola.

German Chancellor Angela Merkel aimed to get backing for a strong agreement on cutting back carbon-based fuels and renewing commitments to limit global warming to a 2 degree Celsius rise in temperatures, as well as providing USD100 billion in aid to poor countries dealing with the impact of climate change.

An agreement among the G-7 would send a strong signal to the upcoming climate change conference in Paris later this year.

But Japan and Canada, in particular, have been less enthu-



German Chancellor Angela Merkel, center, walks with U.S. President Barack Obama, right, and British Prime Minister David Cameron after a group photo of G-7 leaders

siastic about the kind of strong agreement hoped for by Merkel, who has been labeled the “climate chancellor” in Germany.

The G-7 — which used to be the G-8 until Russia was excluded last year over its actions in Ukraine — also opened its doors to guest speakers from international organizations and developing countries yesterday.

U.N. Secretary-General Ban

Ki-Moon and World Bank president Jim Yong Kim and were on hand to brief leaders on global programs to combat poverty and disease.

Iraqi Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi, meanwhile, offered his country’s views on the fight against the Islamic State group.

The G-7 planned to return briefly to the situation in Ukraine, specifically the country’s dire economic state, in a discussion with International Monetary Fund chief Christine Lagarde.

The summit was scheduled to wrap up in the early afternoon.

Protesters, who were kept far from the conference venue, staged a final rally nearby Garmisch-Partenkirchen yesterday morning. Police said the event was peaceful. **AP**

ACTIVISTS PROJECT GREEN LASERS ON MOUNTAIN

ACTIVISTS HAVE had a hard time sending their message to the G-7 leaders, who are tucked away in a secluded Alpine valley guarded by thousands of police. So Greenpeace decided yesterday to project its demands onto a nearby mountain. The environmental group used green lasers to beam the words “G-7: Go for 100 per-

cent renewables” onto the side of the Zugspitze, Germany’s highest peak. Greenpeace climate policy chief Martin Kaiser said he hopes German Chancellor Angela Merkel will manage to convince climate holdouts such as Japan’s Shinzo Abe to drastically cut down on carbon emissions in the coming decades.

TURKEY

Ruling party loses seats dashing Erdogan’s ambitions



A supporter of Turkey’s ruling Justice and Development Party holds a baby as she waves Turkish flags in Istanbul

Susan Fraser and Desmond Butler, Ankara

TURKEY’S long-ruling party has suffered surprisingly strong losses in parliament that will force it to seek a coalition partner for the next government, but other parties yesterday vowed to resist any pact.

President Recep Tayyip Erdogan’s Justice and Development Party, known as the AKP, won less than 41 percent of votes in Sunday’s election for Turkey’s 550-seat parliament. It was projected to take 258 seats, still top of the political heap but 18 below the minimum required to rule alone.

The result dealt a stunning rebuke to Erdogan, who had hoped to reshape Turkey’s democracy into one with a powerful presidency in which he — not parliament — would wield most control of government affairs.

Erdogan’s party colleague, Prime Minister Ahmet Davutoglu, convened his cabinet yesterday to chart the most likely course to remain in power, whether by coaxing a reluctant opponent to the table or by trying to rule alone in a parliament where the AKP will be outnumbered by three empowered rivals.

The AKP’s surprise loss of parliamentary control looks likely

to undermine Erdogan’s ambitions to make Turkey a dominant regional power. The result also casts doubt over the course of a 2-year old Kurdish peace process championed by Erdogan that seeks to end the decades-old conflict that has cost tens of thousands of lives.

Under Turkey’s constitution, once all lawmakers take their oath of office, all parties have 45 days to negotiate on forming a new governing alliance. But analysts say prospects have been soured by the divisive campaigning tactics of Erdogan, who as ceremonial head of state was legally bound to remain neutral. Instead he led fierce, partisan attacks on rival parties.

Those parties — the center-left Republican People’s Party (CHP), right-wing Nationalist Movement Party (MHP) and the rising pro-Kurdish voice of the People’s Democratic Party (HDP) — all said yesterday they would not prop up an AKP-led government. Some said the outcome pointed to new elections.

The biggest change from Turkey’s previous parliament is the ascendancy of the People’s Democratic Party, a socially liberal force rooted in the Kurdish nationalism of Turkey’s southeast, attracting more than 12 percent of votes. **AP**

SOUTH AFRICA

Court sets Oscar Pistorius appeal case for November

Gerald Imray, Cape Town

OSCAR Pistorius’ case will go in front of South Africa’s Supreme Court of Appeal in November, the court said yesterday, when prosecutors will challenge the decision to acquit him of murder for shooting girlfriend Reeva Steenkamp.

Pistorius would again face the possibility of a murder conviction and a minimum of 15 years in prison if a panel of judges at the Supreme Court of Appeal overturns the original decision in his murder trial.

The court has not yet set an exact date for the appeal, court registrar Paul Myburgh told The Associated Press, but it will be in November. That will be three months after Pistorius is eligible for release from prison to serve the remainder of his current sentence, for a culpable homicide conviction, under house arrest.

Pistorius was acquitted of murder last year for killing Steenkamp in 2013 by shooting her multiple

times through a closed toilet door in his Pretoria home. The runner claimed he mistook Steenkamp for a nighttime intruder.

He was convicted instead of culpable homicide, a charge similar to manslaughter, and sentenced to five years in a jail in the South African capital, Pretoria. Prosecutors appealed the decision by trial Judge Thokozile Masipa, saying the double-amputee Olympic athlete should have been found guilty of murder. In December, Masipa granted prosecutors permission to appeal her finding at the Supreme Court of Appeal.

Supreme Court of Appeal registrar Myburgh said that chief prosecutor Gerrie Nel and defense lawyer Barry Roux have already met with the president of the court.

Some of the details of the appeal hearing have been ironed out: Prosecutors must submit their court papers outlining their argument by Aug. 17. Pistorius’ defense team must submit its response by Sept. 17, Myburgh said. **AP**

what's ON

UNIVERSITY OF SAINT JOSEPH ARCHITECTURE
STUDENT GRADUATE EXHIBITION 2015
"NEW SYNERGIES"

TIME: 2pm-7pm

(Closed on Sunday and public holidays)

UNTIL: June 20, 2015

ADMISSION: Free

VENUE: Creative Macau, G/F Macau Cultural Centre

Building, Xian Xing Hai Avenue

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2875 3282

ART OF INK

- MIO PANG FEI CALLIGRAPHY EXHIBITION

TIME: 10am-7pm

(Closed on Mondays, no admission after 6:30 pm)

UNTIL: July 5, 2015

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

NAPE

ADMISSION: MOP5 (Free on Sundays and public

holidays)

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8791 9814

CUBA TOUCH

- INSIGHT INTO THE DAILY LIVES IN CUBA

TIME: 10am-6:30pm

UNTIL: July 20, 2015

VENUE: Dare to Dream Gallery, Calçada Da Barra No.

16 R/C LJ A, Edif. San Chak, Macau

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2896 2820

HISTORICAL PAINTINGS OF MACAU IN THE 19TH
CENTURY

TIME: 10am-7pm

(Closed on Mondays, No admission after 6:30 pm)

UNTIL: December 31, 2015

VENUE: Macau Museum of Art,

Av. Xian Xing Hai, s/n, NAPE

ADMISSION: MOP5

(Free on Sundays and public holidays)

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8791 9814

STREET FOOD VENDORS OF MACAU

TIME: 9:30am-7pm daily (Except Mondays)

VENUE: Macau Story House / 6A Rua Nova de S.

Lazaro, Macau

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2835 3504

FACEBOOK HOMEPAGE: oralhistorymacao

WILD DREAMS OF TAMED PETS,

EXHIBITION BY ANA JACINTO NUNES

TIME: 12pm-8pm (Tuesdays to Sundays)

3pm-8pm (Mondays)

UNTIL: June 27, 2015

VENUE: Albergue SCM / No. 8,

Calçada da Igreja de S. Lazaro

ADMISSION: Free

Offbeat

GROUNDHOG DAY: ANIMAL WANDERS
ONTO TRACK AT CANADIAN GP

A groundhog that scampered onto the track during the Canadian Grand Prix showed the quickness of a Formula One driver when it scurried to safety and avoided the oncoming racecars.

The rodent had wandered onto the Circuit Gilles Villeneuve when Felipe Massa came bearing down with two other cars in pursuit. Massa swerved to avoid it, and the scared animal retreated back under the fence.

"In this country, you have such beautiful wildlife," Formula One spokesman Matteo Bonciani told The Associated Press. "I'm so happy that, in the end, it was all right."

The open-wheeled cars hit a top speed of 342 kph in Sunday's race, which was won by Lewis Hamilton.

Massa said it's always surprising when an animal appears on the track, though it is not unprecedented. Dogs have wandered into races in India and Brazil and a groundhog also appeared during the 2008 Canadian GP.

Massa had enough time to react, but worried that the two cars trailing him wouldn't see the groundhog.

"It's dangerous more for the animal than for me," the Brazilian said. "But if we hit it it's not good for our car, either." AP

TV canal macau

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

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

1975 FIRST LIVE BROADCAST
OF PARLIAMENT

The first live transmission from the House of Commons has been broadcast by BBC Radio and commercial stations. Commentary was provided by BBC political editor David Holmes and Edmund Boyle, from Independent Radio News, who shared a cramped, sound-proofed box inside the chamber.

Secretary of State for Industry Tony Benn was the first minister to be questioned in Parliament live on air, starting a debate which some listeners said was difficult to follow on radio.

But the BBC and IRN said it was pleased with the first daily Question Time broadcast of this four-week experiment.

Mr Holmes and Mr Boyle - who both said they hoped their uncomfortable booth would be upgraded if the trial became permanent - attempted to provide background details of the proceedings.

But they admitted this was sometimes difficult with the speed of the debates and Commons' traditions like referring to other MPs as "honourable gentleman", rather than their name.

BBC boss Peter Hardiman Scott said it would be arrogant to expect MPs to alter their procedure for the sake of the broadcast, but said he would not be surprised if subtle changes were made in time.

"One might get shorter speeches, or speeches rather to the point - only the diehards would suggest that these would be changes for the worst," he said.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

The idea of broadcasting the proceedings of Parliament was first suggested by the BBC in the 1920s, but permission was refused.

Permanent radio coverage was eventually granted in 1978 after the 1975 dry-run.

In November 1984, cameras were installed in the Lords for an experimental period and have remained ever since.

Permission for television broadcasts of Commons' proceedings was finally granted in 1990 after an 18-month trial.

YOUR STARS

Aries
Mar. 21-Apr. 19
You have to do something about your clutter — or maybe all that empty space in your house! You've got to balance your possessions with your needs, and if it takes all day, so be it.

Taurus
April 20-May 20
Your intensity makes life great for you and your people — you don't let go of anything good, while forcefully dismissing all the bad. It's one of those days when you really need to revel!

Gemini
May 21-Jun. 21
This is not the time to issue demands or otherwise expect the world to match your pace. Instead, you need to deal with your own issues while you wait for everyone else to catch up with you.

Cancer
Jun. 22-Jul. 22
You need to throw a party — or an intimate gathering — so invite folks over for dinner or more. You know how to make people feel welcome, and once you get things rolling, it becomes unstoppable!

Leo
Jul. 23-Aug. 22
You can't believe what you're hearing today — about yourself! It's one thing to know others talk behind your back, but another thing entirely to actually catch them in the act.

Virgo
Aug. 23-Sept. 22
Your thoughtful, philosophical side is out on display today, and you couldn't be happier. It's a great time to dig deeply into big issues and see what comes of them. The little details can wait for another day.

Libra
Sep. 23-Oct. 22
You are more attractive than usual — which is really saying something! Make sure that you're speaking to the right people and letting the universe know what — and whom — you want.

Scorpio
Oct. 23 - Nov. 21
You need to be a little more open to new possibilities — which isn't all that hard for you, fortunately. Of course, you may not like what you've got to do at first, but it is sure to grow on you!

Sagittarius
Nov. 22-Dec. 21
You need to be a little more open to new possibilities — which isn't all that hard for you, fortunately. Of course, you may not like what you've got to do at first, but it is sure to grow on you!

Capricorn
Dec. 22-Jan. 19
Your softer side is on the surface now, and you may find that you can more easily tell your sweetie (or crush) how you feel. It's a really good time for romance, so go for it soon!

Aquarius
Jan. 20-Feb. 18
The past is catching up with you — but that can be a good thing! As long as you don't just wallow in nostalgia or regret, you can take pride in your accomplishments and ensure that the future is bright.

Pisces
Feb. 19-Mar. 20
Your attractiveness is heightened today — so go fishing for a new romance or a new job! You can make a great first impression without trying very hard, and your new confidence is amazing!

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Easy

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

Easy+

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

Medium

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

Hard

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

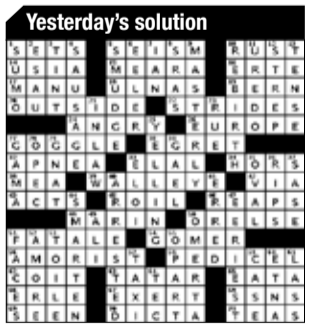
WEATHER

	MIN	MAX	CONDITION
CHINA			
Beijing	21	32	cloudy/thundershower
Harbin	17	29	thundershower
Tianjin	22	31	clear/cloudy
Urumqi	13	25	clear
Xi'an	21	29	cloudy/shower
Lhasa	8	20	thundershower
Chengdu	19	28	cloudy/overcast
Chongqing	22	27	overcast/shower
Kunming	17	30	clear
Nanjing	19	27	overcast
Shanghai	21	24	shower
Wuhan	22	28	cloudy
Hangzhou	21	28	shower/overcast
Taipei	26	32	drizzle
Guangzhou	25	33	cloudy/shower
Hong Kong	27	32	cloudy
WORLD			
Moscow	16	25	drizzle
Frankfurt	11	18	cloudy/overcast
Paris	10	21	cloudy/overcast
London	10	16	drizzle
New York	17	19	cloudy/clear

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Costa ___; 5- Novelist Jaffe; 9- Billiard implements; 13- Phil of folk; 14- Varsity starters; 16- Cry of disbelief; 17- Later!; 18- Flowery verse; 19- Something to avoid; 20- Prank; 22- Yeast-raised coffee cake; 24- Natives of the Middle East; 27- Essential part; 28- Fly; 29- Window over a door; 33- Hard candy; 34- Aviation prefix; 35- Tom, Dick and Harry, e.g.; 36- Wholly; 37- Big dos; 38- Sheet music abbr.; 39- St. crosses; 41- Young horse; 42- Fall bloomer; 44- Forgiving; 46- Sheath; 47- Churn; 48- Fairy tale starter; 49- Bathhouse; 52- ___ was saying...; 53- School orgs.; 57- Immensely; 58- Notches; 60- Shoe insert; 61- "The Mod Squad" role; 62- Bottom line; 63- Green land; 64- Ho Chi ___; 65- Vexation; 66- Baseball stats;

DOWN: 1- Big bird; 2- Henri's here; 3- Chinese tea; 4- Not sociable; 5- Strong snuff; 6- Siouan speakers; 7- At no time, poetically; 8- Small batteries; 9- Vanity; 10- Oops!; 11- Feminine suffix; 12- In a minute; 15- Mountainous island in SE Greece; 21- ABA member; 23- Modern address; 24- Low bow; 25- Develop gradually; 26- One who grinds grains; 27- Christmas song; 29- Wild; 30- Persona non ___; 31- Takes on; 32- Baseball manager Joe; 34- Entangled with; 37- Person who makes an affidavit; 40- Use one's nails; 42- Mandela's org.; 43- King's staff; 45- Charge carrier; 46- Isolate; 48- Industrialist Schindler; 49- Composed; 50- Et ___; 51- Beethoven's birthplace; 52- Official records; 54- Chicago paper, for short; 55- Ethereal; Prefix; 56- Gets the picture; 59- Summer Games org.



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- S. J. Hospital 28 313 731
- Kiang Wu Hospital 28 371 333
- Commission Against Corruption (CCAC) 28326 300
- IACM 28 387 333
- Tourism 28 333 000
- Airport 59 888 88
- Taxi 28 939 939 / 2828 3283
- Water Supply - Report 1990 992
- Telephone - Report 1000
- Electricity - Report 28 339 922
- Macau Daily Times 28 716 081

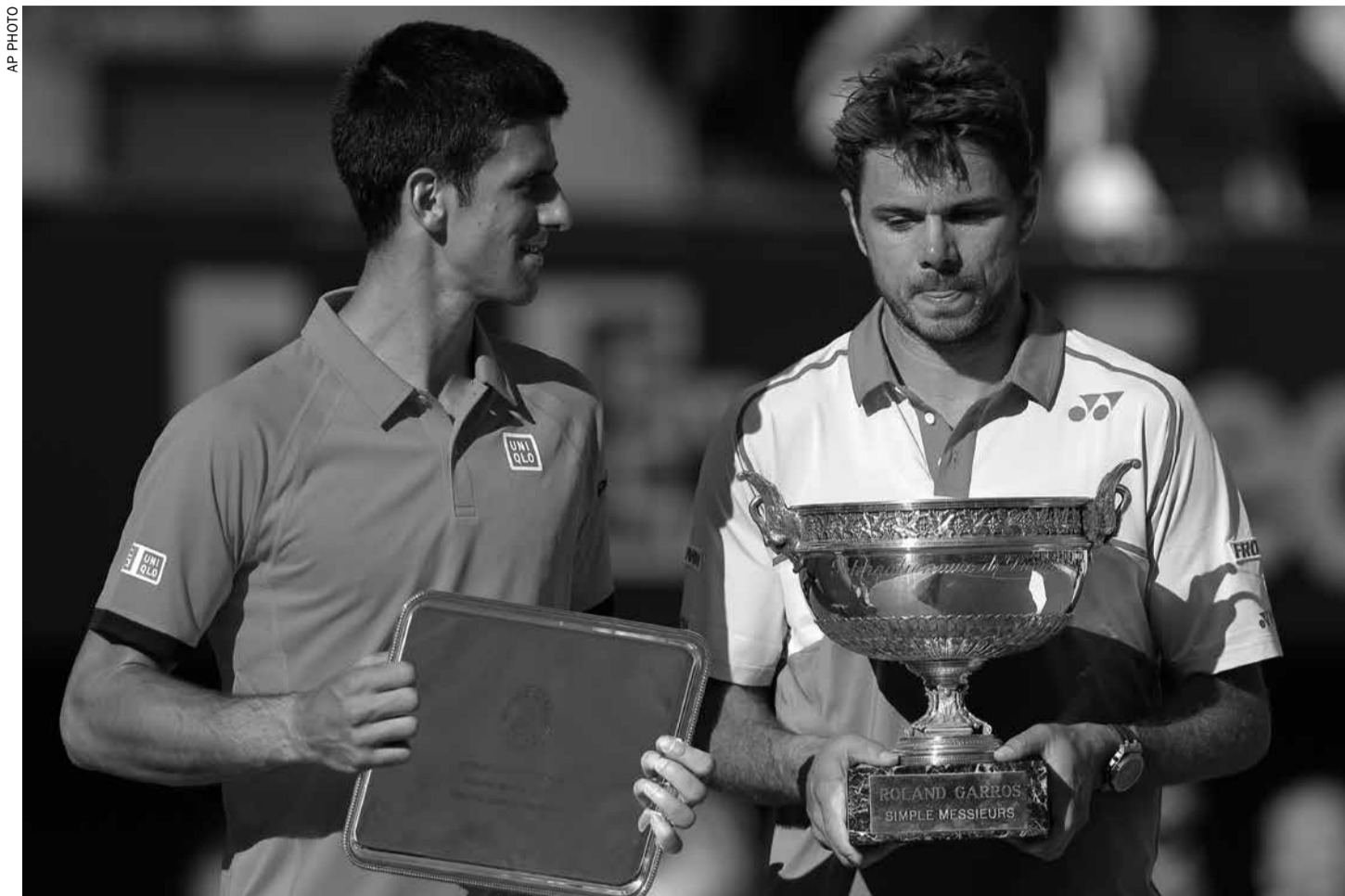


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Switzerland's Stan Wawrinka, right, holds the cup while Serbia's Novak Djokovic looks on with his plate after their final match of the French Open

IOC considers adding new Winter Olympic events

Stephen Wilson, Lausanne

THE IOC is considering adding new events in snowboarding, freestyle skiing, speedskating and curling for the 2018 Winter Olympics in Pyeongchang, South Korea.

Big Air in snowboarding, Big Air in freestyle skiing, mass start in speedskating and mixed doubles in curling have been submitted for approval to the International Olympic Committee executive board.

The new events were proposed for inclusion by their respective international federations, IOC sports director Kit McConnell confirmed to The Associated Press on Sunday. The recommendations were considered yesterday on the second day of the IOC's board meeting in Lausanne.

The snowboard parallel slalom event, meanwhile, has been proposed to be dropped from the Olympic program. Under IOC rules, events and disciplines can be added or removed up to three years before the games.

The IOC has been determined to attract younger audiences, as evidenced by the addition of halfpipe and slopestyle events at recent Winter Olympics. Now it looks like Big Air will be the latest step in that goal.

In Big Air events, competitors fly off a highly pitched ramp similar to those on the slopestyle course, and perform jumps with multiple flips and spins. They do as many jumps as possible in an allotted amount of time.

The International Skating Union, meanwhile, has also been looking to make Olympic speedskating more exciting for fans.

Mass start races would add intrigue, team tactics and a direct confrontation of skating styles in a long-distance event. It could also bring some of the push and shove elements of short track to the Olympic big oval — something likely to displease purists.

Curling has had two events, separate men's and women's competitions, since returning to the Olympics in 1998. While traditional curling involves teams of four players, mixed doubles would include teams of two players — one male and one female. Teams would have six stones each, instead of eight.

The World Curling Federation tried to get mixed doubles on the program for the 2010 Vancouver Games, but it was rejected because the discipline hadn't spread globally.

The IOC is also still working on the program for the 2020 Summer Olympics in Tokyo. Under a new procedure, Japanese organizers can propose the addition of one or more sports for their games.

Baseball and softball — both out of the Olympics since the 2008 Beijing Games — are considered the favorites to be included in Tokyo because of their popularity in Japan. A final decision will be made in August 2016 on the eve of the Rio de Janeiro Olympics. **AP**

Loss to Wawrinka in French final denies Djokovic career Slam

Howard Fendrich, Paris

MOMENTS before his third French Open final in four years, Novak Djokovic jogged in a stadium hallway near a poster of the Coupe des Mousquetaires, the silver trophy awarded to the men's champion at the only major tournament he has never won.

This time, it would be Stan Wawrinka standing between the No. 1-seeded Djokovic and the title at Roland Garros that the Serb needs for a career Grand Slam.

And once again, Djokovic came up one victory shy, stopped by the eighth-seeded Wawrinka and his magical, one-handed backhand. Wawrinka won his first French Open championship and second major title by stunning Djokovic 4-6, 6-4, 6-3, 6-4 in a superbly played match yesterday (Macau time). "I know he's looking for that title," Wawrinka said. "I hope he will get one, one day, because he deserves one."

Wawrinka exited in the first round in Paris a year ago. And he had lost 17 of his past 20 matches against Djokovic. But Wawrinka would not relent on this sunlit afternoon, compiling twice as many winners, 60 to 30. "Certainly one of the best matches of my career," Wawrinka said, "if not the best."

That beautiful backhand

of his was a big reason; one even made its way around the net post before landing on the red clay. Another backhand earned the match's last break, to 5-4 in the fourth set. And, fittingly, yet another finished off Djokovic's 28-match winning streak. Djokovic called the stroke "one of the best one-handed backhands that I have seen."

The 30-year-old Wawrinka, so long in the shadow of his Swiss Davis Cup teammate and pal Roger Federer, added to the championship he won at last year's Australian Open. That's when Wawrinka became the first man in 21 years to beat the top two seeds en route to a Grand Slam title. He duplicated that in Paris, eliminating No. 2 Federer in the quarterfinals before toppling Djokovic.

When Djokovic received the silver plate given to the losing finalist, the spectators gave him an unusually long ovation. Djokovic shook his head and his eyes welled with

Certainly one of the best matches of my career, if not the best

STAN WAWRINKA

tears.

"Not easy to stand there as a runner-up again," Djokovic said, "but I lost to a better player who played some courageous tennis." The 28-year-old Djokovic has won eight Grand Slam championships: five at the Australian Open, two at Wimbledon and one at the U.S. Open. He must wait a year for another chance to become the eighth man with at least one title from each major.

Djokovic came up short against Rafael Nadal in the 2012 and 2014 finals. He cleared that hurdle this year, defeating the nine-time champion in the quarterfinals. Djokovic then defeated Andy Murray in a two-day, five-set semifinal that concluded about 25 hours before Sunday's start.

"Maybe in some important moments, I didn't feel I had that explosivity in the legs, but, look, at the end of the day, (Wawrinka) was just a better player," Djokovic said.

Normally, it's Djokovic's sliding, stretching, body-contorting defense that wears down opponents, but he looked spent after lengthy baseline exchanges that went 20, 30, even 40 strokes.

When he clinched the first set, Djokovic swiveled to look toward his coaches, Boris Becker and Marian Vajda, and bellowed. The trophy, propped on the wooden edge of

the president's box, stood but a few feet away, glistening.

At that moment, it was but two sets away.

So close, yet so far.

Wawrinka broke to take the second set when Djokovic slapped a backhand long on a 23-stroke point. Djokovic spiked his racket, caught it, and slammed it a second time, mangling the thing. That drew derisive whistles from spectators and a warning from the chair umpire. "You go through emotions," Djokovic said. "Of course I was more nervous than any other match."

By now, Wawrinka was the aggressor, and his shots kept finding their appointed marks. Djokovic made one last stand, taking a 3-0 lead in the fourth set. Wawrinka, though, reeled off six of the last seven games.

When it was over, Wawrinka tossed his racket overhead. At the net, Djokovic patted the 2015 French Open champion, a frequent practice partner of his, on the cheek.

Djokovic said later it sometimes seems as if all the attention others pay to his pursuit of a title in Paris ignores that others, such as Wawrinka, are just as intent to win.

"It feels like I'm the only player who wants to win this trophy, and nobody wants to win it as much as I do," Djokovic said. "This is completely untrue." **AP**

Singing, dancing brotherhood lifting Philippines rugby

John Pye, Singapore

JOLLY Gomez devised a unique benchmark for recruiting overseas-born players for the Philippines: If you can remember your mother forcing you to get up and sing in front of the family, you're in.

And so it was that the Philippines could assemble a rugby sevens squad featuring players from places like France, Australia, the United States and Japan for the Southeast Asian Games, where they took a bow on the weekend after an undefeated run to the gold medal.

They can sing; they can dance, as they did on the victory podium in Singapore; and they can certainly play rugby. Next target is the Asian qualifying tournament in November for the 2016 Olympics.

Jake Letts was raised near Sydney's northern beaches, a quintessentially Australian place. But he grew up with his mother keeping some strong Filipino traditions alive, and he laughs when he recalls selection criteria espoused by Jolly, who works for the Philippines Sports Commission. "That's what it is," Letts said. "You have to do



NBA player Jordan Clarkson of the Los Angeles Lakers conducts a basketball clinic with underprivileged children Saturday at the poor community of Tondo in Manila, Philippines

that — it's all the food, it's singing, dancing ... all part of it."

His mother was from the Philippines, "one of nine — our family is huge," said Letts, who has played for the Philippines for a decade and lives in Manila. He came to it by chance in his last year of high school, through a friend at the Warringah Rugby Club who knew of the Filipino connection.

"That's one of the most special things. When you play sport,

it's almost always for your dad," Letts said. "We have the opportunity to represent our mother's country. All us players, we took it with both hands and we've never been more proud."

The Philippines beat Malaysia 24-7 in the final at Choa Chu Kang Stadium, quite a distance from the Singapore Sports Hub that is hosting most of the SEA Games sports. There's some rugby tradition in Singapore, so the grandstand was full.

"I think our story is the most special," Letts said, talking about the squad which gathers from all over the world, including the four players with professional contracts in Japan. "We call ourselves a brotherhood because that's what it really is. We all had the same upbringing. All our mothers raised us the Filipino way. We have very similar stories."

Patrice Olivier is quite distinctive within the team. He's

the tallest, he plays as a professional and he speaks with a distinct French accent when he describes how proud he is to win a gold medal.

"I'm French Filipino — (others are) half Welsh, half Aussie, half USA," he said. "It's such a mix when we bring the band together. It's just beautiful. We have a very strong link."

Preparing the squad has its challenges for coach Geoff Alley, who splits his time between national team duties and living in Auckland, New Zealand.

For the SEA Games, he had the squad together for 10 days. His main task for 2015 is to try to get the team into the Olympics via a regional qualifying tournament in Hong Kong in November.

"With this team, we could give Japan and Hong Kong a good crack," he said. "As long as we keep this group together, keep hammering the patterns, we should be fine."

Gomez is a commissioner of the Philippines Sports Commission, which puts a big emphasis on development. Overseas-born players have been recruited for other sports, most notably in soccer.

"In the development plan we've had for rugby, the first thing was to bring in some Philippines-heritage athletes," Gomez said. "One of the things I told the athletes is, 'You have to rediscover your country.' I told all these kids, 'Has your mother ever forced you to perform in front of your relatives? If the answer is yes, then you are a Filipino.' AP

F1

After hiccup in Monaco, Mercedes success resumes

Jimmy Golen, Montreal

EVEN as his team's strategic blunder cost him a chance at victory in Monaco, Lewis Hamilton knew that he had the fastest car. Given the chance, he showed it.

Hamilton won the Canadian Grand Prix yesterday (Macau time), leading from the pole to the checkered flag with no threat from anyone except his Mercedes teammate, Nico Rosberg. Hamilton's problems in the previous race were also internal: A late strategic blunder by his team cost him a chance at a fourth victory of the year.

"I wouldn't say it's a relief," Hamilton said after picking up his fourth victory of the year. "I was quickest all of the previous race weekend as well. Obviously we had the problem which enabled Nico to win the race. But,



Lewis Hamilton (44), of Great Britain, leads teammate Nico Rosberg (6), of Germany, through the Senna corner at the Canadian Grand Prix

otherwise, generally I had good pace for the last two races."

A four-time winner on the Circuit Gilles Villeneuve and the current leader in the Formula One standings, Hamilton finished the 70 laps on Montreal's Isle Notre-Dame in 1 hour, 31 minutes, 53.145 seconds — 2.285 seconds faster than Nico Rosberg in the other Silver Arrow Mercedes.

"Did I need this?" the

reigning Formula One champion asked the cheering crowd after returning to the top of the podium for the first time since winning three of the first four races of the season. "I think so," he said with a smile. "I think so."

Hamilton expanded his lead over Rosberg in the championship standings to 151-134. His only stumble was when he locked his brakes a few laps from the end, and other than that

the main excitement was a groundhog wandering onto the track and then quickly scurrying back to safety.

Rosberg briefly took the lead when his teammate pitted during lap 29, but Hamilton took it right back when the German stopped to change his tires a lap later.

"I was pushing like mad to try to put the pressure on, but he didn't make any mistakes," said Rosberg, who had won the previous two races. "It was a good race. Unfortunately, I couldn't make it happen. But second place — still OK."

Valtteri Bottas was third, giving Williams its first appearance on the podium all season, thanks to a spinout by Kimi Raikkonen in the 27th lap. Despite posting the fastest lap of the day — with an average speed of 126.7 mph (203.9 kph) — the Finn finished fourth, right ahead of Fer-

rari teammate Sebastian Vettel.

The 2013 Canadian GP champion and No. 3 in the points race, Vettel started near the back of the pack after failing to make it out of the first qualifying session. He was pushed to 18th on the starting grid because of a five-position penalty for passing another car with the red flag out in practice.

But the four-time F1 champion steadily moved up and solidified his hold on third in the standings, with 108 points.

Hamilton won three of the first five races this season and finished second two other times heading into the Monaco Grand Prix on May 24. He was leading there when a late crash brought out the safety car, and Mercedes called him in to change tires.

Rosberg and Vettel passed him, and it was too late for Hamilton to retake

the lead; he finished third, gritting his teeth all the way to the podium. Mercedes technical director Paddy Lowe apologized, but Hamilton insisted he was looking forward, not back.

Yesterday, he proved it on the track. "Great to get back on the top step," Hamilton said. The day was not as good for McLaren, with both cars failing to finish.

Jenson Button had a disastrous weekend, unable to get onto the track in qualifying and retiring 16 laps early on Sunday. Fernando Alonso was the first one out of the race, complaining that he lost power in the 44th lap.

After the race, Alonso tweeted to Button a picture of the order of finish upside down.

"Is this a bit better?" he asked his teammate. "Well, probably depends upon how you look at it." AP

opinion

World Views

Willie Pesek

HONG KONG IS EMBRACING CHINA'S INVESTMENT BUBBLE

Bill Gross of Janus Capital says his next great short trade may be Chinese stocks. With the Shenzhen and Shanghai markets up another 9 percent last week, it's not hard to understand why. But the investment guru might want to consider betting against Hong Kong, too, given that city's continued courting of high-volume traders from mainland China.

Hong Kong's trading tax has generally dissuaded the West's high-frequency trading firms from doing business there. But the city's stock exchange is now explicitly enticing China's hundreds of millions of eager daytraders - whose frenetic high-volume investing can be just as volatile as that of high-frequency trading technology - to take advantage of the mainland's new financial link with the city. Years from now, Hong Kong will almost certainly regret extending the invitation.

There are now more stock-trading accounts in mainland China than there are people in Brazil - more than 200 million, and counting. Surging stocks have become the Communist Party's catch all strategy amid the country's economic downturn, a way to help companies cut debt, boost local-government revenues and accelerate the government's privatization plans.

But it has also instilled a sense of irrational exuberance among Chinese traders who are ignoring China's worsening economic outlook. On Friday, the Shanghai Composite Index climbed above 5,000 for the first time in seven years; Gross has been especially transfixed by the 190 percent jump in Shenzhen stocks in the past 12 months, a rally he calls "almost hyperbolic."

A case in point is China National Nuclear Power, which attracted USD273 billion of bids this week for a \$2 billion share sale. Meanwhile, shares of the 144 companies that went public this year are up an average 539 percent so far (44 percent increase on the first day of trading). There seems to be little immediate incentive for investors to slow their trading.

Hong Kong, which had previously been separated from China financial free-for-all, is now keen to join the party. So keen, in fact, that it's forgetting the basics that made Hong Kong a model for free-market enthusiasts. The city's low taxes, unfettered capital flows and rule of law routinely earn recognition as the world's freest economy.

In its haste to win more mainland money, though, Hong Kong is now risking its reputation for sound and dispassionate management. Introducing the mainland's high-frequency-trading dynamic could open it to all kinds of dodgy dealings (as Nick Leeson, the rogue trader who brought down a major British bank 20 years ago, warned last month).

In the short term, Hong Kong markets can expect an increase in volatility as hundreds of millions of mainland traders start heading Hong Kong's way. The value of the 10 Hong Kong shares most often traded by mainland investors more than tripled in April, increasing at almost twice the rate as the benchmark Hang Seng Index. It's only a matter of time until that surge, and others like it, reverses itself.

Hong Kong should focus on improving its financial infrastructure. At the very least, it should create a so-called circuit breaker mechanism, which would allow it to temporarily halt trading activity if prices plunge too suddenly. It also should consider halting the use of its stock market link with mainland China until the city's regulators are ready for the oncoming waves of volatility.

It's understandable that Hong Kong sees mainlanders as a ready source of market liquidity. But they shouldn't be surprised if Gross and his peers start seeing Hong Kong's stock market as the next great short trade. **Bloomberg**

THE BUZZ KATE MOSS ESCORTED OFF PLANE AFTER BEING DISRUPTIVE

Supermodel Kate Moss has been escorted off a plane after reportedly being disruptive while traveling from Turkey to London's Luton airport. The 41-year-old was escorted off a flight operated by budget airline easyJet from the Turkish resort of Bodrum.

Without naming Moss, Bedfordshire Police responded to inquiries about the incident by confirming they were called to help staff with a passenger

being disruptive on a flight. Police say the passenger was not arrested, and no complaints were made.

Moss is one of the world's most familiar faces. Discovered at 14, she has since graced the covers of hundreds of magazines and has worked with designers including Louis Vuitton and Stella McCartney. Her party image and celebrity partners, including Johnny Depp and Pete Doherty, have kept her in the public eye.

Leader in post-Khmer Rouge Cambodia dies at 82

CHEA Sim, a key Cambodian political figure after the fall of the brutal Khmer Rouge regime and an ally of the current leader, died yesterday, an official said.

He was 82 and had high blood pressure, diabetes and other chronic ailments. His death was confirmed by the head of his bodyguard unit, Yim Leang, who did not give the cause of death.

Chea Sim was president of the ruling Cambodian People's Party since it was formed in 1991, and was president of the Senate since 1999. He became a revolutionary in the 1950s and like Prime Minister Hun Sen was a member of the communist Khmer Rouge when it seized power in 1975 after a civil war. Both men fled the group to join a resistance faction groomed by neighboring Vietnam, which installed them as Cambodia's new leaders after ousting the Khmer Rouge in 1979.

Chea Sim's image is seen on billboards around the country promoting the ruling party, but his actual power over the past decade was considered negligible, as Hun Sen consolidated his own power base. In April, when Chea Sim's health was deteriorating, Hun Sen - two decades younger - said that he would take over as party leader when Chea Sim passed away.



Chea Sim

The two men were political allies but also rivals, and in the 1990s Chea Sim led a ruling party faction that tentatively challenged Hun Sen's grip on power. But Hun Sen, one of Southeast Asia's most wily and ruthless politicians, kept Chea Sim at bay, outmaneuvering him as he did opposition politicians and even the late King Norodom Sihanouk.

An open break came in 2004, when they disagreed over changing the constitution to allow an opposition party to join the Cambodian People's Party in a coalition government. When Chea Sim as acting head of state refused to sign off on the change, Hun Sen pushed it through by forcing Chea Sim to temporarily leave the country. The show of power marked the decline of Chea Sim's faction.

Born Nov. 15, 1932, to a

peasant family in eastern Cambodia's Svay Rieng province, Chea Sim joined the revolutionary movement against colonial France in the early 1950s, and was a cadre of the communist Khmer Rouge by the time it ousted a pro-American government in 1975. His timely defection to the Vietnam-based anti-Khmer Rouge movement led to positions in the new Vietnamese-sponsored party and government that Hanoi installed after invading Cambodia and ousting the Khmer Rouge in 1979.

Chea Sim was a senior figure by the time negotiations took place that resulted in the 1991 Paris Peace Accord, which brokered a deal supposed to end three decades of civil war and paved the way for U.N.-organized elections in 1993. Although a royalist party topped the polls, Hun Sen insisted that it share power with his Cambodian People's Party, and four years later seized sole power for his party.

Long Demanche, spokesman for Phnom Penh City Hall, said it had been instructed to organize a cremation ceremony at a park near the Royal Palace, with the ceremony to be treated as one for a head of state due to Chea Sim's position as Senate president. He said no date had been set for the ceremony. **AP**

THE DECISIVE MOMENT



Xinhua/Mao Siqian

Visitors view a car during the 2015 Shenzhen-Hong Kong-Macau International Auto Show in Shenzhen. More than 1,000 new vehicles are on display during the exhibition, which kicked off Saturday.

Station	Air quality
Roadside	5-25 Good
High Density Residential Area	20-40 Good
Ambient	10-30 Good

SOURCE: DSI/MG

WORLD BRIEFS



USA-IRAQ The United States does not yet have a "complete strategy" for training Iraqi forces to fight Islamic State militants, President Barack Obama said yesterday amid signs of weakness in Iraq's military. Obama said the Pentagon was reviewing plans to ramp up training and assistance to the Iraqi forces, but he also said there must be full commitment by the Iraqis themselves.

USA Two murderers who escaped from a prison by cutting through steel walls and pipes remain on the loose as authorities investigate how the inmates obtained the power tools used in the "Shawshank Redemption"-style breakout.

USA A suburban Dallas police officer is placed on administrative leave after a video showed him pushing a 14-year-old girl in a swimsuit to the ground outside a pool and pointing his gun at other teens.



GREEK negotiators are in Brussels to explore the "scope for convergence" with the country's creditors, following days of acrimony over rival reform proposals for a deal that will unlock Greece's last remaining bailout funds. Gov't spokesman Gabriel Sakellariadis said yesterday that Greece considers the 47-page document delivered by Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras during a visit to Brussels last week to be the basis for a deal.

PORTUGAL is showing off its relative financial health - and signaling it is different from Greece - by paying back another batch of international loans ahead of their due date.