



CARITAS LAUNCHES HELPLINE FOR EXPATS
Caritas Macau and the Life Hope team are launching a suicide prevention and emotional aid hotline

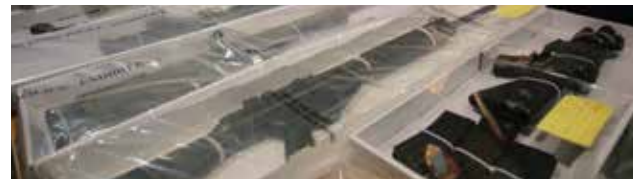
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NO DEBATE ON FISCAL RESERVE PLAN
Au Kam San's motion to debate investing Macau's fiscal reserves in Guangdong was scrapped

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BOMB PLOT UNCOVERED IN HONG KONG



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"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN'"

WORLD BRIEFS

AP PHOTO



GREECE's international creditors were increasingly aghast yesterday at Athens' failure to compromise over a bailout deal that's needed imminently to avoid the country going bankrupt. A day after technical talks broke down with an apparent lack of progress, French President Francois Hollande urged Greece to swiftly resume negotiations with international creditors.

AP PHOTO



UK Queen Elizabeth II led commemorations yesterday to mark the 800th anniversary of the Magna Carta — but the human rights the document helped enshrine are at the center of a modern political feud. British Prime Minister David Cameron's Conservative government wants to replace the Human Rights Act — whose supreme arbiter is a European court — with a British Bill of Rights, a move opponents fear could weaken key protections.

UK Amnesty International urged world leaders yesterday to radically overhaul refugee policies and create a comprehensive global strategy to deal with the crisis, describing it as the worst emergency of its kind since World War II.

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Economy expected to resume growth in 2016

▲ Tax revenue down, public expenditure up 49 percent

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AP PHOTO



South Korea MERS death toll rises to 16

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Economy expected to resume growth in 2016

THE local economy is expected to start growing again in 2016, when the Economist Intelligence Unit has predicted real growth of 5.3 percent, according to the most recent report on Macau.

After the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of the territory recorded a growth rate of 10.7 percent in 2013 and negative 0.4 percent in 2014, the EIU report expects a decrease of 6.0 percent for this year and a return to growth the following year.

The economic contractions, following consecutive years of strong growth, are due to the downturn in the gaming and associated services sector, apparently as a result of anti-corruption measures adopted by the Chinese government, according to the report's authors.

Despite this decline, domestic demand remains strong, as a result of a near-full employment rate, which is why, according to the EIU, the economy will register a sharp drop this year and return to growth in 2016.

Gross fixed capital forma-



A porter loads a suitcase onto a trolley in the lobby of the Galaxy Macau casino resort

tion, or investment, is expected to fall this year to -2.0 percent, after increases of 8.9 percent and 35.2 percent in 2013 and 2014, respectively, and will then resume growth in 2016.

The expected decline in this indicator this year follows completion of major hotel

and gaming developments, such as the 2nd phase of the recently opened Galaxy Entertainment complex and the Broadway Macau, whose financial investment effort occurred during 2014.

The inflation rate is expected to slow to 4 percent this year and 4.9 percent in 2016,

following rates of 5.5 percent and 6.1 percent in 2013 and 2014 respectively, due to a drop in the number of visitors, which has resulted in reduced pressure on services and a downturn in luxury goods purchases, such as gold items, watches, bags and branded apparel. **MDT/Macauhub**

Fiscal surplus drops sharply, public expenditure up 49 percent



Civil servants attend residents. Public expenditure increased by 49.4 percent year-on-year

MACAU recorded a fiscal surplus of MOP25.28 billion in the first five months of this year, down by 54.9

percent from the year before, according to the latest figures released by the Financial Services Bureau.

Total public revenue in the past five months stood at 46.42 billion patacas, decreasing by 33.8 percent year-on-year, the bureau results indicated.

This noticeable drop in public revenue is partly the result of the sluggish performance of the gaming industry since last June, which saw an average decline of 24.4 percent for the 12th consecutive month. The decrease rate in revenue from "direct taxes from gaming" extended to 35.4 percent in the January-May period.

Conversely, the figures indicate that the total public expenditure in the first five months of this year increased remarkably by 49.4 percent year-on-year to MOP21.14 billion, among which capital expenditure escalated significantly by 82.9 percent. **MDT/Xinhua**

CRIME

Local cabbie arrested for unconsensual sex

THE Judiciary Police sent a local taxi driver to the Public Prosecutions Office for investigation and interrogation yesterday morning after he was reported to have coerced his mainland wife into having sex with him at knife-point.

The police authority said that the married couple, who had a 6 year old son, were sleeping in different rooms when the sexual coercion took place in their flat in the northern district of the city early last Sunday. The 55-year-old suspect requested that the victim participate in intercourse with him while she was sleeping with the kid. Reluctant to have sex, the 35-year-old victim was allegedly forcefully dragged by the irate man into his room before he violently stripped her naked and subsequently beat her. According to the woman's recount, the couple's son was left crying outside the locked room.

The victim managed to get dressed and escape the room with the minor. Afterwards, the man lost his temper and rushed into the kitchen and returned with a knife, threatening to kill his family.

Having gotten rid of the man, his wife managed to call the police for help with the child while staying in their own room. The security authorities quickly arrived at the scene and arrested the taxi driver.

Separately, a local man was swindled out of HKD10,000 in a phone scam last Friday at around 3:00 p.m. after a caller claimed that his daughter had been abducted. Another local man also received a similar phone call at around the same time claiming to have kidnapped his son, but he did not fall for the hoax.

The scams, which happened half an hour apart, both requested HKD300,000 worth of ransom money. During the first telephone call, a Cantonese-speaking man professed that the abductee would be killed in a couple of hours unless he received the payment. Scared by his intimidation and someone loudly crying on the other end of the phone, the distraught victim pawned his diamond ring worth HKD16,000 for the required cash and transferred it to the unknown man's Shenzhen bank account. However, the victim later realized it was a deception after his daughter arrived home from school.

In another case, a retired man was close to being defrauded as he believed that his mentally-challenged son could be the target of an abduction. However, his wife, whom he informed of the possible kidnapping, saw through the trick and safeguarded the HKD50,000 the nervous man intended to pay.

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Caritas launches English and Portuguese helpline for expats



Caritas Macau headquarters are located at Casa Ricci

Catarina Pinto

CARITAS Macau and the Life Hope team are launching a suicide prevention and emotional aid hotline providing services in both English and Portuguese this coming Sunday (June 21).

The helpline will initially operate between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. from Monday to Saturday, Silvia Mohr, Life Hope hotline counselor told the Times.

“We believe that there is a great need in Macau for such a service. Stress and depression knock at everyone’s doors nowadays. For the Chinese community to seek professional help or counseling is easier than for an expat,” she recalled in an email interview, adding that for expats there’s often a language barrier and therefore they tend to look for help in neighboring Hong Kong.

The hotline is intended to provide confidential emotional support to those facing general distress or those who are having thoughts about harming themselves or contemplating suicide.

Although a 24-hour hotline is already available in Chinese, there was a lack of an emotional aid service targeting expats specifically.

“We understand that for an expat there are many factors contributing to stress, not to

We believe that there is a great need in Macau for such a service

SILVIA MOHR

mention the stress of ordinary daily life. Expats usually have to face challenges such as dealing with a different language, culture, food and sometimes having few or no friends. That can lead to cultural shock, isolation, and in many cases to different levels of depression,” she stressed.

The project was envisioned by Caritas Macau secretary-general, Mr Paul Pun, and of-

ficer manager of Life Hope Ms Teresa Lai. “They had talked about it, dreamed about it but they did not have enough human resources to make it happen. At least not until March this year, when they found a person that suited the position,” Silvia Mohr said.

The helpline will begin operating with one staff member and four volunteers. Ms Mohr, who holds a degree in Psychology and a masters in Counseling and Psychotherapy, will be in charge of answering calls, training volunteers, and of supervisory work.

She stated that, “people may call us because they have reached a point in their lives when they feel they can’t cope alone anymore.”

“They may feel depressed and alone, perhaps they’ve lost someone close to them and are going through intense grief, they feel isolated and lonely and may have suicidal thoughts, leading them to wonder if life’s worth living; or people that might be worried about someone close to them,” she recalled. She added that, “we care to listen no matter how distressing or ordinary the problem

may seem, there is no need to go through it alone.”

Ms Mohr recalled that there are about 170,000 expats in Macau. People often need someone to talk to when they’re placed in situations out of their comfort zones, and talking about their problems can help someone going through a rough time.

“Having someone to listen to them, devoting time and attention to them, respecting and not judging their feelings might mean the world to someone who’s going through a tough time. We can’t offer a solution but we can be there for them” she assured.

Ms Mohr, who’s an expat herself from Brazil and speaks Portuguese, English and Mandarin, clarified that both the Chinese and the new hotline will work side-by-side, operating under the same supervisor and in the same office, although targeting different communities.

“As for the service provided for the expats, our aim is to become a 24h hotline like the service provided in Chinese,” she said.

After operating for a certain period of time, Caritas and the Life Hope team are hoping to first extend the hotline’s service schedule from four to eight hours per day, bearing in mind the 24h ultimate goal.

The Chinese hotline has been operating for over three decades and according to Lusa news agency it received 10,259 calls last year, 67 percent of which were made by women. Only three percent of the calls were related to suicidal tendencies.

Ms Mohr recalled that for now the expat hotline project needs to be developed step by step: “It involves several steps like recruiting volunteers in the community and providing them with the skills to listen and be there for those who are calling. Therefore, building up a team to provide a full service is our challenge.”

Life Hope said that it pays great attention to confidentiality and therefore the identities of callers and of volunteers will not be revealed.

Caritas and Life Hope conducted a one-month trial period for the new hotline last month, but did not receive any calls.

The Life Hope hotline is available at +853 28525777.

Foreign exchange reserves increase slightly

The Monetary Authority of Macau announced yesterday that the preliminary estimate the MSAR’s foreign exchange reserves totaled MOP139.1 billion (USD17.42 billion) at the end of May 2015. The reserves increased by 1.3 percent from the revised value of MOP137.3 billion (USD17.20 billion) for the previous month. Macau’s foreign exchange reserves at the end of May 2015 represented 12 times the currency in circulation. The trade-weighted effective exchange rate index for the pataca, a gauge of the domestic currency’s exchange rates against the currencies of Macau’s major trading partners, fell by 1.09 points month-to-month but rose by 6.51 points year-on-year to 103.77 in May 2015.

New rules shrink local taxpayer number

The city’s total number of profit tax payers will drop significantly from roughly 45,000 to 1,911 with the introduction of a tax threshold of MOP600,000, the Financial Services Bureau found. According to the figures in the fiscal year of 2013 supplied by the bureau, there are a total of 56,820 people in the city who required to pay the official profit tax, 4,193 of whom are categorized as ‘group A’ while ‘group B’ consists of 52,627 taxpayers. The former group will see a 41 percent reduction, whereas the latter will see a 98 percent fall after the exemption threshold is lifted to MOP600,000 this fiscal year. Benefiting from the new policy will be mainly taxpayers from group B, as most local small-and-mid-sized enterprises belong to that category. In order to alleviate the financial burden on local enterprises, the chief executive promised in March during the Policy Address to relax the tax threshold, which has been going up since 2007. In 2013, the value of the profit tax exemption stood at MOP300,000.

GDI operation extended for two more years



The Hong-Kong-Zhuhai-Macau bridge

The Infrastructure Development Office (GDI) will run for two more years as the Chief Executive Chui Sai On granted a term extension to the public department yesterday, whose duration was expected to end at the end of this month. Founded in May in 2000, the office mainly deals with domestic infrastructural projects and their development, as well as regional collaboration on large-scale architecture. The key Hong-Kong-Zhuhai-Macau bridge project is also under GDI supervision. Assistant coordinator Chau Vai Man is currently in charge of the office after the resignation of coordinator Chan Hon Kit in February due to health reasons.

Wanted: hotline volunteers

CCANDIDATES looking to volunteer with the new suicide prevention helpline launched by Caritas and Life Hope do not need to hold any professional qualifications, but need to meet a certain set of requirements.

Silvia Mohr told the Times that volunteers should be dedicated and committed to being a good listener. They must be at least 21 years old; hold Macau ID or a blue card with two years or more of work experience; have completed a full training and inter-

nship; and pledge a one-year commitment to remain in the helpline as a volunteer after training.

Volunteers will be expected to understand the confidential nature of the work, and about calls received on duty. They’re also expected to participate in workshops and training programs provided by the organization.

The volunteers’ training program comprises of three parts: lectures; supervised practice; and monthly supervision and training.

EXHIBITION

Science Center showcases printing technology evolution

THE Macau Science Center opened a printing technology exhibition last Friday at its Exhibition Center's Gallery No 2, with more than 60 precious relics of the printing industry, including old printing equipment and models, on display.

Entitled "Impressions Printing – Exhibition on Printing Technology," the showcase features interactive multi-media games and hands-on printing workshops, allowing visitors to discover more about ancient and modern printing technology, various types of printing techniques, the scientific principles of printing, and the latest advancements in the printing industry.

The exhibition has two stages, the first highlighting the early western printing relics provided by NSTM, as well as a modern printing technology zone which introduces lithography, screen printing, bronzing, UV, embossing, watermarks and other common printing techniques. In the second stage however, part of the exhibit pieces will be replaced with new ones,



and for the first time, the center will cooperate with the city's printing bureau, the local printing industry and historians to set up an area featuring 400 years of history.

The Macau Science Center not only provides tour guide services and printing experience workshops in the exhibition, but has also launched a smartphone application featuring a prize-giving game. Public lectures on popularizing science have also been held over the weekend where visitors were able to acquire information concerning the scientific knowledge of printing technology from different angles.

Printing is considered one of

the four great inventions of ancient China. The emergence of this technology has made a significant contribution towards the spreading of culture and knowledge to the world and the evolution of human civilization. As time has passed and technology continues to advance, traditional printing has long been replaced by offset or digital printing. Modern printing technologies not only integrate the scientific achievements in physics, chemistry, optics, computers, electro-mechanics, but the materials, color and special effects processing are also constantly being improved in order to meet varied market demands for printed materials.

EDUCATION

Local students eligible to apply directly for University of Coimbra

THE University of Coimbra (UC) has opened applications to local and Chinese students looking to further their studies at one of Europe's oldest universities.

High school students from Macau and China are able to apply directly to the University of Coimbra's various academic programs based on their exam results, including the Gaokao, Liankao and A-levels.

The university said in a statement that all students who obtain "good results" in one of these exams may apply. Applications are open until July 13.

Students are required to take a one-year intensive Portuguese language course in order to enroll in one of UC's bachelor, masters or PhD programs.

Professor Joaquim Ramos de Carvalho, vice-rector for international relations, said in a statement that the relationship between Coimbra and Macau has been reinforced over the past years. "We have quite a significant Macau student community



Local students at the University of Coimbra

[here] (...) Coimbra offers a distinguished academic experience, leading to excellence and [providing] a diverse academic training, an international environment with students from over 100 different countries, in a city with high living standards located in Europe."

The UC has been accepting student applications based on results from Liankao and A-Level since 2014. Applications for masters and PhDs are also open.

The university marks its 725th anniversary this year and was recognized as a UNESCO World Heritage site in 2013.

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Lawmakers deny motion to debate fiscal reserve investment plan



Lionel Leong (2nd left, upper row) listens to lawmakers remarks yesterday at the AL

Brook Yang

LAWMAKERS voted against Au Kam San's motion yesterday for a plenary debate at the Legislative Assembly (AL) concerning the government's plan to invest fiscal reserves through the neighboring Guangdong province. According to Au Kam San, a debate on the matter would be of significant public interest.

The Secretary for Eco-

nomy and Finance, Lionel Leong, revealed his intention to lawmakers earlier that part of the city's huge financial reserves would be used for investments through the Guangdong government, whilst another part would be invested through the China Development Bank, in order to reach higher returns.

Stating the motion's rationale, Au Kam San indicated that the government is incapable of investing money

itself, but the idea of entrusting the neighboring region with Macau's wealth also gives rise to concerns.

The region's fiscal and foreign exchange reserves reached over MOP300 billion by the end of last year. The large sum's return on investment, however, has always been low, at a return rate of 2 percent last year.

"Macau people's public funds are in fact constantly depreciating," said the lawmaker, raising criticism that "the return rate was low, because the SAR government doesn't know how to invest its bulky reserves at hand. But why not reflect on its own shortcoming and improve the mechanism, rather than sending the money to other places for others to make investments on its behalf?"

According to Lionel Leong, the neighboring province would ensure Macau a principal and interest guaran-

teed investment with return rates between 4 and 5 percent; in addition, the national bank would guarantee a reasonable return through investing in projects bri-

If the investment fails to meet the goal, how and who will be held accountable?

AU KAM SAN

ged by the development fund between China and Lusophone countries.

Furthermore, Au Kam San argued that the Guangdong government is not necessarily an investment expert, and the China Development Bank's previous investment records aren't outstanding either.

"How can they guarantee the capital and interest with a 4 to 5 percent return rate? How will they set the collateral? If the investment fails to meet the goal, how and who will be held accountable? Under such an investment model, will the SAR government stay out of it or will it partially participate?" he questioned, urging the government to clarify all these questions, "rather than rashly invest tens of billions patacas of reserves through others without certainty."

On the sidelines of yesterday's AL meeting, the secretary told media it is his responsibility to allocate the fiscal sources well and ensure that the investments are made "safely and effectively."

He stated that the government has always managed wealth cautiously. He explained, "safety means at least not losing money (...) we also hope the investment will be effectively incorporated into the country's development; it will be even better if we can find some livelihood projects, such as food supply to Macau."

ON THE LAWMAKERS' AGENDA

SMOKING BAN The government's plan to introduce a full smoking ban in Macau casinos is set to raise further controversy, particularly within the Legislative Assembly as lawmakers continue to disagree on the matter. Lawmaker Zheng Anting stated that he agrees with a full smoking ban but stressed that implementing it while casino revenue is down will definitely have a negative impact on Macau's gaming industry. Zheng recalled that a study commissioned by the Health Bureau to the University of Macau shows that the air quality in casinos has improved since smoking lounges were introduced. He added that a full smoking ban could potentially harm business activities. The lawmaker urged the government to review its plan to implement a full smoking ban. Lei Cheng I was of a different opinion, stating that according to the World Health Organization (WHO) there is no technology available in the market that can prevent the harms of second-hand smoking. She urged the government to stick to its promise and implement a full smoking ban inside casinos.

RECYCLING Melinda Chan has urged the government to plan and implement more effective measures toward environmental protection. She recalled that the Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau's domestic waste sorting and recycling project, implemented in the late 90s, has not achieved satisfactory results. Moreover, she stressed that there have been no developments in managing the disposal of discarded vehicles. The lawmaker stressed that there are about 240,000 private vehicles in Macau, including a growing number of discarded ones. Recalling that many of these vehicles have been left in the Ilha Verde, Taipa and NAPE area, she warned that they might pose dangers to Macau citizens in the case of a fire, for instance. She urged relevant departments to take action and present solutions concerning both recycling and discarded vehicle management issues.

BILINGUAL COURT RULINGS

Court of First Instance (TJB) rulings are not always made available in both official languages, which makes it difficult for the population of Macau to access court decisions, said lawmaker Kwan Tsui Hang. The legislator recalled that while the Court of Second Instance and the Court of Final Appeal publish their rulings on the Macau courts' website, the sentences published by TJB "are very limited." She added that often TJB is unable to publish court decisions in both Portuguese and Chinese at the same time, "which threatens the public's confidence on the city's legal system." She urged relevant services to implement deadlines for the releasing of documents in both languages.

WORK ACCIDENTS TO INCLUDE TYPHOON WEATHER COMMUTING

A BILL that extends labor insurance coverage to include workers commuting under severe typhoon weather obtained its final approval by the AL yesterday. As an amendment to the Compensation Regime for Damages Arising from Workplace Accidents and Occupational Diseases,

the bill suggests mandatory insurance for accidents occurring during employees' direct commutes between home and work within a three-hour timeframe. However, the law does not cover workers who live outside Macau and need to cross the border to get to work.

Trade union law vetoed for 6th time

The Legislative Assembly (AL) vetoed a series of six bills proposed by lawmaker Pereira Coutinho on their first reading yesterday, which included a draft trade union law that was rejected for the sixth time.

The draft trade union law was vetoed without undergoing a debate, as several lawmakers made the criticism that it showed no revision and improvement from the previous readings. Some also explained that their negative votes resulted from the bill's poor timing in the face of current economic, social and industrial conditions.

Legislator Lau Veng Seng suggested that the bill "would bring negative effect to Macau's economic development and

diversification," while Song Pek Kei and Chan Meng Kam agreed on the need for legislation but doubted it was the right timing to propose such bill during the current downturn in the city's dominant industry.

Meanwhile, lawmaker Mak Soi Kun stated "the legislation would not be mature until Macau establishes an industry accreditation mechanism, so that only when the workers hold a certificate, can they join a trade union and represent it."

In addition, some lawmakers suggested the government should resume its responsibility to fill the gap in legislation and present a timetable as soon as possible.



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Jamey Keaten and
Angela Charlton, Paris

Paris Air Show kicks off with Airbus-Boeing rivalry

AIRBUS is betting on big jets as the future of aviation, while rival Boeing is gambling on smaller ones — but both are hoping to sell hundreds of planes of all sizes at the Paris Air Show which began yesterday to bolster balance sheets and meet growing demand.

The informal orders race between the European and American plane makers kicked off with a firm order for 60 single-aisle Airbus jets — worth USD6.6 billion at list prices — and ambitious promises from Indonesia's flagship airline Garuda to buy 90 jets from both Boeing and Airbus in the years to come.

French President Francois Hollande inaugurated the 51st edition of the world's oldest air show with hopes for big contracts for home team Airbus — based in the southern French city of Toulouse — and an appeal for fuel savings, as his country prepares to host a major U.N. climate conference later this year.

"The aviation sector created 10,000 jobs last year, we have hopes to create nearly as many in 2015," Hollande said at the Le Bourget airfield outside Paris, with bomber jets screaming overhead.

The memory of recent plane crashes remained fresh for some participants. Airbus Defense and Space made a point of flying its A400M military plane overhead — and landing it safely — to show confidence in the European jet program after a deadly crash last week near Seville, Spain

Airbus says three of the four engines on that plane failed before it crashed, killing four people. Four of the five countries that have A400Ms grounded the plane after the incident.

In the commercial aviation industry, Airbus raised its 20-year forecast for plane demand in the commercial aviation industry,



Airbus' chief operating officer for customers John Leahy poses with a mock of the Airbus 350 900

■ Airbus is betting on big jets as the future of aviation, while rival Boeing is gambling on smaller ones

including hopes of long-term demand for the superjumbo A380, the biggest jet on the market.

Airbus projects that 32,600 new planes worth a total of \$4.9 trillion will be needed by 2034.

John Leahy, Airbus' chief operating officer for customers, projected the very large aircraft segment would grow to about 1,500 planes over that span — mostly passenger planes. He said Airbus currently holds about a 90 percent market share in that segment, which is also inhabited by the decades-old Boeing 747.

He said travelers and airlines would be better off if larger aircraft were used instead of smaller planes flying more often, noting how he flew an Airbus jet from Toulouse to Paris for the air show and another one was leaving about a half-hour later.

"I would humbly suggest that everybody would better off if those two flights ... could be

combined into a bigger aircraft," Leahy told reporters. He also mentioned possible benefits of saving fuel by flying passengers on fewer, larger flights.

Boeing, meanwhile, is betting on smaller wide-bodies such as the 787. Boeing's overall forecast for the next 20 years is for 36,770 aircraft worth \$5.2 trillion, with single-aisle planes the fastest-growing, largest overall segment.

Both Airbus and Boeing are seeing sustained high demand for single-aisle planes at the air show, driven by demand in developing countries and by low-cost airlines.

Fuel-efficient planes are expected to remain popular among airlines despite lower oil pri-

ces this year. Analysts expect about 300-400 plane sales overall, lower than previous years in part because no major new jets are on the market.

In orders announced Wednesday, Airbus said that leasing company GE Capital Aviation Services is purchasing single-aisle A320neo and A321neo jets.

Garuda Indonesia signed a letter of intent for up to 60 Boeing jets — 30 of the popular single-aisle 737 MAX and 30 of Boeing's 787-9 planes. They would cost \$10.8 billion at list prices if confirmed, though customers routinely negotiate discounts.

Garuda also put in a provisional order for 30 wide-body A350 jets, worth about \$9 billion, which could serve routes from Jakarta or Bali to Europe.

Asian carriers are expected to dominate global aircraft demand over the next two decades, with Boeing estimating that roughly two out of every five new planes will head to Asia.

The Paris Air Show at the Le Bourget airfield outside Paris alternates years with Britain's Farnborough Air Show as Europe's premier industry event. At Farnborough last year, Airbus clinched orders and commitments for 486 aircraft valued at \$75 billion. Boeing secured business worth \$40.2 billion for 201 airplanes.

Leading U.S., Russian, European and Mideast military officials are also attending the show, expecting some 300,000 visitors from the public and the \$700 billion aerospace and defense industry. It opens to the public Friday and runs through June 21. AP

corporate bits

SANDS CHINA SPONSORS PROTECTING CHILDHOOD INITIATIVE



Sands China Ltd. recently sponsored the "Protecting Childhood — Moral Teenage Model Collection" charity initiative, which was organized by the Beijing Hua Yan Group and officially launched in May at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing. The initiative includes the staging of "Monkey King — a Mythical Theatre Show", a production co-created by Sands China and Beijing Hua

Yan Group. The show will premiere at the Pacifica Theatre at Sands Resorts Cotai Strip Macao in early 2016 and will showcase Chinese culture to local and international visitors.

The "Protecting Childhood — Moral Teenage Model Collection" initiative aims to find 100 children and teenagers aged between 7 and 14 years from remote areas of China

who are able to demonstrate their appreciation for traditional Chinese virtues and who show good character even in the face of adversity. Selected children will then have the opportunity to travel to Macau to learn more about Chinese culture by enjoying the Monkey King show.

"Sands China is very glad to be working with Beijing Hua Yan Group to bring this exciting stage production to Macau," said Dave Horton, Global Chief Marketing Officer, Las Vegas Sands Corp & Sands China Ltd. "We are thrilled that the show is to be performed at the purpose-built Pacifica Theatre at Sands Cotai Central. We are equally thrilled to be able to use this opportunity to provide an avenue of cultural exchange".

CITY OF DREAMS AND SHOW MEDIA LAUNCH TAXI DRIVER APPRECIATION PROGRAM



City of Dreams and Show Media, a global provider of interactive digital taxi media platforms, have jointly launched a taxi driver appreciation program in Macau as part the Sixth Anniversary celebrations of City of Dreams. The program honors top performing taxi drivers for their contribution to the positive

experience of millions of visitors fuelling Macau's rise as a major tourist destination.

Utilizing Show Media's technology and data gathering capability, City of Dreams will offer special prizes to reward those taxi drivers who deliver the most positive experience to their passengers. To indicate a positive

taxi experience, passengers can simply push the "Click if You Loved Your Taxi Ride" button displayed on the Show Media unit inside the taxi during their ride. The program also aims to increase engagement with the taxi driver community, with initiatives including welcome stations and giveaways to drivers when they visit City of Dreams.

Ms. Maria Helena de Senna Fernandes, Director of the Macau Government Tourist Office (MGTO) said, "The Macau Government Tourist Office has been working closely with local businesses to enhance the service quality of the tourism industry. I am glad to see that City of Dreams and Show Media have taken this proactive approach to reward outstanding taxi service in Macau and support in developing Macau into a World Center of Tourism and Leisure."

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Honda Macau



Cape Verde resumes salt exports

CAPE Verde has resumed the export of salt, this time to Spain by Palmeira e Pesca Lda (P&P), a company which has Spain's Fernando Vega, a native of Galicia, as a major shareholder, reported Cape Verdean weekly newspaper A Semana.

The paper added that this historical deal, which comes 31 years after the end of Companhia de Fomento de Cabo Verde (CFCV), which stopped operating in 1984 when it stopped exporting salt to Portugal and what is now the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Vega said it was "good business for the company," which also exports an average of 1.5 tons of fresh fish to Europe every week – live crustaceans, lobsters and barnacles, among others, as well as supplying fish to several hotel units on the islands of Sal and Boa Vista.

The salt, purchased from Salinas de Cape Verde under a contract that will allow modernization of this old plant on the island of Sal, is intended to be used by Spanish tuna fishing vessels working at Porto Grande in Mindelo.

"On 15 May, 2015, Palmeira e Pesca reached an agreement with Salinas de Cabo Verde to invest 125,000 euros in modernizing this old industrial unit and, in return P&P will get the exclusive right to purchase salt to sell on to fishing vessels and industrial establishments," said Vega.

The Spanish businessman said the aim was to sell at least 6,000 tons of salt per year to Spanish industrial tuna fishing vessels and the first delivery of 80 tons was made on 24 May to a Spanish tuna ship in Mindelo. **MDT/Macauhub**

China plans to support industrialization in Mozambique

CHINA plans to increase industrial cooperation with Mozambique, China's ambassador to Mozambique Li Chunhua said in Maputo, adding that said several public and private companies from his country had expressed interest in investing in the sector.

"China, after more than 40 years of economic reforms, is now able to enhance cooperation in the industrial area, which corresponds to the needs of African countries, including Mozambique," said the diplomat, who is at the end of his mission in Mozambique.

On the sidelines of the ceremony in Maputo marking the 40th anniversary of diplomatic relations between the two countries, Li Chunhua pointed out that Mozambique this year marks 40 years of independence as well as four decades of its relationship with China. He added that, since 1975,



Mozambican President Filipe Nyusi

cooperation between the two countries "has continually magnified."

"China pays great attention to African countries and in the coming years, we will strengthen cooperation for international industrialization," said the Chinese ambassador cited

by Portuguese news agency Lusa, denying that his country is only interested in the continent's natural resources.

In 2014 China was the fifth largest foreign investor in Mozambique, with around 65 million euros, and trade between

the two countries reached USD3.62 billion (119.79 percent more in annual terms), where USD1.96 billion (over 64.55 percent) accounted for Chinese exports and US\$1.65 billion (266.37 percent more) for Mozambican exports to China. **MDT/Macauhub**

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Senior officials find comfort in mythical masters

Didi Tang, Beijing

THE former Chinese security czar recently convicted of leaking state secrets did not pass classified documents to a foreign spy or a political rival.

Rather, Zhou Yongkang, a former member of the all-powerful Standing Committee of the ruling Communist Party's Politburo, shared the documents with his qigong master, who claims supernatural abilities, according to a verdict made public last week and which also convicted Zhou of massive corruption.

It's the latest example of a twisted relationship between the leadership of the party, which nominally espouses atheism, and spirituality.

Before Zhou, many senior party cadres and government officials were reported to have sought help and blessings from qigong masters, feng-shui experts, and Buddhist and Taoist monks. Golden Buddha statues are coveted gifts for those in power. Former Chinese President Jiang Zemin is an avid temple-goer.

"The reason is clear — communism is dead," said Willy Lam, an expert on China's elite politics at the Chinese University of Hong Kong. "It's natural for cadres to turn to superstitious beliefs to ward off evil and to help them avoid the pitfalls in the cunning corridors of (politics)."

It's no secret that many Communist leaders believe in Buddhism or Christianity, said Cheng Li, director of the John L. Thornton China Center at Washington-based think tank Brookings Institute.

"They go to temples, and some are closet Christians," Li said. "It's not surprising in a country with a spiritual vacuum."

Qigong, a traditional practice of breathing, gentle body movements and meditation, has legitimate health benefits, Li added. "When you have money and power, what else do you want? Longevity and health. That's human nature," he said.

Superstition also is common among Chinese officials, with examples including hanging a sword to keep disciplinary inspectors away, erecting a basin in front of a government building in hope of amassing wealth, and tearing up a road to ward off bad luck.

The practice of Communist Party members taking interest in supernatural powers has drawn stern criticism from China's political conservatives.

"Corruption is only a matter



A girl walks past a sign advertising the services of a fortune teller in an alley near the Lama Temple in Beijing

Former security czar Zhou Yongkang shared classified documents with his qigong master, who claims supernatural abilities

of course when officials abandon Marxism and Leninism for ghosts and spirits," Sima Nan, a political conservative, wrote on his microblog account. "Now the party has distanced itself from atheism for so long as to allow (qigong masters) to have a good life."

Sima has long been trying to expose qigong masters with uncanny abilities as comen. In another post, he said corrupt officials and the masters have a symbiotic relationship.

"The masters provide psychological massages to corrupt officials, who in turn provide protection for the masters," he wrote.

In the latest revelation, the confidante for Zhou — a once-feared security czar who oversaw China's vast police and security apparatus — has been identified as Cao Yongzheng, a middle-aged man who gained a reputation as a semi-immortal for his supernatural powers in the late 1980s.

Cao even got the endorsement from a reporter at the party-run People's Daily, who wrote that Cao could tell one's past, present and future by merely looking at that person's photo, and that he possessed powers such as the ability to cure infertility.

At the time, China was swept into a national frenzy over qigong, which promised healthier bodies and calmer minds as the country was embarking on the dizzying road of economic reforms that would drastically reshape the lives of hundreds of millions of people.

To win followers, qigong masters boasted uncanny powers

such as curing stubborn illnesses without medical treatment, and they soon built large bases of fans who attended massive gatherings, signed up for practice groups, and purchased pamphlets by the masters as they sought answers to life's problems.

The frenzy subsided when Beijing found the fad was sliding into superstitious and cultish cultures, and it came to an end in 1999, when authorities started to crack down on one of the popular qigong schools known as Falun Gong. More than 10,000 of its practitioners showed up in front of the central government to demand fair treatment, making authorities uneasy about the spiritual group's ability to mobilize the masses.

Yet, the demand for spiritual guidance and psychological counseling has risen in China as more people grappled with rapid and profound social and economic changes. The traditional values have been dismantled by the party's earlier campaigns to eradicate the old world, but the party also had seen its own communist beliefs

go bankrupt among the public.

"The Cultural Revolution has rooted out China's traditional value system, and the introduction of Western values was disrupted to some extent in 1989," said Beijing-based independent commentator Shi Shusi, referring to the bloody suppression of the 1989 Tiananmen pro-democracy demonstrations.

"But human souls need to have a home, so the Chinese have found the home for their souls in those qigong masters," Shi said.

State-sanctioned religions such as Christianity and Buddhism also have seen a rapid and strong resurgence, while gurus such as qigong masters and feng shui experts — who specialize in harmonizing elements in one's environment — have built small but lucrative circles of clients among China's richest and most powerful and most influential.

Cao, Zhou's confidante, was highly sought after by officials seeking favors from Cao's powerful friends, according to a 2013 article by the Southern Weekly, which used to be famous for its investigative journalism.

Cao was listed in the court statement as part of a small group of relatives and close friends of Zhou who pocketed 2 billion yuan (USD340 million) in illegal income through Zhou's help, and media reports described Cao as one of the richest people in China, with business interests in oil, real estate, film and agriculture.

As Zhou came under investigation in 2013, Cao's office in Beijing was raided by police, and the man himself had fled the country, state media reported. Now, the media have suggested that Cao eventually will be brought to justice now that Zhou has been imprisoned for life over corruption charges following his May 22 trial.

Another qigong master, Wang Lin, who has been recently disgraced as a fraud by state media, once had the trust of a Chinese railways minister and found a fan in Alibaba founder Jack Ma. State media said Wang had lived lavishly.

Wang once gave former Railways Minister Liu Zhijun a rock as a blessing that Liu would always stand solid and never fall. The anecdote now serves as a joke after Liu fell to corruption charges.

Dali Yang, a political scientist at the University of Chicago, said the rich and powerful are turning to divine powers to help, including relationships with qigong masters who not only can provide soothing body massages, but also psychological support to help them avoid trouble.

"It's psychologically comforting," Yang said. "They can play the role of a psychological adviser." AP

HONG Kong police said yesterday they have arrested nine people and seized materials for making explosives at a suburban former TV studio.

Police arrested five men and four women for alleged conspiracy to manufacture explosives, said Chief Superintendent Au Chin-sau of the Organized Crime and Triad Bureau.

Au told a news briefing that some were members of a local radical group, but did not give an exact number or identify the group.

Police said officers found "several kilograms" of a solid substance and five liters of a liquid believed to be used to make explosives at the studio. They also found about two liters of a raw material used to make triacetone triperoxide, or TATP, at one of the suspect's homes.

TATP is a high explosive that was used in the 2005 London bombings that killed 52 commuters.

The arrests come as tensions rise ahead of a vote later this week by Hong Kong lawmakers on controversial Beijing-backed election reforms that sparked huge street protests last year. Pro-democracy protesters are rallying each evening this week outside of government headquarters to demand lawmakers veto the proposal, which they say doesn't offer genuine democracy and violates China's promise to eventually allow universal suffrage.

Police said they also seized air rifles, a formula to make smoke grenades, and masks bearing the likeness of Guy

HONG KONG

Police arrest 9, seize explosives before election vote



Plain clothed policemen stand guard in front of air rifles and other evidence during a press conference in Hong Kong

Fawkes, who was behind a failed 1605 plot to blow up Britain's Parliament. The masks were popularized by the movie "V for Vendetta."

Police also found maps of the Wan Chai and Admiralty neighborhoods, the latter home to the city legislature and government headquarter

complex but also the People's Liberation Army's main base and numerous luxury hotels and office towers. "There is a possibility that

this group of people may want to do something in those particular locations," Au said, but would not be more specific. AP

Head transplant experiments spark mainland debate

A surgeon in northeast China's Heilongjiang Province has triggered public debate after announcing plans to perform a head transplant on primates after successfully operating on mice.

Ren Xiaoping, a doctor with the second affiliated hospital of Harbin Medical University, successfully transplanted the head of one mouse to another's body in 2013. The team has since performed nearly 1,000 such operations, though very few survive long after the surgery.

Ren's team has been working on perfecting the operation and announced plans to test the procedure on monkeys in the future, without going into detail.

Ren studied and worked in the U.S. before

returning to China three years ago. He said head transplants present the ultimate challenge for medical experts.

"How to reconnect the donor and recipient spinal cords, how to keep the brain alive during the transfer and how to prevent the body from rejecting the head are all technical difficulties we need to overcome," he said.

Each small step of progress in medical science requires countless tries and even failures, he said.

As a scientific researcher and a doctor, he hopes such experiments might help people with spinal cord injuries or muscular dystrophy in the future.

His ambitious plan, more at home in science

fiction, is beyond many people's imagination and has drawn hot debate in both real and virtual se-

Italian physician Sergio Canavero said he will transplant a human head to a new body in 2017

tings.

If these experiments can help patients with incurable diseases and scientists in other countries have been also con-

ducting such research they should be allowed, Web user "Jiankanglyxing" commented on China's Twitter-like microblog, Sina Weibo.

The world's first attempted head transplant on a monkey dates back to 1970, when American neurosurgeon Robert J. White transplanted the head of one monkey to the body of another. The monkey died after several days due to immunorejection.

The most recent planned head transplant was announced by Italian physician Sergio Canavero, who said he will transplant a human head to a new body in 2017. He has identified a 30-year-old Russian man who suffers from a rare genetic disorder as the first patient, according to CNN.

However, skepticism remains on the feasibility of head transplants and Ren's team has faced criticism on its violation of animal rights, as well potential moral and ethical problems.

Jiang Jinsong, associate professor with the Institute of Science, Technology and Society at Tsinghua University, said such costly operations might never be within the realm of possibility.

He also criticized using animals in medical experiments. "[The project] needs countless head transplants on animals. The cost is relatively low, but it's unnecessary and cruel."

Many animal protection volunteers feel the same. "Humans don't have the right to kill animals for the purpose of saving hu-

mans themselves," one user commented on Sina Weibo.

Wang Yifang, a medical ethics expert with the Institute of Medical Humanities at Peking University, welcomes possible breakthroughs in medical science brought by a successful head transplant on animals. But when it comes to human head transplants, he believes there are stricter ethical evaluations that need to take place.

"It's very complicated. You have your own head but another's body, so who are you and who is your family?" he asked.

"We don't know what will happen. But the fact humans 'can' do the surgical procedure in the future does not mean they 'should' do it," he said. Xinhua

KOREAS

North Korean soldier crosses border to defect to South

Seoul said yesterday that a teenage North Korean soldier defected to the South by crossing the heavily guarded border between the two Koreas. An official at South Korea's defense ministry said that the serviceman, believed to be in his late teens, walked across the border about 8 a.m. through the central eastern front. The ministry official requested anonymity citing office rules. No gunfire was exchanged. The serviceman told the ministry that he was beaten regularly and had grievances about the North Korean regime, according to the official. It is not common for North Koreans to defect to the South via the land border dividing the Koreas. In 2012, a North Korean soldier walked to south of barbed-wire fences without getting caught by guards. Most of the about 25,000 defectors now living in South Korea reached here by traveling to China.

North Korea to send 2 detained South Koreans home

North Korea will return two South Koreans who Pyongyang accused of illegally entering the country last month, Seoul said yesterday. Officials at South Korea's Unification Ministry said the North informed them that the South Koreans will cross back into the South tomorrow through the truce village of Panmunjom on the border. Seoul said the two South Koreans, a 59-year-old man and a 51-year-old woman, went missing near the North Korea-China border while traveling in China. North Korea said they illegally crossed its border on May 11. The ministry said it has been in contact with relatives of the missing people. North Korea has occasionally detained South Korean and American nationals on accusations of spying and illegal entry. The Korean Peninsula remains officially at war because the 1950-53 Korean War ended with an armistice, not a peace treaty.

SOUTH KOREA

MERS death toll rises to 16

THE South Korean death toll from Middle East respiratory syndrome has risen to 16 the Financial Times reported yesterday, as local authorities struggle to contain the disease nearly four weeks into an outbreak that has stirred widespread public alarm.

According to the UK-based newspaper, President Park Geun-hye yesterday urged citizens to return to their normal lives in her latest appeal to ease growing fears following one more death. Five new cases of MERS were reported yesterday the FT added, bringing to 150 the total confirmed infections.

MERS has spread in South Korea more rapidly than in any other country, making it the largest outbreak outside Saudi Arabia. However, the disease has so far been confined to hospitals.

More than 5,000 people have been quarantined, with four hospitals sealed off, the paper stated. The health ministry warned that the number of people isolated was likely to double, with about 4,000 people being monitored for possible infection after Seoul's Samsung Medical Center became the latest flashpoint of the virus.

The hospital, one of the country's biggest, shut nearly all its operations after about half of confirmed infections were tra-



Workers in protective gear against the Middle East Respiratory Syndrome virus sanitize a public bus at a transport company depot in Seoul

ced there.

Furthermore, according to the Financial Times, thousands of South Korean schools that were closed amid fears over the outbreak reopened yesterday but at least 440 remain shuttered.

The World Health Organization, which has been conducting a joint investigation into MERS in the country, said on Saturday the outbreak was "large and complex", and that more cases should be anticipated. Keiji Fukuda, a WHO assistant director-general who was quon-

ted by the newspaper, said the country's initial responses to the outbreak "were not optimal", with the situation aggravated by crowded emergency units, shared wards and the practice of seeking care at many different medical facilities.

Ms Park, whose approval ratings have dipped over the government's response to the outbreak, told a meeting of senior aides that "the daily lives of ordinary people and business activities of companies should return to normal".

Last week she postponed a

scheduled trip to the US to oversee efforts to contain the disease, after coming under fire for her perceived lack of leadership at times of national emergency. Her approval ratings, which hovered around 40 per cent before the outbreak, fell below 35 per cent last week, according to a Realmeter poll.

The finance ministry said yesterday the government would maintain an expansionary fiscal policy to help minimize the adverse economic impact from the outbreak.

NEPAL

Quake-hit heritage sites reopen for tourists



A Nepalese man carrying a water jar walks past damaged houses in Bhaktapur

Binaj Gurubacharya, Bhaktapur

NEPAL yesterday reopened most of the cultural heritage sites that were damaged in a pair of devastating earthquakes, hoping to lure back foreign tourists.

The April 25 and May 12 quakes killed more than 8,700 people and damaged hundreds of thousands of buildings in Nepal, including old temples, palaces and

other historical structures that are popular with tourists.

Six of the seven UNESCO World Heritage sites closed after the quakes were reopened yesterday, Tourism Minister Kripasur Sherpa said.

"We are urging people to come to Nepal for holiday to help Nepal rebuild," Sherpa said in Bhaktapur, a city filled with ancient temples that is among the reopened heritage sites.

The sites were closed due to the damage from the quakes, but also over concerns about the safety of tourists. Before the quakes, about 1,000 foreigners a day visited Bhaktapur, located just east of Kathmandu, but none were seen there yesterday.

Tourists fled Nepal after the first quake, but it also is currently rainy season, a time when relatively few foreign visitors are usually around.

Bhesh Narayan Dahal, chief of Nepal's Department of Archaeology, said that measures have been taken to ensure that tourists are safe, and that there are plans to provide safety helmets for visitors in some places.

Some 741 heritage structures were damaged in the quakes, and it will take at least USD18 million to rebuild and restore them, Dahal said.

Nepal is hosting an international donors' meeting next week in Kathmandu, the capital, to seek money to help rebuild the Himalayan country following the quakes.

About 800,000 foreign tourists visit Nepal every year and the government is worried that a fear of earthquakes will stop many from visiting.

UNESCO, the United Nations' cultural heritage organization, had raised concerns last week about the reopening of the heritage sites, urging tourists to be extra cautious and reconsider visiting them.

The agency also asked the government to restrict tourists' access to locations where structures had collapsed and that were still considered unsafe. **AP**

MALAYSIA

Missing tanker likely hijacked by pirates

A Malaysian oil tanker that went missing last week carrying fuel worth 21 million ringgit (USD5.6 million) and 22 crew members is believed to have been hijacked by pirates, marine police said yesterday. MT Orkim Harmony, loaded with 7.5 million liters of gasoline belonging to national oil company Petronas, was headed to northern Kuantan when communications with it were lost late Thursday near Singapore. It was the second tanker believed to have been hijacked this month in the same area. Ahmad Puzi Abdul Kahar, deputy director-general of the Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency, said there was a "high probability" that the tanker was taken by pirates, although no ransom demands have been received. The crew consists of 16 Malaysians, five Indonesians and a Myanmar national. He said the vessel didn't issue any distress call and all communications and tracking systems could have been turned off. Another Malaysian tanker carrying diesel fuel was hijacked June 4 in the same area. The vessel was released after the fuel was siphoned off. **AP**

INDONESIA

Authorities evacuate more villagers from volcano area

Binsar Bakkara, Tanah Karo

AUTHORITIES in western Indonesia yesterday evacuated hundreds of villagers living near a volcano that is spewing hot ash down its slopes almost daily.

Government volcanologist Gede Suantika said at least 28 hot ash avalanches occurred yesterday at Mount Sinabung on Sumatra, one of Indonesia's main islands. There are indications the crater's lava dome continues to grow in size, Gede said.

Subur Tambun, head of the local disaster mitigation agency, said hundreds of residents were being evacuated yesterday from several villages, bringing the number of people moved in recent weeks to more than 3,000.

"They have to be moved because of increasing activities of the volcano in past days," Subur said.

Evacuees included villagers living between 3 to 5 kilometers from the crater on its eastern

AP PHOTO



A farmer picks coffee berries at his family-owned plantation as Mount Sinabung is seen in the background in Tiga Serangkai, North Sumatra

and southeastern flanks. A small number of people who'd returned to villages within 3 kilometers also were evacuated again.

Jefri Bangun, a 33-year-old coffee farmer in Mardinding village, about 3 kilometers from the crater, is one of thousands of villagers who were reluctant to leave the slopes.

"We need money to live," said Bangun, who vowed to keep coming back to tend his plants.

Authorities have been closely monitoring Sinabung since June 2, when its status was raised to the highest alert level due to the growing size and unstable condition of its lava dome, then estimated at 3 million cubic meters.

Subur said 99 families were moved from a village on Saturday when the mountain unleashed a new powerful burst, sending hot ash as far as 3 kilometers down its southeastern slopes.

Mount Sinabung is one of about 130 active volcanoes in Indonesia, which is prone to seismic upheaval due to its location on the Pacific "Ring of Fire," an arc of volcanoes and fault lines encircling the Pacific Basin.

The 2,460-meter volcano has sporadically erupted since 2010, after being dormant for 400 years. An eruption last year killed at least 17 people.

Sutopo Purwo Nugroho, spokesman for the National Disaster Mitigation Agency, said almost 2,800 residents were evacuated when the mountain's alert status was raised two weeks ago.

Nearly 6,200 other people have been living in temporary shelters since last year, Nugroho said. **AP**

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SOUTH AFRICA

Sudan state news agency says al-Bashir en route back home

PRESIDENT Omar al-Bashir of Sudan left South Africa with his plane scheduled to land back home yesterday night, Sudan's official news agency said, as the leader dodged a South African court's effort to have him arrested on genocide and other charges.

The International Criminal Court's charges against al-Bashir stem from reported atrocities in the conflict in Darfur, in which 300,000 people were killed and 2 million displaced in the government's campaign, according to United Nations figures.

In Geneva, U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said the ICC's authority must be respected and its decision implemented.

An attorney for the South African government, William Mokhari, told a court yesterday in South Africa's capital that a judge's order that al-Bashir should stay in the country was being obeyed and that there was no risk of al-Bashir "disappearing" while he attended an African Union summit in nearby Johannesburg.

But soon after he uttered those words, South African journalist Erika Gibson tweeted photographs of what she said was Sudan's presidential jet taking off from a South African



Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir is seen during the opening session of the AU summit in Johannesburg

can military base. Sudanese state media then said al-Bashir had left South Africa and that a news conference would be

held at the Khartoum airport upon his arrival.

On Sunday, a South African judge in the Pretoria court had

ordered that al-Bashir remain in South Africa due to the ICC arrest order. Al-Bashir appeared in a group photo with other

African heads of state on Sunday at the African Union summit in Johannesburg. Even before Sunday's events, the African Union had asked the ICC to stop proceedings against sitting presidents and said it will not compel any member states to arrest a leader on behalf of the court.

In a government notice published June 5, South Africa's minister of international affairs, Maite Nkoana-Mashabane, signed an agreement granting diplomatic immunity to delegates participating in the African Union summit.

The Southern Africa Litigation Centre, a rights group, had gone to court to press for al-Bashir's arrest.

The African National Congress, South Africa's ruling party, said the South African government granted immunity "for all (summit) participants as part of the international norms for countries hosting such gathering of the AU or even the United Nations." AP

VATICAN SEX ABUSE

US archbishop quits after archdiocese charged with cover-up

Nicole Winfield, Vatican City

THE embattled archbishop of St. Paul and Minneapolis and a deputy bishop resigned yesterday after prosecutors there charged the archdiocese with having failed to protect children from unspeakable harm from a pedophile priest.

The Vatican said Pope Francis accepted the resignations of Archbishop John Nienstedt and Auxiliary Bishop Lee Anthony Piche. They resigned under the code of canon law that allows bishops to resign before they retire because of illness or some other "grave" reason that makes them unfit for office.

Earlier this month, prosecutors charged the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis as a corporation of having "turned a blind eye" to repeated

reports of inappropriate behavior by a priest who was later convicted of molesting two boys. No individual was named in the complaint.

The resignations came on the same day that the Vatican announced it was putting its former ambassador to the Dominican Republic, Jozef Wesolowski, on trial in a Vatican court on charges he sexually abused boys in the Caribbean country and possessed child pornography. Wesolowski, who has already been defrocked after being convicted in a canon law court, now faces possible jail time if convicted by the criminal tribunal of the Vatican City State.

The charges against the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis came after a diocesan canon lawyer-turned-whistleblower alleged wides-

pread cover-up of clergy sex misconduct in the archdiocese, saying archbishops and their top staff lied to the public and ignored the U.S. bishops' pledge to have no tolerance of priests who abuse.

In a statement, Nienstedt said he was stepping down to give the archdiocese a new beginning. But he insisted he was leaving "with a clear conscience knowing that my team and I have put in place solid protocols to ensure the protection of minors and vulnerable adults."

He had refused to resign as recently as last year after his former archivist, canon lawyer Jennifer Haselberger, charged that the church used a chaotic system of record-keeping that helped conceal the backgrounds of guilty priests who remained on assignment. AP

USA

Jeb Bush set to launch 2016 campaign for president

Steve Peoples, Washington

JEB Bush was ready to launch a Republican presidential bid yesterday by asserting his commitment to the "most vulnerable in our society," targeting the broader American electorate even as he faces questions from conservatives in his own party.

Six months after he said he was considering a bid for 2016, the 62-year-old former Florida governor will formally enter the crowded race with a speech and rally near his Florida home at Miami Dade University, selected because it serves a large and diverse student body.

"My core beliefs start with the premise that the most vulnerable in our society should be in the front of the line and not the back," Bush says in a video featuring women, minorities and a disabled child to be aired at the event. "What we need is new leadership that takes conservative principles and applies them so that people can rise up."

The brother of one president and son of another, Bush has likely raised a record-breaking amount of money to support his candidacy.

But in early public opinion polls, he has yet to break out. While unquestionably one of the top-tier candidates in the Republican race, there is no true front-runner.

Bush has made clear he will remain committed to his core beliefs in the campaign, even if his positions on immigration and education standards are deeply unpopular among his party's conservative base.

"I'm not going to change who I am," Bush said as he wrapped up a week-long European trip this weekend. "I respect people who may not agree with me, but I'm not going to change my views because today someone has a view that's different."

Bush is one of 11 major Republicans in the hunt for the nomination. But few among them entered the race with such a high expectations of success.

Still, his return to politics since leaving the governor's office in 2007 has been underwhelming at times.

While detailed policy questions are often his strength, he struggled for several days last month to answer a predictable question about the war in Iraq waged by his brother, former President George W. Bush. AP

Sarah El Deeb and Lolita C. Baldor, Cairo

LIBYA

US targets al-Qaida leader Mokhtar Belmokhtar; unclear if hit

THE U.S. military says it launched weekend airstrikes targeting and likely killing an al-Qaida-linked militant leader in eastern Libya charged with leading the attack on a gas plant in Algeria in 2013 that killed at least 35 hostages, including three Americans.

An Islamist with ties to Libyan militants, however, said the airstrikes missed Mokhtar Belmokhtar, instead killing four members of a Libyan extremist group the U.S. has linked to the Sept. 11, 2012, attack on the U.S. Consulate in Benghazi that killed Ambassador Chris Stevens and three other Americans.

U.S. officials said they are still assessing the results of the Saturday strike, but Pentagon spokesman Col. Steve Warren said the military believes the strike was successful and hit the target. Neither U.S. officials nor the Libyan government provided proof of Belmokhtar's death, which likely requires a DNA test or an announcement by Belmokhtar's group that he was killed.

"I can confirm that the target of last night's counterterrorism strike in Libya was Mokhtar Belmokhtar," Warren said Sun-



Mokhtar Belmokhtar

day (yesterday, Macau time). "Belmokhtar has a long history of leading terrorist activities as a member of (al-Qaida in the Islamic Maghreb), is the operational leader of the al-Qaida-associated al-Murabitun organization in northwest Africa and maintains his personal allegiance to al-Qaida."

A U.S. official said two F-15 fighter jets launched multiple

500-pound bombs in the attack. The official was not authorized to discuss the details of the attack publicly so spoke on condition of anonymity. Authorities say no U.S. personnel were on the ground for the assault.

But this isn't the first time authorities have claimed to have killed Belmokhtar, a militant believed to be 43 who reportedly lost his eye in combat and

fought in Afghanistan. He was one of a number of Islamist fighters who have battled Algeria's government since the 1990s, later joining al-Qaida.

Intelligence officials say Belmokhtar essentially built a bridge between AQIM and the underworld, creating a system where various blends of outlaws now support each other and enroll local youth. He's been linked to terror attacks and the lucrative kidnapping of foreigners in the region. He's also known as Belaouer the One Eyed, Abou al-Abbes and "Mister Marlboro," the last name a play on the fact he's accused of smuggling contraband cigarettes through the Sahara and the Sahel.

The U.S. filed terrorism charges in 2013 against Belmokhtar in connection with the Algeria attack. Officials have said they

believe he remained a threat to U.S. and Western interests. Belmokhtar had just split off from al-Qaida in the Islamic Maghreb to start his own franchise.

The Libyan government in a statement Sunday said that the strike targeting Belmokhtar came after consultation with the U.S. so that America could take action against a terror leader there.

One government official in Libya said an airstrike in the northeastern coastal city of Ajdabiya hit a group of Islamic militants also believed linked to al-Qaida and that it killed five and wounded more. He said the group that was wounded later fought the Libyan military that guarded the hospital there, leading to an hourslong battle. He spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak to reporters. The official couldn't confirm that was the same strike that killed Belmokhtar.

The Islamist, who spoke on condition of anonymity for fear of reprisals in restive Libya, told The Associated Press early yesterday that Belmokhtar wasn't at the site of the U.S. airstrike. He said the strike killed four Ansar Shariah members in Ajdabiya, some 850 kilometers east of the Libyan capital, Tripoli. **AP**

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what's ON

6TH MACAU FASHION ILLUSTRATION CONTEST
ART WORK EXHIBITION

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

UNTIL: June 26, 2015

VENUE: Macau Design Centre,
Travessa da Fabrica No. 5, Macau

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2852 0335

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

THE SUBCONSCIOUS SOUL

- ABSTRACT PAINTINGS BY NG FONG CHAO

TIME: 10am-7pm

UNTIL: June 29, 2015

VENUE: UNESCO Centre of Macau,

Alameda Dr. Carlos d'Assumpção

ADMISSION: free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2872 7066

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

AUSTRIAN BROTHEL OFFERS SEX FOR
FREE TO PROTEST HIGH TAXES

An Austrian brothel is offering a summer special that competitors will find hard to match — free sex. Its owner says it's his way of protesting a tax squeeze.

"Effective immediately: Free Entrance! Free Drinks! Free Sex!" the Pascha bordello writes on its website.

The Oesterreich daily quotes owner Hermann Mueller as saying he will pay the women working for him to make up for the money they would normally get from clients. A woman answering the telephone at the establishment confirmed the offer Sunday. She refused to identify herself.

Prostitution in Austria is legal and regulated. Mueller, who runs other brothels in Germany and Austria, says he is pushing back against what he says is unfair taxation of nearly 4 million euros (over USD5 million) in the past decade. AP

TV canal macau

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

cinema

CINETEATRO

11 JUN - 17 JUN



JURASSIC WORLD

ROOM 1

(2D) 2.30, 4.45, 9.30 pm

(3D) 7.15 pm

Director: Colin Trevorrow

Starring: Chris Pratt, Bryce Dallas Howard

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 124min

SAN ANDREAS

ROOM 2

(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



FORCE MAJEURE

ROOM 3

2.30, 4.45, 7.15, 9.30 pm

Director: Ruben Ostlund

Starring: Johannes Kuhnke, Lisa Loven Kongsli

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 120min

MACAU TOWER

04 JUN - 01 JUL

JURASSIC WORLD

(3D) 2.30, 4.45, 7.15, 9.30 pm

Director: Colin Trevorrow

Starring: Chris Pratt, Bryce Dallas Howard

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 124min

this day in history



Andrew Morton

1992 CONTROVERSIAL DIANA BOOK
PUBLISHED

A controversial new book about the Princess of Wales claims she attempted suicide on several occasions over the last decade, and portrays her as a deeply depressed and unstable character.

Author Andrew Morton insists he has reliable sources for the allegations, which appear in Diana: Her True Story. Buckingham Palace would not comment on any specific claims, and said Princess Diana did not co-operate with the biography in any way whatsoever.

The Princess has begun another full week of engagements, attending the annual Order of the Garter service with other members of the royal family at Windsor on the eve of the book's publication.

Although she appeared composed at this event, she was seen breaking down in tears at another public engagement in Liverpool last week.

Speaking for the first time since details of the book became known, Mr Morton said: "The tears that she has shed in public in Liverpool are nothing compared to the tears she has shed over the last year.

"I can't emphasize strongly enough the volatility of the situation inside Kensington Palace".

The book alleges that Princess Diana tried to kill herself on as many as five occasions during the 1980s.

Mr Morton rejected suggestions that the revelations were based on rumor and gossip, and said he had interviewed a number of sources close to the princess who had insisted on anonymity.

"It is not hearsay. It is what the Princess of Wales has told her friends about what happened to her in 1982, in the early 80s, and the last suicide attempt I think was in 1986."

The author also denied he had any ulterior motivation in making the disclosures. He said: "My job is as a biographer, not as someone who is organizing or orchestrating the future of the royal family."

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

Princess Diana died in a car crash in Paris on 31 August 1997. Less than a week after her death, Andrew Morton announced that she had been the source for the book.

He went on to write a book about the story of Monica Lewinsky's affair with US President Bill Clinton and another on Madonna.

In 2000, he reached an out-of-court settlement with David and Victoria Beckham after they objected to 2,500 words of the 60,000-word book he had written about them.

The book *Posh and Becks* was published and included most of the words the Beckhams had objected to.

YOUR STARS

Aries
Mar. 21-Apr. 19
All things must pass, even your earning ability. Don't let the fact that it's far down the track keep you from saving now. Retirement should be looming before you like a pop up ghoul in a fun house.

Taurus
April 20-May 20
It's not exactly luxury, but the profits have you feeling good. Don't translate all of your money into possessions just yet. That would just be too indulgent.

Gemini
May 21-Jun. 21
Business matters demand your attention, like it or not. If you won't listen to advice, then look at the bills. Pin them on your wall for inspiration if that's what it takes to keep them in mind.

Cancer
Jun. 22-Jul. 22
You may feel it's the right time to pitch some proposals, and the crazier the idea the better. But in fact, it's almost beyond time for follow through. Finish what's already on your plate.

Leo
Jul. 23-Aug. 22
There are rules for everything these days. That's what happens once the funds start to dry up. It may feel like your project is getting stuck within the system, but you're ultimately the only one who can make sure you finish it.

Virgo
Aug. 23-Sept. 22
You'll find an odd spot to have dinner, and an even more unusual site to speak your mind. But both will go smoothly, once you open your wallet that is. Don't be stingy.

Libra
Sep. 23-Oct. 22
You can socialize without regard to income. In fact, you can extend some hospitality without spending a dime. Don't be possessive about the goods you've accumulated in your wine cellar and pantry.

Scorpio
Oct. 23 - Nov. 21
What kind of relationship do you have with money? You can't force it to be an open one, if that's not how you really feel. On the other hand, losing your temper won't make it stay in your wallet. Only you can accomplish that.

Sagittarius
Nov. 22-Dec. 21
If you were on a diet, you'd be counting calories. And since you're taking in your monetary belt, it goes without saying you should be watching your spending. It all seems so mundane, but such is your life at the moment.

Capricorn
Dec. 22-Jan. 19
Life used to be about fun and indulgence, but these days it's about being dutiful and economical. What a difference a day makes -- or in this case, a year. You can still have a good time if you put some creativity into it.

Aquarius
Jan. 20-Feb. 18
Cutting corners is bringing up memories of older relatives. If they're long gone, enjoy a bit of nostalgia. If they're still around, give them the mic and center stage -- they just might blow you away.

Pisces
Feb. 19-Mar. 20
Was your financial state all smoke and mirrors? Were you hoodwinked by the market? No, and no. It was no more an illusion than your current account balance is, so forewarned.

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Easy

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

Easy+

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

Medium

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

Hard

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

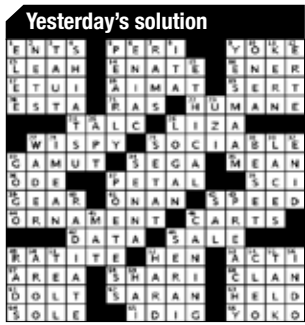
WEATHER

	MIN	MAX	CONDITION
CHINA			
Beijing	22	31	cloudy/thundershower
Harbin	20	33	clear
Tianjin	24	32	cloudy
Urumqi	12	23	heavy rain/moderate rain
Xi'an	20	25	drizzle/moderate rain
Lhasa	12	25	shower/cloudy
Chengdu	21	29	shower/overcast
Chongqing	22	25	moderate rain
Kunming	18	27	shower
Nanjing	21	24	thundershower
Shanghai	22	24	heavy shower
Wuhan	24	29	moderate rain
Hangzhou	23	29	shower/moderate rain
Taipei	27	32	cloudy/overcast
Guangzhou	26	35	cloudy
Hong Kong	28	33	cloudy
WORLD			
Moscow	11	19	drizzle
Frankfurt	12	24	cloudy
Paris	14	24	overcast
London	10	17	overcast/cloudy
New York	19	28	drizzle/cloudy

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Snow conveyances; 6- Puts away; 10- ___ ll (razor brand); 14- Oil holder; 15- Scent; 16- Depend; 17- Architectural piers; 18- Wraparound dress; 19- Supermodel Saastre; 20- Discovers; 22- Impertinent; 24- Father; 26- Small village; 27- The ___ Falcon; 31- Maiden name indicator; 32- Light ___; 33- Mountains; 36- Submissions to eds.; 39- Modish; 40- Ridge; 41- Fencing sword; 42- Sun, speech; 43- Was sore; 44- Astrologer Sydney; 45- Muff; 46- Curved like a bow; 48- Peace salutation; 51- Court divider; 52- Wickedness; 54- Conventional; 59- I smell ___; 60- Hint; 62- Michelangelo masterpiece; 63- Long luxuriant hair; 64- German Mister; 65- Milk container; 66- Mines; 67- Himalayan legend; 68- Appears;

DOWN: 1- Authenticating mark; 2- Pool division; 3- It is in Spain; 4- Expensive; 5- Thin; 6- Aurora's counterpart; 7- First man; 8- Synagogue scroll; 9- Ceylon, now; 10- Threebagger; 11- Actress Zellweger; 12- On the qui vive; 13- Fluid-filled sac; 21- KLM rival; 23- Iowa city; 25- Profundity; 27- Apple products; 28- 1975 Wimbledon champ; 29- Lion's den; 30- ___-tac-toe; 34- Before, once; 35- Quinn of "Legends of the Fall"; 36- Movie-rating org.; 37- Spanish muralist; 38- Parched; 40- Haphazard; 41- Grounded bird; 43- Asia's ___ Sea; 44- Ink dispenser?; 45- In groups; 47- Flag thrower; 48- Turkish palace; 49- ___-garde; 50- 1957 hit for the Bobbettes; 52- Moist; 53- Mongol tent; 55- Travel on; 56- Ancient Persian; 57- Up and ___; 58- Metallica drummer Ulrich; 61- "___ tu" (Verdi aria)



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- 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
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- Telephone - Report 1000
- Electricity - Report 28 339 922
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Hellene Gardens
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HKD 20,000 / 1,663 sq ft
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John Pye, Singapore

TWO Southeast Asian Games dynasties were extended yesterday when Thailand beat Myanmar 3-0 to claim its 15th football title shortly after the Philippines wrapped up a 17th gold medal in basketball.

Defending champion Thailand entered the final after an unbeaten run, scoring 21 goals and conceding one and coming fresh off a 5-0 win over Indonesia.

Myanmar goalkeeper Phyo Kyaw Zin held them at bay with some excellent saves until Kesarat Tanaboon broke the deadlock for Thailand in the 54th minute with a shot from 13 yards after the defenders failed to clear a corner.

After having three shots stopped, Thailand forward Pombubpha Chananan finally found the back of the net when he poked a left-foot shot past the Myanmar keeper in the 64th, and Inpinit Pinyo made it 3-0 in the 78th.

Thailand has won 10 of the last 12 SEA Games tournaments, a run that includes wins over Myanmar in the 1993 and 2007 finals.

Coach Promrut Choketawee rated his lineup as the best Thai team to win a SEA Games gold medal and said it had the potential to play at the Olympics and develop into a combination that could take on the biggest teams in Asia. Overcoming the intense pressure of being a regular regional champion was part of the challenge.

"Thank you for the fans — I think now they can celebrate," he said. "I hope the next SEA Games

Thailand, Philippines continue SEA football, hoops streaks

we can still win gold again."

Myanmar hasn't won since its golden run of five straight titles ended in 1973.

The Philippines has won all but one of the basketball titles ever contested at the SEA Games, the only break in the sequence occurring in 1989 in Malaysia. On Monday night, Rey Mark Belo had a game-high 22 points to lead the Philippines to a 72-64 win over Indonesia.

The latest football title gave Thailand its 93rd gold medal of the games, an unbeatable lead of 10 over Singapore and 20 more than Vietnam with one day of competition remaining.

Vietnam won the third-place playoff 5-0 against a deflated Indonesia, which now enters an international ban imposed by FIFA earlier in the month for political interference in the domestic running of the game.

Indonesia coach Aji Santoso said it was hard to lift his squad after a 5-0 semifinal loss to Thailand over the weekend, and with the FIFA suspension hanging over their campaign.

"Mentally it had a big influence," he said, adding that planning for the future was difficult because there's no limit on Indonesia's international ban. "Very, very disappointing for the players — they don't understand what they must do after this event."

AP PHOTO



Hein Thiha Zaw of Myanmar, left, is tackled by Tanaboon Kesarat of Thailand, centre, during the soccer final at the SEA Games in Singapore

Indonesia was never really in the match after Hasamu Pranata was penalized for a handball in the 13th minute and Vietnam forward Mac Hong Quan struck his spot kick to the left of goalkeeper Amiruddin Teguh.

Vo Huy Toan scored in the 21st and 41st minutes with powerful left-foot strikes, and a half-volley from Nguyen Nuu Dung

as he ran toward goal in first-half stoppage time made it 4-0.

Vietnam captain Que Ngoc Hai deflected Do Duy Manh's volley past Amiruddin in the 71st to round off the scoring.

Thailand claimed other gold medals with a 25-18, 25-18, 25-15 win over Vietnam in the women's volleyball final, a 21-14, 21-10 win over Myanmar in the sepak takraw team women's doubles

final and an upset 5-4 victory over Singapore in women's water polo.

On the penultimate evening of competition, Singapore held second spot on the medal table with 83 gold medals, followed by Vietnam (73), Malaysia (60), Indonesia (45), Philippines (29), Myanmar (12) and Cambodia (1). Laos, Brunei and East Timor did not top the podium. **AP**

Roma moves ahead on ambitious 1.5b euro stadium plan

Andrew Dampf, Rome

THREE-TIME Serie A champion Roma is moving ahead with an ambitious 1.5 billion euro (USD1.7 billion) plan for a new, privately financed stadium and surrounding business and entertainment center on the city's outskirts.

Pending government approval, construction will begin by December and last up to two years, the club's American president James Pallotta announced yesterday as he handed over a detailed dossier on the project to city authorities.

"If we are going to consistently compete as a top club in the world we need a new stadium, a stadium that is privately owned by AS Roma," Pallotta said, adding that the entire project will amount to "one of the most impor-



Roma President James Pallotta, right, shows Rome's Mayor Ignazio Marino the project for the new Roma football stadium, at Rome's Capitol Hill

tant projects in Italy in many, many decades."

With a design inspired by the Colosseum, the stadium will seat 52,500 spectators and be able to expand to 60,000 for major matches.

The site in Tor di Valle is about halfway between downtown and the Leonardo Da Vinci airport. The 125-hectare (300

acre) area will also include a training ground for Roma, three high-rise office towers, plus parks and commercial and entertainment areas.

Costs for the stadium itself are estimated at 300 million euros (\$335 million) but the overall price includes surrounding infrastructure and transport.

While some of the financing is expected to come from Roma's sponsors like Nike, it remains unclear where the other money will come from.

The stadium will be able to seat 60,000 spectators for major matches

"In terms of who wants to invest, we have a substantial list and I'm positive that they wouldn't like us to name them today," Pallotta said. "But we don't feel like we're going to have an issue at all with the financing of the stadium."

Slated to open during the 2017-18 season, the stadium has been a big goal since Roma was purchased by a four-man group of Boston executives, who in 2011 became the first foreign majority owners of a Serie A club.

Pallotta is a minority owner of the Boston Celtics and a hedge-fund manager who runs Raptor Capital Management.

"If you give me approval tomorrow we'll find the money tomorrow," Pallotta said. "We know it's a six-month process."

For years, Roma has shared the Stadio Olimpico with city rival Lazio but that stadium features a running track and poor sightlines for football. The new stadium will be purpose-built for football.

Roma is also hoping that the new facility can help eliminate problems of fan violence and racism that

often tarnish matches at the Olimpico. Pallotta has been waging a verbal battle with the club's hard-core "ultra" fans this season.

"If there's one thing that has consistently come back to me on dialogues as I walk the streets of Rome, it's that many people say to me they haven't felt comfortable taking their children or coming as a family to the stadium," Pallotta said. "That's just completely unacceptable."

"Whether it's violence, whether it's racism or any other issues, I just don't feel like they should be part of the conversation at the stadium as part of our fan base," Pallotta said.

Roma has finished second in Serie A to Juventus the past two seasons. It last won the league in 2001. **AP**

AP PHOTO



Cleveland Cavaliers forward LeBron James, left, reaches for the ball next to Golden State Warriors guard Shaun Livingston during the second half of Game 5 of basketball's NBA Finals in Oakland, U.S.

BASKETBALL

Up 3-2 in NBA Finals, Warriors expect Cavs' punch in Game 6

Brian Mahoney, Oakland

STEPHEN Curry received treatment for dehydration following Game 5 of the NBA Finals, a little worn out after carrying Golden State to the brink of its first championship in 40 years.

The Warriors will need him at his best today, knowing what's coming from LeBron James in Cleveland. "They're going to come out and give it their best punch," Warriors guard Klay Thompson said.

The Warriors will have two chances to win the series after taking a 3-2 lead with their 104-91 victory Sunday. They would host Game 7, if necessary, on Friday.

"We don't want to come back here," Thompson said. "As much as we'd love to win it in front of our fans, we really want to finish it in Cleveland."

James had 40 points, 14 rebounds and 11 assists Sunday, his second triple-double in the series, and was asked how he copes with such a performance not resulting in victory.

"Well, you cope with it by understanding it's just one game and looking at the opportunity we have on Tuesday to force a Game 7," he said. "Obviously, for myself, I want to do whatever it takes to help our team win, and I haven't been able to do that the last two. So ho-

pefully I can do a better job coming in on Tuesday. We all as a unit can do a better job, and we'll be fine."

■ The Warriors will have two chances to win the series after taking a 3-2 lead

Some things from Game 5 to watch when the series returns to Cleveland:

MVP! MVP!: After Curry's dismal Game 2 and rough start to Game 3, he has

rediscovered his shot. His 37-point performance Sunday including seven 3-pointers, the second time in the series he's fallen one shy of Ray Allen's NBA Finals record.

"I just think sooner or later, Steph's going to get going," Warriors coach Steve Kerr said. "He had a tough first couple of games. He got going at the end of Game 3 in the fourth quarter, and that's all it takes. Steph makes a couple shots, he feels like he's got it rolling, and he's been great ever since."

FANTASTIC FINISHES: The Warriors, with their superior depth, have largely dominated the fourth quarters of the last three games,

outscored the Cavaliers by 12, 15 and seven points. Whether the problem has been fatigue or poor execution, the Cavaliers know they have to clean that up in Cleveland.

"We gave up 31 points in the fourth," James said of Sunday's game. "Some of them were free throws, but a lot of them were them just breaking us down. So we've got to do a better job of that."

LEGEND OF LEBRON: James is averaging 36.6 points, 12.4 rebounds and 8.8 assists in the series with two triple-doubles. He's one shy of tying the record of four 40-point games in one finals, set by Jerry West in 1969 and Michael Jordan in 1993, and has been so good that the Warriors don't even pretend they might stop him.

"He's been there for years now, so you're not going to shut him down. But if you continue to make him work hard for each and every bucket that he gets, it takes a toll on his body," said Golden State's Draymond Green, the runner-up for Defensive Player of the Year.

"If he gets 40, he gets 40. Like I said, that's why he's LeBron James. You can go throw a triple-team at him, and he'll probably still get 40, but as long as you make him work for those 40, then you've got to be satisfied with what you do."

HACK-AN-IGGY: Though Cleveland coach David Blatt has said he is against the Hack-a-Shaq strategy of intentionally fouling away from the ball, Andre Iguodala wasn't surprised when the Cavaliers used it against him down the stretch.

Iguodala was just 2 for 11 from the free-throw line in Game 5 and a woeful 6 for 18 (33.3 percent) in the finals, so he figures he may see more of the strategy the remainder of the series.

"So got a day tomorrow when we get to Cleveland to prepare for it, and it's a challenge," Iguodala said. "Just like any other challenge, you want to meet it head on and you want to be ready for it." AP

Alison Mutler, Bucharest

ROMANIA'S president says he didn't know the Romanian prime minister would attend the European Games, which most European Union leaders have avoided because of concerns about host Azerbaijan's human rights record.

Premier Victor Ponta traveled to Baku, the Azerbaijani capital, for

the opening of the games Friday hours after he survived a no-confidence vote in Parliament. Russian President Vladimir Putin, Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan and Belarus President Alexander Lukashenko also attended the opening.

Protests against Azerbaijan's human rights record took place in cities around the world Friday before the opening cere-

Romanian leader slams PM's attendance at European Games

mony.

President Klaus Iohannis called Ponta's attendance at the games "a foreign policy gaffe," and said yesterday he had not known about the visit.

Ponta, who heads the ruling Social Democratic

Party, was recently named in a corruption probe. Relations have soured between the two leaders after Iohannis asked Ponta to resign due to the probe and he refused.

Prosecutors said Ponta is suspected of mo-

ney laundering, forgery, tax evasion and conflict of interest from 2007 to 2008 when as a lawmaker he allegedly received money for a SUV and payment for apartments without doing any work. Still, a

bid to lift his immunity failed last week and he also survived a no-confidence vote.

Ponta's foreign policy adviser Radu Magdin, who has a pro-U.S. stance, resigned Friday after six months in the post. AP

opinion

World Views

Ben Sills and Flavia Krause-Jackson

TSIPRAS FACES GREECE'S MOMENT OF TRUTH

Greek Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras has four days to capitulate to demands to keep Greece in the euro - or prepare for a messy divorce.

The collapse of talks in Brussels on Sunday has made Thursday's meeting of euro-area finance ministers the next deadline in the saga that opened in 2009. Bills are piling up and the aid spigot, shut for 10 months, is about to be withdrawn. "This week is deal week," Mujtaba Rahman, head of euro zone analysis at Eurasia Group in London.

So what happens if the gathering in Luxembourg is a bust? Once the prospect of a successful negotiation fades so do the odds of Greece paying the USD1.7 billion it owes the International Monetary Fund this month. A default makes it difficult for the European Central Bank to keep Greece's banking system afloat. The ECB, which will discuss the future of its emergency liquidity on Wednesday, is unlikely to cut it off completely until the bailout agreement expires on June 30.

Without the ECB's largesse, Tsipras may need to impose capital controls to keep hard currency in the country as savers empty out their bank accounts in droves.

There is a 60 percent chance that Greece will skip out on its IMF payment, the ECB will turn off its tap and Tsipras will be forced to take extraordinary measures to stop funds fleeing the country, according to Jacob Kirkegaard, a senior fellow at the Peterson Institute for International Economics in Washington.

"It is increasingly clear that Tsipras is not a leader that the euro area can 'do business with' and hence there are no longer any political gains for the euro area in trying to coax him towards the political center," he said.

Tsipras has by turns lashed out at his creditors, accusing them of setting "absurd" conditions. At other times, he's played nice. By adopting that see-saw approach, he's pushed back Greece's day of reckoning to now.

The IMF insists that Greece cut pensions further and raise sales tax to meet a primary budget surplus of 1 percent this year. Tsipras insists pensions are off-limits - predecessors who dared touch this sacred cow were booted out of office.

His government wants a more lenient fiscal target. Yanis Varoufakis, his finance minister and resident game theorist, has been unyielding in calls for debt relief.

Unless Tsipras changes his tune, German officials, including Chancellor Angela Merkel's deputy, have indicated a willingness to let the Mediterranean nation take its chances outside the 19-member currency union.

"We will not let the German workers and their families pay for the overblown election promises of a partially communist government," Vice-Chancellor Sigmar Gabriel wrote in a Bild opinion column on Monday.

At this point the best Tsipras can hope for is "a few face-saving changes in details on the way," Holger Schmieding, chief economist at Berenberg, said in a note to clients. Then again, all the fireworks may just be stagecraft. "A late-night deal could soon be possible," HSBC Holdings Plc strategist Chris Atfield wrote yesterday.

And Merkel has kept her cool when many of her compatriots haven't. "Where there's a will, there's a way," she said June 11 before the weekend debacle. Even with voters happy to see Greece crash out of the euro, the winner of three consecutive elections has her own legacy to consider.

After all, Merkel "does not want to go down in history as the Chancellor that lost Greece," Rahman wrote to his clients. **Bloomberg**

THE BUZZ ELEPHANT THAT KILLED MAN RELOCATED

An elephant that escaped from a German circus and killed a man over the weekend has been relocated to a German safari park. The 34-year-old African elephant named "Baby" on Saturday killed a 65-year-old man who was walking in the woods near Buchen, in southwestern Germany. Police said yesterday they were still investigating whether someone forgot to close the elephant's cage or if she was intentionally

released. It's still not clear why Baby attacked the man. Safari Park Stukenbrock spokeswoman Susanna Stubbe says Baby is being kept away from the public but is now living with three other elephants and "her socialization is going well." Stubbe says the park in northwestern Germany already has two other elephants from a circus that folded last year.

Station	Air quality
Roadside	15-35 Good
High Density Residential Area	30-50 Good
Ambient	25-45 Good

SOURCE: DSI/MG

TERRORISM

Suicide bombers kill 23 in attacks on Chad capital



Dany Padire, Chad

SUICIDE bombers on motorcycles simultaneously attacked two buildings including the national police academy in Chad's capital yesterday, killing at least 23 people and wounding more than 100 others in the first assault of its kind since Islamic militants threatened the country earlier this year, witnesses said.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility but suspicion quickly fell on Boko Haram, the group

based in neighboring Nigeria that already has attacked Chadian villages along the lake that divides the two countries.

Chad has been a major military ally in the fight against the insurgent group, and Boko Haram's leader has publicly threatened the Chadian president in retaliation.

Information Minister Hassan Sylla Bakari called yesterday's violence "an appalling and barbaric attack."

"These attacks aimed at striking fear in people's hearts will not diminish

Chad's determination and commitment to fighting terrorism," he said. "The government will relentlessly pursue the fight against criminals whose intention is to spread death and desolation in Chadian families."

here were a total of four attackers - two at each building, he added.

One of the suicide bombers on a motorcycle blew himself up after security officers fired at him outside a government building where the head of the national police is based.

The second explosion went off at the headquarters of the national police academy in the capital, witnesses said.

Boko Haram's leader in February taunted the Chadian president after he contributed forces to the regional effort to quash the extremist group.

In Nigeria, Boko Haram was blamed for two suicide bombings that killed at least 11 people in the northeastern town of Potiskum on Monday, according to self-defense fighter Adamu Isa and an AP reporter's count of bodies at the local mortuary. **AP**

WORLD BRIEFS



GERMANY The Philae spacecraft has been in touch with Earth from a comet for the second time since waking up, though it delivered less data than on its first contact. Sylvain Lodiot, spacecraft operations manager for Philae's mother ship Rosetta, said Monday that Philae sent back five packets of data on Sunday night - a day after it broke seven months of silence.



FRANCE A fire ravaged a 19th-century basilica in western France yesterday, starting at the close of morning Mass and leaving just a charred shell of the rooftop. Everyone inside was quickly evacuated without injury, the Rev. Benoit Bertrand of the Nantes diocese told BFM television. Hours later, with 90 firefighters and aircraft on the scene, the blaze was brought under control, according to the Nantes fire department.

YEMEN U.N. chief Ban Ki-moon presses for a halt to fighting in Yemen at the beginning of Ramadan, which starts later this week, as the world body launched talks aimed at brokering peace.



GEORGIA Rescue workers in the Georgian capital were still searching yesterday for more than 20 people and an undetermined number of potentially dangerous animals missing after severe flooding ravaged the area around the zoo and left at least 12 people dead.

SWEDEN Prosecutors say their planned interrogation of WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange over alleged sex crimes could take place in London within weeks. Lead prosecutor Marianne Ny said yesterday she has submitted paperwork to British and Ecuadorian authorities asking for permission to question Assange at the Ecuadorean Embassy in June or July.

THE DECISIVE MOMENT

Xinhua/Liang Xu



Police officers destroy narcotics seized in drug busts at the launch ceremony of an anti-drugs campaign in Guangzhou, capital of Guangdong Province, yesterday.