



STOCK VOLATILITY IMPACTS PUBLIC INVESTMENTS

Volatility in the mainland stock exchanges can impact casinos and financial reserve investments

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OXFAM TOWERRUN RETURNS IN SEPT

Organized by Oxfam's Hong Kong branch, the September 13 race aims to raise funds for charity

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No consensus on limiting number of cars, Rosário says

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WORLD BRIEFS

INDIA At least 27 people are killed and dozens injured in a stampede during a Hindu religious bathing festival on a river bank in southern India. [More on p13](#)

THAILAND Testimony begins in a criminal defamation lawsuit filed by Thailand's navy against a small news website over a report it posted saying naval forces accepted money to assist or turn a blind eye to the trafficking of refugees from Myanmar by sea. [More on p12](#)

THAILAND A military court sentences eight people to five-year jail terms for distributing online content said to have insulted the country's monarchy.

S KOREA's beleaguered spy agency acknowledges it explored the purchase of technologies to intercept communications on the popular Kakao Talk smartphone chatting service, but maintains it only intended to strengthen its monitoring of rival North Korean agents, not South Koreans, lawmakers say. [More on p13](#)

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VOLATILITY in the Shanghai and Shenzhen stock exchanges can impact casinos by deterring VIP gamblers, although it is hard to predict the impact this can have on revenues, local economist Albano Martins explained.

With the VIP market consistently losing traction to the mass market, Mr Martins said that the stock slump in mainland China will not have a direct impact on the casino stocks, since those are listed in Hong Kong, with the exception of Melco Crown, that suspended its trade at the beginning of the month.

However, Albano Martins says that he is more concerned with the public financial reserve investments made by the government. According to data provided by the Secretary for Finance Lionel Leong, MOP7.5 billion of those funds have been invested in stock exchange markets in Hong Kong and mainland China. That's about one fifth of the total stock investments made by the local government, and 10 percent of the total amount of financial reserve investments.

Lionel Leong has already acknowledged that the drop in the mainland stock exchange markets has had an impact on the public investment revenues, yet he pointed out that no losses were registered.

"Depending on the date the government made the investments in Shanghai, it will be hard to maintain, as Lionel Leong stated recently, the government is not losing money with those

Stock Exchange volatility can impact casinos; public investments



An investor reads the newspaper near a board displaying stock market movements at a brokerage in Beijing

investments," Albano Martins indicated. "It is almost certain that it will lose money, since the investments were made when the stock was valued. For now we can't know, because they are

not releasing the data, but let's wait until the end of the year to know what the securities portfolio of the local government is and assess if the investment has been lost or not."

The local economist says that he is optimistic about the recovery of the Shanghai Stock Exchange, since the central government "has intervened and injected money into the market."

"This measure was implemented so as to prevent big shareholders of [certain] companies selling their positions, and this has had an impact on the drop. The government acted and the Shanghai Stock Exchange will go up," he said.

According to an analysis published by Bloomberg on Friday, the Shanghai Stock Exchange Composite Index had lost 28 percent since its peak on June 12, the worst sell-off in two decades. About USD3.9 trillion in market valuation has evaporated, more than the total annual output of Germany—the world's fourth-largest economy—and 16 times Greece's gross domestic product. The benchmark is still up 82 percent in the past year, the most among the world's major markets.

As shares tumbled, companies rushed to apply for trading suspension. More than 1,400 companies stopped trading on mainland exchanges, locking sellers out of 50 percent of the market. The China Securities Regulatory Commission also banned major shareholders, corporate executives, and directors from selling stakes in listed companies for six months. **MDT/Agencies**

Philippine casino stocks surge on revenue growth forecast

Ian Sayson

PHILIPPINE casino stocks surged after the nation's regulator said gaming revenue could increase 20 percent this year even as China's anti-corruption crackdown has weakened revenue in other parts of Asia.

Bloomberry Resorts Corp., operator of the Solaire casino in Manila, jumped 8 percent yesterday at the 3:30 p.m. close of trade, the steepest rise

since September 2013 and the biggest gainer on the Philippines Stock Exchange Index. Melco Crown Philippines Resorts Corp., operator of City of Dreams Manila, soared 8.8 percent, halting a three-day slump. Travellers International Hotel Group, which runs Resorts World Manila, posted its first gain in eight days.

First-half gaming revenue at the country's casinos grew 16 percent to

USD1.4 billion, Philippine Amusement & Gaming Corp. Chairman Cristino Naguiat said in a telephone interview. There's a "good chance" it will reach \$3 billion this year as he has predicted before, he added.

China's crackdown on graft has curbed gaming revenues in the region, with Macau posting a 37 percent decline in the first half of the year as the campaign kept away Chinese gamblers. Genting

Singapore Plc has also been hurt.

"It's proof that the Philippines has a good mix of foreign markets and that there are many who really want to come to the Philippines," Naguiat said. "Bloomberry is raking the numbers in, while Melco has been steadily bringing in the people," he said, adding that it's getting tougher for tourists to get hotel rooms at the resorts.

Tourist arrivals in the

Philippines increased 8.2 percent to 2.23 million in the first five months of the year, with most coming from South Korea, who accounted for 24.5 percent of the total, followed by the U.S. and Japan, according to government data. China is the fourth

largest source of tourists, with a 7.1 percent share.

Philippine gaming revenue could have been higher if not for China's anti-graft campaign, Naguiat said. The nation's gaming revenue rose 14 percent to \$2.5 billion last year from 2013.

Premium Leisure Corp., among Melco Crown's Philippine partners, advanced 3.1 percent to a one-month high. Alliance Global Group Inc., parent of Travellers, gained 1.6 percent. Belle Corp. gained 3.1 percent, the steepest advance in three weeks, while Leisure & Resorts World Corp. increased 2.1 percent to a three-week high.

Bloomberg

There are many who really want to come to the Philippines

CRISTINO NAGUIAT

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AL PLENARY

Consensus on limiting number of vehicles difficult to reach

Catarina Pinto

SEVERAL lawmakers called on the government to limit the number of vehicles in Macau, but the Secretary for Transport and Public Works, Raimundo do Rosário, acknowledged yet again that it is difficult to reach widespread consensus in society.

The focus of yesterday's Legislative Assembly (AL) plenary meeting revolved around traffic woes, with several lawmakers delivering enquiries on the rising number of vehicles on Macau's roads, as well as frequent traffic congestion.

Wong Kit Cheng called on the administration to promote social consensus and to progressively implement a cap on the number of new vehicles. She recalled that so far the government has only implemented economic measures, which have included an increase in parking lot fees, and vehicle taxes. Wong questioned whether or not these measures will be both effective and just.

The secretary clarified that these measures are not intended at limiting the number of vehicles. "It's just an update on fees and taxes, which in some cases have not been subject to any updates over the past 19 years," he recalled.

Mr Rosário further acknowledged that the increase in fees and vehicle taxes is in fact quite low. "Everyone agrees that MOP2 per hour is fairly cheap. This is a fair update. We have 38 public parking lots under DSAT's management. [The increase in public parking fees] will be introduced within three or four phases (...) Parking fees and vehicle taxes had not been updated for quite a long time," he stressed. "Limiting the number of private vehicles requires social consensus – which has been difficult to reach but we'll keep trying," the secretary added.

Lawmakers, however, rai-

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Traffic pass residential buildings in Macau

sed further criticism and demanded measures be taken to help Macau cope with a rising number of vehicles and a scarce number of parking spaces.

"Will there be any limit to the number of vehicles in 2020?" asked lawmaker Melinda Chan. Gabriel Tong added that, "these measures aren't able to help Macau cope with a growing number of vehicles." "If the government is determined enough to control and reduce the number of vehicles... it should be adopting more effective measures," he added.

The secretary pledged to encourage civil servants and government officials to use public transportation when possible. He also promised to reduce the number of parking spaces currently occupied by public administration vehicles.

Moreover, Raimundo do Rosário said that services under his portfolio will be required to avoid increasing current vehicle fleet. Departments are authorized to replace vehicles but they haven't been given the green light to acquire more cars.

Spoken enquiries presented by Melinda Chan and Zheng

EXISTING CAR PARK MONTHLY PASSES TO BE MAINTAINED

RAIMUNDO DO Rosário has further clarified the government's official stance on monthly public car park passes. He reiterated that current monthly pass holders will be able to continue using their passes, but no additional passes will be issued. "I have to be very clear on this issue as I believe there have been some misunderstandings.

Those who currently own car park monthly passes will be allowed to keep them. But we will no longer be issuing additional monthly passes," he stated. Last April, the government announced that it would be putting forward a proposal to cancel the issuing of monthly passes, while increasing parking lot fees within eleven local public car parks.

Anting focused on traffic congestion on the Cotai Strip, as a new wave of casino resorts is under development.

Melinda Chan called on the government to implement

measures easing traffic congestion, particularly on border checkpoints between Macau and Hengqin.

"There haven't been any developments regarding vehi-

cles with Macau license plates entering Hengqin Island," she said, adding that the government is yet to make any progress on commencing the expansion of the Flor de Lotus border's current facilities and its surrounding streets.

The secretary said that the local government will continue to engage in further discussions with the Guangdong province government regarding Macau's vehicles entering Hengqin Island. He acknowledged that adequate infrastructures would need to be put in place, the specific nature of which would depend on what both governments will agree on.

Traffic congestion on Macau's islands, and in particular around the Cotai Strip roundabouts, is also of great concern, lawmakers stressed.

Zheng Anting recalled that as a new wave of Cotai resorts takes shape, the number of people living in the area is likely to rise. "This will have a direct impact on traffic around Cotai," he said in his spoken enquiry.

The problem, he reiterated, is particularly severe when it comes to traffic surrounding Cotai's roundabouts. Secretary Rosário said that DSAT will maintain close communication with competent services to continuously monitor traffic on the Cotai Strip.

He revealed that the government commissioned a study to a consultancy company on traffic in Macau's islands between 2009 and 2010 in order to develop solutions to improve traffic in the area, namely by building viaducts or tunnels. The Secretary did not present the study's findings, but reiterated that some infrastructures currently under development for the LRT will be completed by the end of August or the beginning of September.

Pipe replacement works face obstacles

THE mobility of Macau residents is often challenged whenever construction work on underground utilities is underway. Although Raimundo do Rosario has ensured that the number of pipe replacement and repair works decreased over last year, lawmakers urged the government to implement measures that will accelerate the process.

In a spoken enquiry, Si Ka Lon asked the government whether it would consider building an underground utilities network both in Macau and in new reclaimed land areas, so that all electricity, water and gas companies can manage their own networks within the same place.

Mr Rosario, however, acknowledged that according to a study conducted by DSSOPT, it would be extremely difficult to build a single underground utilities network in Macau, given a lack of space, high population density and scarce land resources.

Nevertheless, he added that the government will consider building such a network within

the new reclaimed land areas that are currently under development.

The secretary acknowledged that often pipe replacement works are not completed within their deadlines. "I have stressed before that delays on completing these works are an even bigger issue than a budget overrun," he said, adding that, the government will ensure that contractors meet deadlines in the future.

Furthermore, the secretary recalled that newly introduced noise regulations have resulted in the banning of public works overnight.

Several lawmakers, however, raised further criticisms, recalling that residents often feel enraged over pipe replacement works and the problems associated with them.

"That's what people are most furious about: when one underground utilities work finishes, another soon begins," Au Kam San said. He called for further coordination between services to ease and speed up road works.

GALAXY TO BUILD OVERPASS NEAR ROUNDABOUT

THE SECRETARY for Transport and Public Works informed lawmakers yesterday that an overpass will be built to ease the traffic congestion surrounding the roundabout located near the Galaxy resort. Mr Rosário added that the gaming concessionaire will be responsible for the overpass construction works.

Fund-raising Oxfam Towerrun comes back in Sept



Ivan Sam Iat Fong (dressed in a green t-shirt) presents the event along with other members of the organization

THE Oxfam Towerrun charity race will make a comeback this fall at the Macau Tower, following "great support from the public" last year. Two local groups have already registered.

Organized by Oxfam's Hong Kong branch, the initiative aims to raise funds for a financial reserve dedicated to emergency relief works. This year's race will be held on September 13 again at the Macau Tower, one of the region's newest landmarks. The race will require the runners and donors to run up 1,298 flights of steps to the tower's main observation deck on level 61 in the individual full-race challenge. The organizer also welcomes group participation for

the team relay challenge, which involves the participation of four athletes in each team. For runners looking for a less demanding run, the organizer has introduced an additional half-race category to the game this year.

"We received great support from the public last year when the event was held for the first time; this year let's keep the event going on. It's very challenging to finish all the 1,298 steps, yet it's way harder to keep running on the poverty-relief road. Therefore, I invite everyone to support Oxfam in contributing to its success to better the poor's livelihood," advocated Ivan Sam Iat Fong, a member of the board of directors

of the NGO, during a press conference yesterday.

Oxfam expects a higher athlete turnout this year than the approximate 100 participants who completed the challenge last year, who contributed a total of HKD100,000 to the group's

charity actions. As a major sponsor for the event, AIA Group Limited promised to donate an extra HKD100 for every single race-finisher in its bid to encourage more runners to cross the finish line. The minimum donation amounts for the individual

full-race, half-race and group categories this year are MOP/HKD500, MOP/HKD300 and MOP/HKD5,000 respectively.

According to Oxfam's figures, there are currently over 60 million impoverished mainland Chinese children left behind in their grandparents' homes by their parents, who flock to other cities in search of work opportunities. This number is constantly on the rise.

The NGO was founded in 1976 and has branches set up worldwide. Last year, it invested HKD212 million in 932 charitable projects in 29 countries. **Staff reporter**

ONE SHOT NEWS



The 2015 instalment of the summer international exchange program co-organized by the Institute for Tourism Studies and Kendall College, held from June 22 to July 3, gave 13 students from Macau and Hong Kong a glimpse into the relationship between eco-awareness and tourism sustainability in Chicago.

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Customs seize 12,000 duty-unpaid cigarettes

MACAU Customs Service authorities seized roughly 12,000 duty-free cigarettes yesterday morning at different checkpoints in the city after the region's new tobacco tax bill, which allows people to bring fewer duty-free cigarettes to Macau, took effect yesterday.

The number of cigarettes confiscated in the 33 cases apprehended in the early hours of yesterday morning very much exceeds the usual quantity of 900 recorded every day, according to the public department. Following the act which was passed by the Legislative Assembly last Thursday, it was reported that the previous few days saw a surge in smuggled cigarettes, most of which have been found on mainland visitors arriving in the region.



A man smokes after exiting the Zhuhai-Macau border crossing

The Customs authorities reiterated their firm stance against any attempts at tobacco smuggling. "As usual, we enforce order in accordance with the laws and regulations. If anyone carries excess cigarettes into the city, which is against the law, we'd definitely press charges against them after taking the

set administrative procedures," warned Ao Kuan Cheong, the officer stationed at the Barrier Gate Checkpoint, adding that violators would be liable to a fine ranging from MOP5,000 to MOP100,000.

Under the new policy, only 19 cigarettes, down from 100, were allowed into the region through the immigration checkpoint. The region only accepts one cigar or 25 grams of other manufactured tobacco carried across the border.

In response to the fact that people might be unaware of revisions to the law, the authorities have set up four cigarette disposal units in the visitor waiting zone at the Border Gates checkpoint so that excess tobacco may be discarded. **Staff reporter**

Luxury goods sales dive



The sale of luxury goods decreased between 30 to 50 percent in the first half of the year, according to the Macau Importers and Exporters Association. However, the association chairman Dominic Sio expects business to stabilize in the second half of this year. During an interview by TDM, Mr Sio questioned the concrete steps taken in order to develop the regional platform between Portuguese-speaking countries and China. According to Sio, the MSAR lacks the customs clearance advantage currently afforded to neighbouring ports.

FTZ firms can borrow from SAR bank loans

QUALIFIED companies in the Nansha and Hengqin free trade zones can now borrow money from banks in Hong Kong and Macau, the Guangzhou branch of the People's Bank of China announced on Monday.

Under this cross-border renminbi loan business pilot scheme, companies and banks can determine their own loan period and interest rate.

Xinhua reported that companies can only use the fund to support production and construction projects within the FTZs or for their offshore business. The policy can help Chinese enterprises access cross-border financing channels and lower their financing cost, a representative of the PBoC said.

The measure is expected to support offshore

renminbi businesses in Hong Kong and Macau, and better promote financial services in the Pan-Pearl River Delta area, echoing the "One Belt, One Road" strategy. According to the People's Bank of China, the policy can generate useful opportunities to promote the internationalization of renminbi and the conversion of capital accounts.

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STATISTICS

Tourism growth touches lowest level in 12 years



THE Tourist Price Index (TPI) for the second quarter of 2015 has increased by 0.82 percent year-on-year to 134.61. According to Xinhua, it's the lowest increase in 12 years.

The Statistics and Census Service (DSEC) attributes the slim increase to rising charges for restaurant services (of which the index increased by over 5 percent) and higher prices of local food products. By contrast, the price index of accommodation has decreased by 2.82 percent year-on-year due to lower room rates for three-and four-star hotels.

DSEC further indicated that the TPI for the second quarter of the year dropped by 7.92 percent quarter-to-quarter.

The TPI reflects the price change of goods and services purchased by tourists. Sections of TPI goods and services are selected according to visitors' consumption trends.

'Autumn Salon 2015' open call for artworks

THE sixth edition of the "Autumn Salon" will be held in November at Casa Garden. The two organizers, the Orient Foundation and the Art for All Society (AFA), issued an open call for artists who live and work in Macau to present their contemporary art proposals. Appropriate media include paintings, printmaking, sculptures, photography, installations and video art.

Last year's "Autumn Salon" included 56 works from 31 local artists. According to the organizers, the "Autumn Salon" not only created a platform for the local artists in allowing them to learn from each other, but also provided a good opportunity for collectors so that they could easily bring their favorite artworks home.

All submissions will be reviewed and selected by a jury composed of representatives from the Orient Foundation and AFA with the addition of

invited local veteran artists. The finalists will be notified in mid-September. All application materials should be submitted before August 28th by post or email to AFA.

Furthermore, in order to encourage local young artists from the ages of 18 to 35 to pursue artistic endeavors, this year the Orient Foundation will continue to launch its Art Award. The winner will have the opportunity to visit Portugal in 2016 for a month as part of an artist residency – the total prize of MOP50,000 includes the airfare and accommodation. The 2014 winner Lai Sut Weng is now in Lisbon, Portugal for her one-month artist-in-residence program.

"Autumn Salon 2015" is partly sponsored by the Cultural Affairs Bureau. The opening of the exhibition will be held on Saturday, November 7 at Casa Garden, the local headquarters of the Orient Foundation. The exhibition will be open until November 30.



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Joe McDonald
Business Writer, Beijing

Global stocks uneven after Greece deal, China falters

GLOBAL stock markets were uneven yesterday after Greece agreed to a bailout that will enforce more austerity and China's main index fell after three days of gains driven by a massive government intervention.

GREECE RESPITE: Greece struck a preliminary rescue deal with other European Union governments that should avert an imminent financial catastrophe but guarantees years more hardship for its people. The agreement removes the immediate threat Greece would default on its debts and leave the euro. But in exchange for a three-year loan program, the Greek prime minister has to persuade skeptical legislators to pass tax increases and other key demands into law by today. Major markets in Europe rallied. Germany's DAX climbed 1.5 percent on Monday and France's CAC 40 surged 1.9 percent. Britain's FTSE 100 finished up 1 percent.

ANALYST'S TAKE: "Whether Greece has walked the plank to an economic and political collapse is still unknown," said Bernard Aw of IG Markets in a report. "While the agreement is definitely very positive for market sentiments, as the prospects of Grexit have signi-



A woman is reflected on an electric board which shows the Nikkei 225 stock index, center top, and other financial markets' indexes in Tokyo

ficantly reduced, this does not mean the odds are eliminated in the medium term. Firstly, Greek lawmakers still need to pass

the measures agreed upon into legislation. Secondly, political instability may surface if Tsipras loses his majority and a uni-

ty government is required. We would see a difficult road ahead. For now, calmer waters."

ASIA'S DAY: Tokyo's

Nikkei 225 rose 1.5 percent to 20,385.33 and Sydney's S&P ASX 200 advanced 1.9 percent to 5,577.40. The Shanghai Composite Index lost 1.2 percent to 3,924.49 after rising in the morning and Hong Kong's Hang Seng declined 0.4 percent to 25,120.91. South Korea's Kospi lost 0.1 percent to 2,059.23 and India's Sensex was up 0.1 percent at 27,980.90.

CHINA'S WOBBLE: The main Chinese index rose for three sessions through Monday following frantic government efforts to halt a slide that saw it tumble 30 percent over the past month. The Shanghai Composite Index still is down more than 20 percent from its June 12 peak. State-owned brokerages and government pension funds have pledged to buy stocks, and executives and big shareholders are barred from selling. Hundreds of companies have suspended trading in their shares. Analysts say it is unclear whether the market can hold up once temporary barriers to selling are relaxed. **AP**

Jaguar Land Rover lowers mainland sales target amid demand slump

JAGUAR Land Rover, the U.K. luxury-car unit of Tata Motors Ltd., cut its sales targets and prices in China amid slowing demand in the world's largest auto market. Tata Motors' stock fell.

The automaker has also adjusted output to stabilize retail prices and help dealers in China, Jaguar Land Rover said in an e-mailed response to questions. The starting price of its China-produced Evoque sport-uti-

lity vehicle was cut by 50,000 yuan (USD8,000) to 398,000 yuan from July 1, according to the company, which didn't give details of the new sales targets and supply cuts.

The steps come as China's state-backed auto association projected a slower pace of industrywide expansion and BMW AG's Chinese joint venture partner issued a profit warning. Jaguar Land Rover, which gets about a quarter of its sales from China, said

it's adjusting supply to dealers to ease inventory pressure, after deliveries there slumped 23 percent this year through May.

"Even though we have faced sales performance challenges in the first six months of 2015, we are making efforts to enter a new sustainable phase," Jaguar Land Rover said in the e-mail. "We are working with our dealer partners to jointly overcome challenges."

Sales are declining despite the ope-

ning of its first Chinese plant in October, which enables the automaker to produce vehicles locally and avoid import duties.

Shares of Tata Motors fell as much as 5.3 percent in Mumbai trading yesterday, while the benchmark S&P BSE Sensex was little changed. The shares were trading at 388.90 rupees, down 3.3 percent, as of 2:49 p.m., headed for their lowest level since March 2014. **Bloomberg**

corporate bits

JW MARRIOTT WINE SPECIALIST ANNOUNCED AS MACAU FINALIST OF BEST SOMMELIER GREATER CHINA



This week, JW Marriott Macau Wine Sommelier, Billy de Leon, beat nine other wine sommeliers to be

crowned the Champion at The Best Sommelier Greater China Competition (Macau Final) 2015, hosted by the Hong Kong Sommelier Association on July 6, 2015 at the Institute for Tourism Studies, Macau. Billy will go on to compete for the title of Best Sommelier Greater China against some of the top sommeliers from Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou and Hong Kong at the final event in Hong Kong in September 2015. Billy is no stranger to the title of Best Sommelier of Macau, having won the title of Macau finalist in the same competition in September 2013.

GEG DONATES BED SHEETS TO LOCAL ANIMAL CENTERS



Galaxy Entertainment Group ("GEG") consistently promotes the message of caring for abandoned animals and pays close attention to their living conditions. Therefore, GEG actively donated 1,000 clean bed sheets to local abandoned animal associations for their needs. GEG volunteers visited Ani-

ma Macau and the Abandoned Animals Protection Association of Macau, helping out with the daily operations of the associations and the lives of the abandoned animals.

GEG volunteers spread the bed sheets on tables, cleaned the animals' cages and had fun with them.

SHELL BONUS CARD ARRIVES IN MACAU

Shell has launched its Shell Bonus Card in Macau, introducing both fuel discounts and fuel rebates for local motorists.

From today onwards, drivers can visit any of the Shell stations in Macau and submit an application form to get a Shell Bonus Card on the spot. Motorists can then enjoy an instant offer of buying MOP10 to get a MOP1 fuel discount with the Shell Bonus Card.

To celebrate the launch, drivers can receive a pair of limited edition Shell sunshades upon successful application during the promotional period. The sunshades will be on a first-come-first-served basis while stocks last.

Apart from the instant offer, from July 15 to December 31



this year, all Shell Bonus Card holders are eligible for a rebate MOP50 fuel voucher upon reaching an accumulated refuel amount of MOP1,500 at Shell stations in Macau. Shell Bonus Card customers who refuel with Shell V-Power Nitro plus are entitled to 25 percent extra reward.



Uighurs living in Turkey chant slogans as they hold a Chinese flag before burning it during a protest near China's consulate in Istanbul, Sunday, July 5

Police say they fatally shot 3 Uighur terror suspects

Louise Watt, Beijing

POLICE in northeastern China said yesterday that they fatally shot three minority Muslim Uighurs in a confrontation with suspects they described as terrorists who were using knives to resist arrest.

Police also injured a fourth suspect during the incident Monday in Shenyang, the city police said in a statement on their microblog. A man who refused to identify himself at Shenyang police's criminal offenses office said the four were ethnic Uighurs.

A foreign-based spokesman for Uighurs said the people shot were among a group of Uighurs who were trying to flee China through its northern border.

Beijing has accused Uighur separatists of terrorism in Xinjiang

and elsewhere in China, including a knife attack at a train station in southwest Kunming city last year that killed 31 people. The government also has accused some of them of trying to go abroad to join international terrorist groups.

Uighurs have complained of harsh cultural and religious suppression as well as economic marginalization in Xinjiang, where ethnic violence has left hundreds of people dead. A report by Human Rights Watch on Monday said Uighurs were among ethnic minorities in China that found it difficult to get a passport because of a two-track system that subjected residents in certain areas to application delays of up to five years.

The police statement said that during Monday's incident, "four violent terrorists resisted

arrest by wielding knives, so to prevent any harm to society, police quickly decided to shoot them. Three were killed and one was injured."

It said that no bystanders were injured or killed, and that investigations were continuing.

Dilxat Raxit, spokesman for the Munich-based World Uyghur Congress, which advocates Uighur rights, said that according to local sources, the suspects shot Monday were among dozens of Uighurs who had been rounded up and arrested as they were trying to flee abroad through China's northern border.

"China shot dead those who resisted," he said. "China's barbarian policy of shooting people dead before judicial interrogation should be prevented by the international community." AP

College kid's secret stock trade shows mainland's moral hazard

LU Tao can't sleep. He gets bouts of panic at night. And he's too afraid to tell his parents why.

The 23-year-old university student in Hangzhou has a stock-market problem. He borrowed 200,000 yuan (USD32,215) from mom and dad, piled the money into mainland shares without their permission, and got caught in the biggest sell-off in two decades.

At first, Lu considered liquidating his holdings and owning up to the losses. But now that China's government has arrived to rescue the market, he's decided to bear the sleepless nights, keep his parents in the dark and stay invested.

"I won't exit," he says. "I still see value and I believe government policies will safeguard it."

Lu's unwavering faith in Chinese policy makers illustrates the growing risk of moral hazard in the world's second-largest stock market, an unintended side effect of government efforts to halt a \$3.9 trillion selloff. While the support measures have helped spark a 13 percent rally in the Shanghai Composite Index over the past three days, the risk is that investors come to view the market as a one-way bet - fueling bubbles that authorities may struggle to control.

"You don't want to give the market the impression that whenever it comes down, you'll be there," said Tai Hui, the Hong Kong-based chief Asia market strategist at JPMorgan Asset Management, which oversees about \$1.7 trillion.

The moral hazard problem is particularly acute in China because authorities stepped in at a time when stock valuations were still expensive, said Francis Cheung, a strategist at CLSA Ltd. in Hong Kong. At 60, the median price-to-earnings ratio on mainland bourses is higher than in any of the world's 10 largest markets. The ratio was 68 at the peak of China's equity bubble in

2007, data compiled by Bloomberg show.

"The government is in a dilemma," Cheung said by e-mail. "They promoted the market on its way up, and now that it has crashed, there are investor expectations that the government will rescue them."

Policy makers have gone to unprecedented lengths to prop up stocks. They banned large shareholders from selling stakes, ordered state-run institutions to buy equities, allowed the central bank to finance stock purchases and let more than half of companies on mainland exchanges halt trading.

Bulls are using the measures to justify investing in shares. Chen Xiaofei, an investment adviser at Changjiang Securities Co. in Shanghai, tells margin-trading clients - some sitting on losses of as much as 60 percent - to stick with their positions because state support will lead to a rally.

"In China, once the government is acting, there's no difficulty we cannot get over," Chen said.

Of course, China isn't the only country with a history of intervention in markets. Hong Kong authorities bought \$15 billion of shares to prop up prices during the Asian financial crisis in 1998, while the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission temporarily banned short selling on some stocks during the global financial crisis seven years ago.

In China's market, not everyone is willing to wager on the rescue effort. Meng Zhang, a university student studying human resources in the U.S., liquidated her holdings of mainland equities as the Shanghai Composite started to fall in June. She has no plans to re-enter the market, saying real estate is a better bet.

"There is no logic in the stock market," Meng said. "There's too much risk." Bloomberg



State media slams human rights lawyers as rabble-rousers

Didi Tang, Beijing

CHINA'S state media yesterday accused more than two dozen human rights attorneys rounded up in recent days of being troublemakers intent on illegal activism as foreign governments and rights groups expressed growing concern over the arrests.

In its latest tally late Monday, the human rights watchdog Amnesty International said 25 human rights lawyers and civil activists had been detained or were missing in the crackdown since last Thursday. Dozens more have been warned not to speak up or act on behalf of those detained.

The crackdown targets Chinese lawyers who have joined hands with civil activists in publicizing alleged unlawful practices by police and courts, drawing public attention to wrongful cases, disputing official narrations of controversial events and challenging authorities to follow the letter of the law.

Human Rights Watch researcher Maya Wang said the human rights lawyers had helped build a civil society in China over the past decade to hold authorities accountable, and that the crackdown was part of a "methodological dismantling" of that civil society since Chinese President Xi Jinping came to power.

The U.S. state department condemned the detentions earlier this week and called for the release of the lawyers, who it said were "seeking to protect



A woman is reflected on glass as she reads a Global Times newspaper story about detained human rights lawyers in Beijing

the rights of Chinese citizens." China's nationalist newspaper Global Times responded yesterday by calling the U.S. criticism uncomfortable but inconsequential — like having "chewing gum stuck to your shoe" — and said it was up to Chinese courts to decide whether the lawyers

cy said lawyers should uphold the law, not engage in "rabble-rousing" and "mob rule." Many of the detained lawyers belong to Beijing law firm Fengrui, which has defended many human rights activists and practitioners of the banned spiritual group Falun Gong.

The Global Times called U.S. criticism uncomfortable but inconsequential — like having 'chewing gum stuck to your shoe'

acted illegally. Other state media reports depicted the lawyers as a group of self-promoters intent on spreading rumors and arranging protests outside court venues. The official state Xinhua news agen-

Other detainees have defended dissident artist Ai Weiwei and Uighur scholar Ilham Tohti. The Public Security Ministry accused the lawyers of disrupting public order, seeking illegal profits, illegally hiring pro-

testers and trying to unfairly influence the courts, Xinhua said, saying there have been more than 40 such controversial incidents since July 2012.

The group of human rights lawyers and civil activists has been defined as a major crime gang, which the ministry claimed to have destroyed through a coordinated operation, Xinhua said.

Authorities have considered human rights lawyers a thorn in the side of the state for some time. Last year, state media began to question the reputations of many of the lawyers, saying they were more interested in seeking publicity than practicing their trade inside the courtroom.

A trigger for the crackdown may have been a May police shooting case in which members of the Chinese public ques-

tioned whether an officer acted properly in drawing a gun and fatally shooting an unarmed but irate man inside a train station in northeastern China.

Wu Gan, an activist with ties to the Fengrui firm known for his raucous but effective methods, was able to obtain a video clip showing the police officer beating up the man. Rights lawyers offered legal opinions, and liberal intellectuals wrote commentaries demanding that the authorities be held accountable in conducting an investigation.

To defend the police officer, authorities released further video footage of the incident highlighting the erratic and violent behavior on the part of the man prior to the shooting. Still, public doubts about the power of activists to thwart the official narrative.

Wu was detained on May 20 when rallying public support for a separate case in southern China. He's been arrested on charges of inciting to overthrow state power as well as libel and provoking trouble.

Wu was nominally an employee of Fengrui, as an administrative assistant, though it's unclear what work he did for the firm and how he was paid. Such an arrangement for activists by people who are sympathetic with their causes is not unheard of in China.

Zhou Shifeng, the firm's head, praised Wu for his effectiveness just one day before Zhou himself was forcibly taken away by police. AP

Beijing urges Philippines to ditch its South China Sea case

CHINA urged the Philippines yesterday to ditch its attempt to solve South China Sea territorial disputes with an international tribunal and instead negotiate with Beijing directly, following the arbitration panel's latest request for input from China.

The Philippines has asked the tribunal in The Hague to declare China's claims to virtually all the South China Sea invalid, saying Beijing's actions have trampled on other nations' rights.

China contends the tribunal doesn't have jurisdiction, and has refused to participate. The tribunal, which operates under the U.N. Convention of the Law of the Sea, held a weeklong hearing ending Monday to address China's contention. It said that Beijing has until Aug. 17 to comment on the hearing, and that it should make a ruling on the issue this year.

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Hua Chunying yesterday reiterated China's opposition

to the arbitration, and said China "will never accept the unilateral attempts to turn to a third party to solve the disputes."

"China urges the Philippines to come back to the right track of resolving disputes through negotiation and consultation," she said in a statement.

The Philippines praised the tribunal's effort to prod China again to join the case, saying the five-man arbitration body has been fair and trans-

parent in its handling of Manila's complaints against Beijing.

"We have asked China to participate and we continue to extend the invitation for them to explain their side," Philippine Department of Foreign Affairs spokesman Charles Jose said by phone in Manila.

China, the Philippines, Brunei, Malaysia, Vietnam and Taiwan have been contesting ownership of the resource-rich South China Sea. The United States and other



A protester wears a shirt printed with the late Chinese leader Mao Zedong as he joins a protest at the Chinese Consulate at the financial district of Makati city, east of Manila

countries have expressed concerns over China's island-building in the region that they say has been provocative and has damaged vast coral reefs

in the disputed waters. Beijing says fears that it would eventually limit freedom of navigation and overflight to back its claims are unfounded. AP

THAILAND

Trial begins for journalists charged with defaming navy

Thanyarat Dokson, Phuket

TESTIMONY began yesterday in a criminal defamation lawsuit filed by Thailand's navy against a small news website over a report it posted saying naval forces accepted money to assist or turn a blind eye to the trafficking of refugees from Myanmar by sea.

The navy also accused two journalists from the Phuketwan website with violating Thailand's Computer Crime Act by publishing the article online. If found guilty, Australian editor Alan Morison and his Thai colleague Chutima Sidasathien could each face up to seven years in prison and fines totaling 300,000 baht (USD8,815).

The case has drawn widespread criticism from human rights and press freedom groups around the world.

The case came to trial following the discovery in May of dozens of bodies buried at several jungle camps on the Thai-Malaysian border where traffickers held migrants as prisoners. Many of the migrants are ethnic Rohingya from Myanmar who face persecution at home. In many cases, the migrants pay to be smuggled by ship, but are then detained by traffickers in Thailand who hold them until their families pay ransoms.

Human rights activists and foreign governments have long accused Thai authorities of collusion in the trafficking industry, but police, military and



Alan Morison, Australian editor of the website Phuketwan, sits at his desk ahead of his appearance in court to face charges of violating Thailand's Computer Crime Act in Phuket

government officials have denied the allegations.

However, the recent publicity about the camps prompted a Thai government crackdown on

Phuketwan had been reporting extensively on the Rohingya boat people for seven years

trafficking, and several dozen people were arrested, including a Thai army general and local officials.

The U.S. State Department

downgraded Thailand in its 2014 Trafficking in Persons report, designating it as a country that has not made sufficient progress in tackling human trafficking. It recommended that Thailand stop bringing criminal defamation cases against researchers or journalists who report on human trafficking.

The New York-based literary and rights advocacy group PEN American Center urged the Thai government to "refocus its energies on curbing collusion in human rights abuses by members of its own navy, rather than frivolous attempts to camouflage them by shackling the press."

The contested report on the Phuketwan website was excerpted from an extensive story published by the international news agency Reuters in July

2013. The Reuters story was one of a series about persecution of the Rohingya that won the agency the 2014 Pulitzer Prize for international reporting.

The trial's first witness, Capt. Pallop Komalodaka, said the navy also filed a lawsuit against Reuters, but that case remains with the prosecutor's office pending any further action.

Phuketwan earlier said most of the legal costs of the case are being met by the London-based Media Legal Defense Initiative. But the navy's action threatens to sink the website, it said.

"Our reporting on vital matters about Phuket and Thailand will come to an end next week and may never resume," it said. "Phuketwan's future is uncertain because of a highly controversial criminal defamation action."

Morison, 67, a native of Melbourne, Australia, said he believes the case was filed because Phuketwan had been reporting extensively on the Rohingya boat people for seven years, "and a couple of officers within the service have just become annoyed, perhaps a little paranoid and reacted in a strange way."

"More than once we've been asked to apologize and we've resisted that at every opportunity," he told The Associated Press, describing the lawsuit as "a vindictive overreaction."

Capt. Pallop said the navy had talked with Phuketwan over the possibility of dropping the defamation charges, but the negotiations failed.

"We had asked them to hold a press conference to apologize publicly for the article, but they said they would only express regrets. Therefore, a deal wasn't struck," he testified.

He said the allegations against the navy had been investigated and "so far we have not found any wrongdoing."

Thai courts rarely rule against the military, which is in an even stronger position than usual since staging a coup in May last year that deposed an elected civilian government.

The court is expected to set a date for the verdict after three days of testimony from witnesses this week.

"The real message of this trial to Thailand's journalists is report at your own risk because big brother in Bangkok is watching — but fortunately, when they went after Alan and Chutima, the navy and the ruling military junta came up against two courageous journalists who are not afraid to fight for their principles," Phil Robertson, deputy director of the Asia Division of Human Rights Watch, said yesterday. "They deserve the international community's unstinting support." AP

KOREAS

Seoul sends 2 North Korean fishermen back home

Kim Tong-hyung, Seoul

SOUTH Korea said yesterday that it had sent back two North Korean fishermen who were rescued earlier this month from South Korean waters.

The two fishermen were returned through the border village of Panmunjom, where they were greeted by North Korean officials and relatives, said an official from Seoul's Unification Ministry, who didn't want to be named, citing office rules.

Seoul has rejected the North's demands to return three other fishermen from the same boat. Seoul says they wanted to defect to the South. The ministry official said those three fishermen were receiving resettlement training.

The five fishermen's damaged boat



In this photo provided by the Unification Ministry, an unidentified North Korean fisherman, center, crosses the borderline at the border village of Panmunjom

was found drifting in waters near South Korea's Ulleung island on July 4. North Korea's official Korean Central News Agency called South Korea's decision not to return the three fishermen an "unforgivable infringement" of human rights and an "extremely evil" provocation.

The two Koreas are still technically at war because the 1950-53 Korean War ended with an armistice, not a peace treaty.

Tensions between the countries have increased recently over the opening of a U.N. office in Seoul tasked with monitoring human rights in North Korea, and the North's detainment of several South Koreans, including two who were sentenced to life in prison last month on charges of spying for the South. AP

Omer Farooq, Hyderabad

INDIA

Stampede kills 27 during religious bathing festival

AT least 27 people were killed and dozens injured yesterday in a stampede during a Hindu religious bathing festival on a river bank in southern India.

The stampede occurred in Andhra Pradesh state as tens of thousands of people pushed forward to bathe in the Godavari River on the first day of the Pushkaralu festival, said Arun Kumar, a state administrator.

The stampede was triggered by some pilgrims who were trying to retrieve their shoes, which had fallen off in the rush to the river bank, police said.

Kumar said the incident, which occurred in the town of Rajahmundry, happened not long after the 12-day bathing festival started in the early morning hours.

Andhra Pradesh's chief minister, Chandrababu Naidu, said 27 people died in the stampede.

An additional 34 people were hospitalized with injuries, Kumar said.

Festival participants believe a bath in the river can rid them of their sins, and many believe it is more auspicious to bathe on the festival's first day.

V. Satyanarayana, a pilgrim who was at the site, said the stampede lasted nearly 20 minutes.

"It was a frightening situation, with women and children crying for help," he said. "The policemen on duty were helpless and it took more than an hour to bring the situation under control."

With the bodies of victims lying around, relatives wailed

AP PHOTO



Hindu priests offer a prayer for monsoon rains at the Osman Sagar lake on the outskirts of Hyderabad

and cried for help.

Some pilgrims said ambulances took time to reach the site because the roads were overcrowded with people.

Officials said that a small place like Rajahmundry could not cope with the rush of hundreds of thousands of people, and that the situation became almost unmanageable.

Thousands of pilgrims, riding

in buses, trains and other vehicles, started reaching the pilgrimage center two days ahead of the start of the festival.

"There is a false belief that taking a holy dip in the river on the first day of the festival will be more auspicious," said Swamy Swaroopanand, a Hindu holy man. "It's the same as taking dip on any other day."

Indian Prime Minister Naren-

dra Modi expressed grief over the tragedy, tweeting that he was "deeply pained" by it.

Rajahmundry is 450 kilometers east of Hyderabad, the joint capital of Andhra Pradesh and newly created Telangana state.

About 24 million people are expected to take part in the festival at varying points along the Godavari River, which flows

through the two states.

Deadly stampedes are fairly common during Indian religious festivals, where large crowds gather in small areas with few safety or crowd control measures.

In October 2013, a stampede in Madhya Pradesh state in central India killed more than 110 people, mostly women and children. **AP**

SOUTH KOREA

Spy agency explored technology to hack chat app

Kim Tong-hyung, Seoul

SOUTH Korea's beleaguered spy agency has acknowledged exploring the purchase of technologies to intercept communications on the popular Kakao Talk smartphone chatting service, but maintains it only intended to strengthen its monitoring of rival North Korean agents, not South Koreans, lawmakers said yesterday.

The revelation is sensitive because the country's spy agency has a history of illegally tapping South Koreans' phone conversations.

National Intelligence Service chief Lee Byoung Ho told legislators in a closed-door briefing that the agency bought hacking programs from



A woman uses the Kakao Corp. messaging app KakaoTalk on a smartphone in Seoul

an Italian company, Hacking Team, in 2012 that were designed to intercept information from cellphones and computers, according to details released to reporters by the office of lawmaker Shin Kyung-min, who attended the meeting.

Lee didn't indicate whether

the agency obtained the technology for hacking Kakao, but he acknowledged that it asked Hacking Team about getting such technology, according to Shin's office.

The spy agency didn't immediately return calls seeking comment.

Lee said the hacking

programs bought from Hacking Team would be ineffective for spying on civilians because the NIS only received enough to monitor 20 different devices at once. He said the programs have been used mainly for research as the country looks to strengthen its cyberwarfare capabilities against North Korea, which Seoul blames for repeatedly attacking Internet networks and stealing information from computers, Shin's office said.

Lee also told lawmakers that the programs the NIS purchased from Hacking Team were used by 97 intelligence and investigation agencies in 35 countries around the world.

Kakao Talk is a free mobile chatting app that is used by 38 million people

at least once a month in South Korea. Kane Lee, a spokesman for Daum Kakao Corp. which operates Kakao Talk, said the company's servers have never been breached. However, Lee said there are hacking tools that could infiltrate mobile devices without going through the servers.

The story emerged earlier this month when a searchable library of a massive email trove stolen from Hacking Team, released by WikiLeaks, showed South Korean entities were among those dealing with the Italian surveillance firm.

Two previous NIS directors, who successively headed the spy service from 1999 and 2003, were convicted and received suspended prison ter-

ms for overseeing the monitoring of mobile phone conversations of about 1,800 of South Korea's political, corporate and media elite.

Earlier this year, another former NIS chief was sentenced to three years in prison after being found guilty of ordering an illicit online campaign to support then-ruling party candidate and current President Park Geun-hye ahead of the 2012 presidential election.

The spy service has previously countered that its agents were only trying to cope with North Korean cyberwarfare by posting comments meant to counter messages that praised the North and spread groundless rumors about South Korean government policies. **AP**

George Jahn and Matthew Lee,
Vienna

IRAN NUCLEAR TALKS

After hard negotiation, historic deal reached

AFTER 18 days of intense and often fractious negotiation, world powers and Iran struck a landmark deal yesterday to curb Iran's nuclear program in exchange for billions of dollars in relief from international sanctions — an agreement designed to avert the threat of a nuclear-armed Iran and another U.S. military intervention in the Muslim world.

The accord will keep Iran from producing enough material for an atomic weapon for at least 10 years and impose new provisions for inspections of Iranian facilities, including military sites. And it marks a dramatic break from decades of animosity between the United States and Iran, countries that alternatively call each other the “leading state sponsor of terrorism” and the “the Great Satan.”

The deal “is not built on trust, it is built on verification,” President Barack Obama declared from the White House.

He spoke moments after the formal announcement of the so-called Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, whose completion comes after more than two weeks of furious diplomacy during which negotiators blew through three self-imposed deadlines. The top American and Iranian diplomats both threatened at points to walk away from the talks.

Yesterday in Vienna, however, all sides hailed the outcome. Announcing the accord, Federica Mogherini, the European Union's foreign policy chief, said diplomats “delivered on what the world was hoping

AP PHOTO



From left to right, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi, French Foreign Minister Laurent Fabius, German Foreign Minister Frank Walter Steinmeier, European Union High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Federica Mogherini, Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif, Head of the Iranian Atomic Energy Organization Ali Akbar Salehi, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov, British Foreign Secretary Philip Hammond, U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry and U.S. Secretary of Energy Ernest Moniz pose for a group picture at the United Nations building in Vienna

for — a shared commitment to peace and to join our hands to make our world safer.» The deal, she said, ensures that Iran's nuclear program «will be exclusively peaceful.»

In a final negotiating session with his counterparts from the

United States, Britain, China, France, Germany and Russia, Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif said, “We are reaching an agreement that is not perfect for anybody, but it is what we could accomplish, and it is an

important achievement for all of us. Today could have been the end of hope on this issue. But now we are starting a new chapter of hope.”

The breakthrough came after several key compromises.

Iran agreed to the continua-

tion of a U.N. arms embargo on the country for up to five more years, though it could end earlier if the International Atomic Energy Agency definitively clears Iran of any current work on nuclear weapons. A similar condition was put on U.N. restrictions on the transfer of ballistic missile technology to Tehran, which could last for up to eight more years, according to diplomats.

Washington had sought to maintain the ban on Iran importing and exporting weapons, concerned that an Islamic Republic flush with cash from the nuclear deal would expand its military assistance for Syrian President Bashar Assad's government, Yemen's Houthi rebels, the Lebanese militant group Hezbollah and other forces opposing America's Mideast allies such as Saudi Arabia and Israel.

Iranian leaders insisted the embargo had to end as their forces combat regional scourges such as the Islamic State. And they got some support from China and particularly Russia, which wants to expand military cooperation and arms sales to Tehran, including the long-delayed transfer of S-300 advanced air defense systems — a move long opposed by the United States.

The deal is a “bad mistake of historic proportions,” Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said yesterday, adding that it would enable Iran to “continue to pursue its aggression and terror in the region.”

Sunni Arab rivals of Shiite Iran are none too happy, either, with Saudi Arabia in particular issuing veiled threats to develop its own nuclear program. **AP**

SPACE

Ready for its close-up: First ship to explore Pluto

Marcia Dunn, Aerospace
Writer, Cape Canaveral

NASA'S New Horizons spacecraft was expected to get up-close and personal with Pluto yesterday, on track to zoom within 12,500 kilometers of the small icy world left unexplored until now.

It's the final destination on NASA's planetary tour of the solar system, which began more than a half-century ago. Pluto was still a full-fledged planet when New Horizons rocketed away in 2006, only to become demoted to dwarf status later that year.

The 5-billion-kilometer journey from Cape Canaveral, Florida, was set

AP PHOTO



This July 11 image provided by NASA shows Pluto from the New Horizons spacecraft

to culminate yesterday at 1149 GMT. That's when the spacecraft was due to fly past Pluto at 50,000 kph.

The New Horizons team gathered at Johns Hopkins University's Applied Physics Laboratory in Laurel, Maryland, won't know for many hours if everything went well. The spacecraft will be too busy taking photographs and collecting information to “phone home.” A confirmation signal is expected at around 0100 GMT today.

New Horizons has already beamed back the best-ever images of Pluto and big moon Charon. Pluto also has four little moons.

With less than two hours and 80,000 kilo-

meters remaining until closest approach, NASA Administrator Charles Bolden noted again and again that the United States is the only country to visit every single planet in the solar system. (Pluto was planet No. 9 when New Horizons blasted off.)

“It's a huge morning, a huge day not just for NASA but for the United States,” said an ecstatic Bolden from NASA headquarters in Washington.

The pictures already gathered by New Horizons are “mind-boggling to put it mildly,” Bolden said. Pluto has proven to be bigger and redder than anyone imagined, he said, and the data may put the faraway world back in the

primary planet lineup.

Principal scientist Alan Stern told reporters Monday that “The Pluto system is enchanting in its strangeness, its alien beauty.”

Discovered in 1930, Pluto is the largest object in the so-called Kuiper Belt, considered the third zone of the solar system after the inner rocky planets and outer gaseous ones. This unknown territory is a shooting gallery of comets and other small bodies.

An extension of the USD720 million mission, not yet approved, could have New Horizons flying past another much smaller Kuiper Belt object, before departing the solar system. **AP**

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TIME: 10:30am-6:30pm (Closed on Mondays)
UNTIL: August 31, 2015
VENUE: 10 Fantasia - A Creative Industries
Incubator, 10, Calçada da Igreja de S.Lázaro, Macau
ADMISSION: Free
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2835 4582

PATH AND ADVENTURE
- WORKS BY MIO PANG FEI
TIME: 10am-7pm
(Closed on Mondays, no admission after 6:30 pm)
UNTIL: November 22, 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

SHIWAN CERAMICS EXHIBITION
TIME: 10am-7pm
(Closed on Mondays, no admission after 6:30 pm)
UNTIL: July 19, 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

TEA CULTURE HOUSE
TIME: 9am-7pm daily
(Closed on Mondays, open on public holidays)
VENUE: Macau Tea Culture House, Lou Lim Ioc
Garden, Avenida do Conselheiro Ferreira de Almeida
ADMISSION: Free
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2882 7103 / 2858 6250

Offbeat

BRAZIL'S HOTTEST YOUTUBE STAR IS A BLUE CHICKEN. NEXT STOP: USA

Brazil's biggest YouTube star is a blue spotted hen named Galinha Pintadinha – Lottie Dottie in English – and she's out to take over the world. At least, that's how it feels to parents in Brazil.

The cartoon juggernaut is to Brazilian toddlers what Justin Bieber is to tween girls. Her Portuguese-language YouTube channel featuring traditional children's songs has been viewed more than 1.8 billion times, which works out to almost 10 views for every single man, woman and child in Brazil.

The chicken's rise to stardom – co-creators Juliano Prado and Marcos Luporini first posted the cartoon on YouTube and it took off by word of mouth, generating about USD600 million in revenue last year – shows the power of online media and the growing influence of the Latino market, said Devra Prywes, a vice president at online advertising technology company Unruly.

"If you have quality content, kids don't care if you're working out of your garage making content, or if you're Disney," Prywes said in a telephone interview. "Social video and online video – it's the great equalizer."

Last year, licensing of the cartoon's image earned more in revenue than products bearing the names of billionaire Donald Trump, celebrity chef Wolfgang Puck and Ferrari, according to License! Global, a news website that tracks licensing trends. Walt Disney Co., which owns the right to hundreds of characters from Frozen's Princesses Anna and Elsa to Spiderman and Luke Skywalker, earned \$45 billion, the most of any company.

In Brazil, Galinha Pintadinha hocks tablets, shoes and toothpaste. Giant fuzzy versions of her and her friends – a lying cockroach and a frog that refuses to wash his feet, to name a few -- serenade party-goers at first birthday celebrations.

Privately held Bromelia Producoes Ltda, the 12-person production company founded by Prado and Luporini, has held talks to sell all or part of the company, and is developing a TV show, the two animators said in an interview. Already, the videos are available on Netflix, with English translations being rolled out this year.

TV canal macau

13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:30	RTPi Live
18:20	The Illusionist (Repeated)
19:10	TDM Interview (Repeated)
19:40	Soap Opera
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	Montra do Lilau
21:40	Documentaries
22:10	The Illusionist
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Miscellaneous
00:05	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)

cinema

CINETEATRO

09 Jul - 15 Jul



MINIONS_
ROOM 1
(2D) 2.15, 4.00, 9.30 pm
(3D) 7.45 pm
Director: Pierre Coffin, Kyle Balda
Language: Cantonese (Chinese/English)
Duration: 91min

TED 2_
ROOM 1
7.30 pm
Director: Seth MacFarlane
Starring: Mark Wahlberg, Amanda Seyfried,
Morgan Freeman
Language: English (Chinese)
Duration: 115min

POLTERGEIST_
ROOM 2
(2D) 2.15, 6.00, 9.30 pm
(3D) 7.45 pm
Director: Gil Kenan
Starring: Sam Rockwell, Rosemarie DeWitt,
Kennedi Clements
Language: English (Chinese)
Duration: 93min

TED 2_
ROOM 2
4.00 pm
Director: Seth MacFarlane
Starring: Mark Wahlberg, Amanda Seyfried,
Morgan Freeman
Language: English (Chinese)
Duration: 115min

TERMINATOR: GENISYS_
ROOM 3
(2D) 2.30, 4.45, 9.30pm
(3D) 7.15
Director: Alan Taylor
Starring: Arnold Schwarzenegger, Jason Clarke,
Emilia Clarke
Language: English (Chinese)
Duration: 120min

MACAU TOWER

02 Jul - 15 Jul

TERMINATOR: GENISYS_
2.30, 4.45, 7.15, 9.30 pm
Director: Alan Taylor
Starring: Arnold Schwarzenegger, Jason Clarke,
Emilia Clarke
Language: English (Chinese)
Duration: 125min

this day in history



1971 SEALS SHOT BY GOVERNMENT DECREE

The British Government has endorsed a cull of baby seals in the Wash.

Under the Conservation of Seals Act 1970, the Home Office is allowing five fishermen to kill 350 seal pups off the Lincolnshire coast by the end of next week.

The new legislation is aimed at protecting the seal population from over-crowding and being killed indiscriminately.

Using motorised dinghies and high-powered rifles, the hunters have already killed 120 pups - aged one to three weeks - since they started three days ago.

Each expedition is monitored by the National Environment Research Council.

Seal shooter Tom Lineham said: "We are satisfied. Some of the pelts are very good. But I think we could have shot at least 100 more seals without any impact on the herds."

Sealing can be a lucrative business for the fishermen who can expect to make up to £12 per pelt. They are mainly traded in Scandinavia where they are made into handbags and coats. The carcasses are used for dog food or maggot-breeding.

The Universities Federation for Animal Welfare is concerned about illicit trading of live baby seals worth between £40 and £100 each.

The Federation's director, Major Walter Scott, said: "I have absolutely no doubt that there is traffic in seals. I am perturbed because there are more than 100 zoos in the United Kingdom and if each bought four or five seals it could have a serious effect on the number in the Wash."

He has also asked the government to ban hunting in areas easily accessible to the public.

The Wash is home to 5,000 common seals in 30 colonies and about 1,400 pups are born each year.

The National Trust is concerned about grey seals over-populating the Farne Islands off Northumberland and will announce in August whether culling should be enforced there.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

In August 1971 the National Trust announced that 3,000 grey seal calves and their mothers were to be killed on the Farne Islands over three years.

It was the biggest ever cull undertaken by the National Trust to address the problems of over-crowding.

Seal culls were banned in 1978 after a public outcry when seal pups were shown being slaughtered on television.

In 2001 Scottish fishermen claimed that the growing grey seal population was depleting their fish stocks and demanded a return to culling. The Scottish Wildlife Trust pointed to other reasons and suggested a change in fishery policy.

Seals may only be killed where they directly interfere with fish catches.

YOUR STARS

Aries Mar. 21-Apr. 19 Finances have a way of defining your life, and they're forcing you to reassess your values.

Taurus April 20-May 20 Cutting back on spending money suits you more than you thought. It's like going on a diet or working out.

Gemini May 21-Jun. 21 Some things require more than concentration. All the deep focus you can muster won't make a dent in business matters.

Cancer Jun. 22-Jul. 22 Get back to basics. You'd love to socialize, but dinner out is just not in the budget.

Leo Jul. 23-Aug. 22 Save your energy. Putting on airs is futile on a budget like yours. But you have plenty of what really counts, and remember that the things in life with real value don't need to be flaunted.

Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22 It's a shame that the economy isn't causing any real soul searching. That's because it doesn't take much research to realize that some fortunes were built on houses of cards, and why.

Libra Sep.23-Oct. 22 So you're not on the same page; don't let that make you lose your cool. You and the market don't have to be in perfect harmony to make beautiful music together.

Scorpio Oct. 23 - Nov. 21 You're about to admit defeat. That's fine for this particular contest, because the bigger challenges lie ahead. So conserve your money and energy.

Sagittarius Nov. 22-Dec. 21 You would have an easier time dealing with this if you knew how long it would last. But since you don't, frugality stretches on before you forever.

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19 Even deep discounts aren't making luxuries affordable. Discipline and perseverance are the only things that will help you weather the storm, not indulgence.

Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 18 Bored? Then you're not paying attention. It may sound strange, but the economy has a lot to teach you, so pay attention to subtle changes as well as the glaringly obvious one.

Pisces Feb.19-Mar. 20 Cooking, poetry and finance actually have a lot in common. Put on your chef's hat and apron and get to work cooking up something profitable, and tastefully done.

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Easy

9x9 grid for Easy Sudoku puzzle with some numbers filled in.

Easy+

9x9 grid for Easy+ Sudoku puzzle with some numbers filled in.

Medium

9x9 grid for Medium Sudoku puzzle with some numbers filled in.

Hard

9x9 grid for Hard Sudoku puzzle with some numbers filled in.

WEATHER

Table with columns: MIN, MAX, CONDITION

CHINA

Table listing weather conditions for various Chinese cities like Beijing, Harbin, Tianjin, etc.

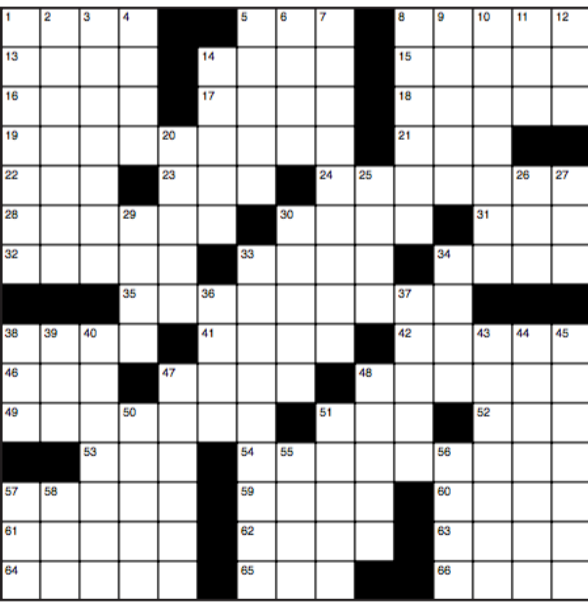
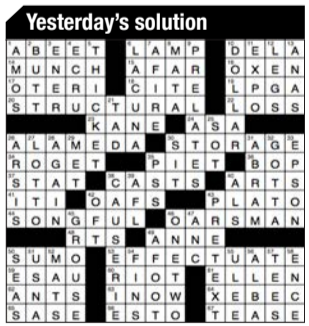
WORLD

Table listing weather conditions for world cities like Moscow, Frankfurt, Paris, London, New York.

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Plays a part; 5- Tuck's partner; 8- Fathers; 13- Fellow; 14- Slammin' Sammy; 15- Hives; 16- Yarn; 17- Shank; 18- Hinge; 19- Halfway between the bow and the stern; 21- Compass pt.; 22- Hit on the head; 23- Doctors' org.; 24- Fallibility; 28- Deceives; 30- Highbrow; 31- Indian holiday resort; 32- Sontag composition; 33- Tale; 34- Need a bath desperately; 35- Fraternal; 38- Even ___ speak...; 41- Animal house; 42- Father of Leah and Rachel; 46- Louis XIV, e.g.; 47- Smooth-talking; 48- Contrive; 49- Word with family or winter; 51- Religious sch.; 52- Bigger than med.; 53- ___Tiki; 54- Irregular; 57- Elite group; 59- Q.E.D. part; 60- And others. Abbr.; 61- More reasonable; 62- "M'A'S'H" star; 63- Sat on the back of a horse; 64- Wrathful; 65- Female rabbit; 66- Till stack;

DOWN: 1- Fit for the stage; 2- Agile goat antelope; 3- Clubfoot; 4- Floored it; 5- Water wheel; 6- The jig ___; 7- Wayfarer; 8- Majestic; 9- One of Chekhov's "Three Sisters"; 10- Payback; 11- Tokyo, formerly; 12- Barfly; 14- Doofus; 20- Nymph chaser; 25- Stadium din; 26- Cedar Rapids college; 27- Tibetan beast; 29- Kemo ___; 30- Indian term of respect; 33- Top of a staircase; 34- Tatum's dad; 36- Stewpot; 37- South American ruminant; 38- Prince Valiant's son; 39- Slightest bit of money; 40- Material for wicks; 43- Lake in W Hungary; 44- Raise the level; 45- Teases; 47- Well-bred people; 48- Bombay-born conductor; 50- One in second, say; 51- One in a black suit; 55- Woody's kid; 56- Goose egg; 57- ___ rule; 58- PC linkup



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Fire department 28 572 222
Water Supply - Report 1990 992
PJ (Open line) 993
Telephone - Report 1000
PJ (Picket) 28 557 775
Electricity - Report 28 339 922
PSP 28 573 333
Macau Daily Times 28 716 081
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CHUN LEONG Taipa
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Ref: 1505508

Hellene Gardens Coloane
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Controversy and criticism hits once-proud tennis Down Under

Dennis Passa
Sports Writer

AUSTRALIAN tennis once was full of good news stories, and personalities to match.

Rod Laver, the only male player to twice win all four Grand Slam tournaments in the same calendar year — in 1962 and 1969 — and leading women's major winner Margaret Court were in that category. Other exemplary role models and multiple major winners include Evonne Goolagong Cawley, Ken Rosewall, John Newcombe and Pat Rafter.

Two-time Grand Slam champion Lleyton Hewitt, a Davis Cup stalwart who had an often difficult time with his on-court demeanor, has emerged recently as a more eloquent elder statesman during his injury-forced move toward retirement.

Even during dry spells in Davis Cup play and in men's majors over the past decade, players have mostly been respectful.

So where, seemingly, has it all gone wrong?

At Wimbledon, 20-year-old Nick Kyrgios battled with umpires time and again, was accusing of tanking and swore so loudly and abused his rackets so violently that he was fined nearly USD10,000.

That behavior earned him the wrath of an Australian sports great, Olympic champion swimmer Dawn Fraser. The 77-year-old Fraser told a breakfast television show in Australia she was disgusted by Kyrgios' behavior in his fourth-

AP PHOTO



Nick Kyrgios

round loss to Richard Gasquet at Wimbledon.

"They should be setting a better example for the younger generation of this great country of ours," Fraser said. "If they don't like it, go back to where their fathers or their parents came from."

Kyrgios, who was born in Canberra, the Australian capital, has a father born in Greece and a Malaysian-born mother.

After outrage on social media, Fraser apologized for her comments about Kyrgios' family.

Laver told ESPN television that he thought Kyrgios' behavior was holding him back.

"Nick's young and maybe doesn't realize what he is doing sometimes," Laver said. "He's playing with emotion ... that's certainly something that he needs to grow out of and he needs to grow out of that sooner rather than later. There's certainly no excuse for swearing. That's just bad behavior, that's ugly."

Just when that media skirmish was settling, 22-year-old Bernard Tomic renewed his ongoing messy tussle with Rafter, who now is Tennis Australia's performance director.

Tomic, after reading Rafter's earlier comments critical of

him, complained at a post-match press conference at Wimbledon about lack of support when he was injured, being made to pay for practice balls and courts and directly criticized other Tennis Australia officials, which drew him a suspension from this weekend's home Davis Cup quarterfinal against Kazakhstan in Darwin.

And on the day that Novak Djokovic defeated Roger Federer for his third Wimbledon title, and with the Australian singles players long gone from southwest London, the feud kept simmering Down Under. Rafter, responding to To-

mic's comments, told Sunday's News Limited newspapers that playing tennis for Australia was "about opportunity, not entitlement."

"It's a principle I believe in and feel really passionate about," Rafter added.

Kyrgios was quick to respond on Twitter: "Another negative comment out of Rafter's mouth. Does this guy ever stop? (hashtag)everyoneisaworkinprogress."

Kyrgios later deleted the tweet, but damage was done.

Earlier this week, as if the sport in Australia needed another controversy, Tennis Australia sent out a listing of upcoming matches for Australians overseas, and it noted that Tomic had a first-round match at the "Hall of Shame" tournament in Newport, Rhode Island. That was supposed to be the Hall of Fame tournament, and Tennis Australia quickly sent a correction and an apology.

As many tweets suggested, you couldn't make this up.

"This unfortunate error has been widely circulated on social media and there is some discussion as to how such a mistake could occur," Tennis Australia said. "We have a very upset staff member who made a simple clerical error."

Tomic's family said they were considering legal action because of Tennis Australia's "continual shaming and misrepresentation of Bernard." Tomic lost in the first round in Newport on Monday in straight sets.

Kyrgios arrived in Darwin for the Davis Cup match against Kazakhstan and said Tomic should have been included, but Australian captain Wally Masur was in a more conciliatory mood.

"We'd like to think that cool heads will prevail," Masur said, "and at some point everyone can sit down in a room and get to the bottom of all the issues." AP

BASEBALL

Reds' Todd Frazier wins All-Star Derby in home park

CINCINNATI third baseman Todd Frazier won the Home Run Derby on Monday, becoming only the second player to do so on his home field in the traditional lead-up event to the All-Star game.

Frazier topped Los Angeles Dodgers rookie Joc Pederson 15-14 with another late surge and one last perfectly timed swing.

"No pressure here with these fans," he said, after accepting the crossed-bats trophy to one more standing ovation at Great American Ball Park.



National League's Todd Frazier, of the Cincinnati Reds, hits during the MLB All-Star baseball Home Run Derby

Frazier joined the Chicago Cubs' Ryne Sandberg for home-field

homer titles; the Hall of Fame second baseman did it at Wrigley Field in

1990.

After finishing second last year in Minneapolis, this one was as sweet as that winning swing.

"That pushed me a lot," Frazier said. "I wanted to get back here. I'd been working in the offseason a little bit. I'm just glad it was in Cincinnati and they could enjoy it with me."

Pederson was trying to become the first rookie since Wally Joyner in 1986 to win or share the title. He reached the final round by knocking off Los Angeles Angels slugger Albert Pujols, who provided a blast after

making the All-Star team for the first time in five years.

"I'm happy for Todd, especially being able to do it in front of his fans," Pujols said. "It's his night. He deserves it. I just hope the fans were pleased and happy with the performance every single guy did. The right guy won, too."

Frazier topped Prince Fielder and Josh Donaldson to reach the finals, where he faced his biggest test. Pederson went first and matched the highest total of the night with 14 homers. Frazier needed

a late surge to pull even, tying him with 11 seconds left in his round.

He'd hit enough long homers to earn an extra 30 seconds, giving him a chance to take a few deep breaths, regroup and refocus.

On the first pitch from brother Charlie in extra time, Frazier puffed his cheeks and exhaled as he hit one solidly, then mouthed the words "That's gone" as the ball headed for the left field stands. The ballpark was full of fans with arms raised even before the ball landed. AP

C.Rajshekhar Rao, New Delhi

CRICKET

Chennai, Rajasthan face 2-year bans in Indian Premier League

INDIAN Premier League teams Chennai Super Kings and Rajasthan Royals face two-year suspensions and two officials are facing life-time bans after a Supreme Court-appointed committee recommended punishments in a corruption scandal that has overshadowed the highest-profile Twenty20 competition in cricket.

The three-member committee headed by former chief justice Rajendra Lodha announced the sanctions yesterday, saying Chennai team principal Gurusath Meiyappan and Rajasthan co-owner Raj Kundra had been found to have bet on IPL games or of being in contact with illegal gamblers, "bringing the game, BCCI and IPL into disrepute."

Meiyappan is the son-in-law of International Cricket Council chairman Narainaswamy Srinivasan, who had earlier been restricted by the court from running for another term as president of the Board of Control for Cricket in India owing to a conflict of interest. His company, India Cements, held a stake in the Chennai franchise.

Justice Lodha predicted the decisions of his committee would stand.

"The Supreme Court order says it is subject to any remedy in appropriate judicial proceedings, so a challenge is available in court. But since this is a com-



Rajasthan Royals vs Chennai Super Kings, 15th Match, IPL 2015

mittee comprising three senior judges of the Supreme Court, it is highly unlikely a court will interfere," Justice Lodha said.

The committee said Meiyappan had regularly bet on IPL matches.

"The fact that Gurusath was an integral part of CSK and most people saw him as the face of the team, he ought not to have in-

dulged in betting practices," the committee said.

On Kundra, the committee said: "That the allegation of match-fixing against Kundra was not finally established does not matter because his status as owner has brought disrepute."

According to IPL rules, a team can be suspended if its officials bring the tournament into dis-

repute.

"The argument that these acts were personal and the franchise cannot be responsible cannot be accepted," Justice Lodha said.

The Supreme Court committee was formed in January to decide on the scope of punishment following an inquiry by a separate committee that found the clubs and both officials guilty.

Meiyappan, who was detained for two weeks by Mumbai Police in 2013 over allegations of spot-fixing, was cleared by a BCCI-appointed panel but a petition from the Cricket Association of Bihar led to the Bombay High Court declaring that panel "illegal and unconstitutional."

The Cricket Association of Bihar then took the issue to the Supreme Court, which ordered an investigation into the conduct of Srinivasan and 12 others.

CAB official Aditya Verma welcomed the order but wanted the BCCI to do more on its own.

"The BCCI should file criminal cases against those found guilty," he told reporters in New Delhi. "That is the only way it

can show cricket lovers that they are serious about cleaning the game."

The spot-fixing controversy erupted during the 2013 IPL competition when a group of Rajasthan players, including former test bowler Shantakumar Sreesanth, Ajit Chandila and Ankeet Chavan, were arrested for allegedly conceding a pre-determined number of runs per over and receiving money in return from illegal bookmakers.

It was not immediately clear whether the contracted CSK or Rajasthan players will get to represent other teams.

Two-time champion Chennai is led by India's limited-overs captain Mahendra Singh Dhoni and also features explosive New Zealand batsman Brendon McCullum, West Indian allrounder Dwayne Bravo and South African batsman Faf du Plessis.

Former champion Rajasthan is led by Australia's Steve Smith and includes India batsman Ajinkya Rahane and New Zealand pace bowler Tim Southee. AP

OLYMPICS

Criticism mounts over stadium cost for Tokyo 2020

JAPAN'S government is on the defensive as criticism mounts over the spiraling cost of the main stadium for the 2020 Tokyo Olympics.

Officials, however, say it's too late to change the design.

Newly appointed Olympic Minister Toshiaki Endo acknowledged yesterday that the latest estimate of 252 billion yen (USD2 billion) represents a "substantial increase" from the initial estimate of 162.5 billion yen.

"I'm aware that many

people are opposed to the plan, as public polls show," he told a parliamentary committee, promising to explain the increase to the public.

Opposition lawmakers demanded answers from Endo and other officials.

Education and Sports Minister Hakubun Shimomura said the government considered a design change, but decided that would make it impossible to finish in time for the 2019 Rugby World Cup, the first event scheduled for the stadium.

Separately, a ruling party lawmaker expressed frustration about the growing controversy.

"The majority of the people have raised question over the plan," Toshihiro Nikai told a party executives meeting. "And we don't have an explanation that makes sense."

The stadium, designed by British-Iraqi architect Zaha Hadid, will go up on the site of the recently razed National Stadium built in central Tokyo for the 1964 Olympics. Construction is to begin in October.

FOOTBALL

Russia coach Fabio Capello leaves after run of poor form

FABIO Capello left his post as Russia coach yesterday after a poor run of form put the 2018 World Cup hosts in danger of failing to qualify for next year's European Championship.

The Russian Football Union said it had reached an agreement with Capello "to end the labor contract by mutual agreement." The organization did not disclose the financial terms of the settlement but expressed gratitude to Capello for his work.

Capello leaves after three years in charge of Russia's national team. He had planned to coach Russia at the World Cup in 2018, but came under pressure when his team failed to get out of the group stage at last year's tournament in Brazil. He also faced criticism from Russian politicians over the size of his salary, a reported 7 million euros (USD7.7 million) a year.

He has won only two of his last 10 com-

petitive matches, including a 1-0 loss to Austria last month that left the team in danger of failing to reach Euro 2016. Russia is third in its qualifying group, outside the automatic qualification places.

The 69-year-old Italian, who has also coached England, AC Milan and Real Madrid, has previously said he expected Russia to be his final job in soccer.

The Russian Football Union's deep debts had sparked speculation that it could not afford to fire Capello given the size of the compensation involved, reportedly more than 21 million euros (\$24 million).

Capello frequently went unpaid while coaching Russia, including a spell of almost eight months until February, when the back pay was cleared by a loan to the RFU from billionaire Alisher Usmanov, who also reportedly cleared another pay stoppage in June.

BOXING

4-time world champion boxer Carl Froch retires aged 38

FOUR-TIME world champion Carl Froch retired from boxing yesterday after more than a year out of the ring.

The 38-year-old super middleweight twice won the WBC title, as well as taking the WBA and IBF belts. He won 33 of his 35 fights, with 24 of those coming by knockout.

"I'm incredibly proud of what I have achieved in boxing but now is the right moment to hang up my gloves," the Englishman said. "I have nothing left to prove and my legacy speaks for itself."

"I've got no regrets. I'm not retiring undefeated but in many ways that's better because I've boxed everybody, I've

faced every challenge."

Froch last fought against George Groves in an all-British bout at Wembley Stadium in May 2014. Since that victory, an attempted fight with Julio Chavez Jr. in Las Vegas fell through.

"So many athletes, not just boxers, don't get their defining moment," Fro-

ch said. "I've probably had seven or eight defining moments, but the biggest and best was on the platform of Wembley Stadium in front of 80,000 fans. It was amazing and to get that defining moment is enough."

Froch is joining British broadcaster Sky as a pundit. AP

opinion

Macau Matters

Richard Whitfield



TASSIE AND MONA

While recently visiting family and friends in Australia, a weekend visit to Tasmania (Tassie) and the Museum of Old and New Art (MONA) was highly recommended. Fortunately, friends and I acted on it and had a great time.

Tasmania is the island state at the South East corner Australia. It is famous for agriculture, forestry and its natural beauty and has a total population similar to Macau, half of whom live in Hobart. MONA is a very large private art museum that was established by one of Tasmania's richest people who, interestingly, made his fortune from gambling.

Arriving at Hobart, our first pleasant surprise was our taxi driver, Bob, who pointed out many sights and explained many things on the ride in from the airport. Generally, everybody we met was very friendly, pleasant and knowledgeable about Tasmania, and full of ideas of things to see and do – this is a very good thing for a place dependent on tourism, and something we could do with much more in Macau.

We then spent a very pleasant hour at the Salamanca Market which is held every Saturday on the waterfront in downtown Hobart. It was full of very high quality local boutique foods and farm produce. Again, markets are something we do very poorly in Macau – they are full of the same mass produced junk with little character or local flair. Even the dried meats and other typical local foods are very limited in their range, and there is no innovation or creativity in what is offered by different vendors.

The next great surprise was MONA itself which is a great model for museums of the future, and a venue that Macau museums should learn from. Their focus is very much on a total visitor experience that mixes art with other things. The MONA experience starts with it being a 30 minute luxury ferry ride from Hobart. I have several times mentioned to various people that there should be a regular ferry service circumnavigating Taipa and Coloane with drop-offs and pick-ups at all the interesting places along the way. The idea is to create a sense of destination and adventure, which works very well for MONA.

MONA is located in a large cavern carved into a sandstone cliff. Internally it is divided into many floors and rooms inter-connected by walkways and steps with many places to look at the different display spaces from different directions. This creates a very dramatic backdrop for the art. Also, visitors are actively encouraged to take photos and post them on social media to create "buzz" about the museum. There are no labels on any of the works, and visitors use supplied iPads to view menus of "nearby art" which can be clicked on to learn about each work. Before returning the device, visitors can "save" their tour and information about what they saw is subsequently delivered to them by email. Macau museums should definitely investigate developing apps with similar functionality that can be downloaded and used by visitors.

The MONA complex also has a working vineyard, boutique hotel, restaurants, bars, open-air performance spaces and outdoor gardens that can all be used and enjoyed by visitors. To increase interest and return visits, MONA helps organize several festivals in Hobart at different times of the year. We are starting to see some of this in Macau but the festivals here are not really integrated, nor are they tied in with museums.

Some of the museums we have locally are good, but by learning from international best practice and integrating themselves with other community festivals and events they could become a much more important part of the tourist's experience of Macau.

THE BUZZ LINDSAY SAYS GOODBYE TO SERIAL KILLER DEXTER

The eighth and final novel in the Dexter series, "Dexter Is Dead," now in bookstores, picks up from the end of the previous book, with the titular vigilante serial killer under arrest and facing a murder charge – ironically for a crime he didn't actually commit. "I always knew that someday the wheels would come off," author Jeff Lindsay said. Starting with the 2004 novel "Darkly Dreaming Dexter," the series follows the exploits of Dexter Morgan, a blood splatter analyst with the

Miami-Dade Police Department. Following a code developed by his adoptive father – a police officer – to only kill other killers, Dexter balances a public life of work, friends and family with his not-so-public, homicidal pastime. But now Dexter's story is coming to a climatic conclusion.



Station	Air quality	
Roadside	20-40 Good	😊
High Density Residential Area	30-50 Good	😊
Ambient	40-60 Moderate	😞

SOURCE: DSI/MG

WORLD BRIEFS

N KOREA A South Korean student from New York University who is being detained in North Korea for allegedly entering the country illegally says he hopes to be released soon.

MYANMAR President Thein Sein has not yet decided whether to pursue a second term and will base his decision on how the ruling party fares in parliamentary elections later this year, his office says.



FRANCE is celebrating Bastille Day with a display of fighter jets and with anti-terrorist forces marching in the yearly parade in Paris for the first time as the country's leadership tries to show its muscle against extremists. The national holiday yesterday comes after the country was hit by terror attacks in January that killed 12 people, and after an extremist beheaded his employer last month and caused an explosion that injured two people.

PAKISTAN A Pakistan court grants bail to top model Ayaan Ali, who has been held since March after being caught trying to fly to Dubai with half a million dollars in cash in her luggage.

S KOREAN police say they have arrested a university professor for forcing a former student to eat human feces and subjecting him to other cruel acts.



JAPAN Nintendo Co. President Satoru Iwata's death is being mourned by game fans around the world. They're sharing Iwata Mii avatars, creating pictures with farewell messages on the Nintendo drawing game Splattoon and sending Tweets with "ThankYouIwata" hashtags.

Teen hiking to safety after plane crash a 'miracle'

Martha Bellisle, Gene Johnson

A 16-year-old girl survived a small-plane crash in the rugged mountains of Washington state and hiked through thick forest to reach safety in what one official called "a miracle." But she reported that her two step-grandparents died in the accident, Okanogan County Sheriff Frank Rogers said yesterday.

Searchers planned to resume looking for the wreckage, and any sign of Leland and Sharon Bowman, three days after the aircraft went down.

"She said they were flying in the clouds, and in an instant, it opened up and there was the mountain, and they crashed into the trees," Rogers said.

The sheriff said pilot Leland Bowman was flying



David Veatch, the father of Autumn Veatch, 16, along with family friend Chelsey Clark, right, speak to the media outside the Three Rivers Hospital

too low. "He tried to pull up, but it was too late," Rogers said. Veatch remained at the crash site for a day before deciding to hike down, eventually finding a trail and following it to the trailhead on a highway.

A motorist picked her up Monday and drove her to a

store, where employees called for help. Veatch has no life-threatening injuries but was dehydrated and suffering from a treatable muscle tissue breakdown caused by vigorous exercise without food or water, said Scott Graham, CEO of Three Rivers Hospital.

"It's a miracle, no question about it," Lt. Col. Jeffrey Lustick of the Civil Air Patrol told reporters, saying he has spent 30 years in search and rescue.

Her father, David Veatch, told reporters outside the hospital that his daughter was exhausted but doing remarkably well. She was able to joke with him about the survival shows they watched together on television, he said.

"She's just an amazing kid," David Veatch said. AP

Thai anti-graft law extends death penalty to foreigners

THAILAND has enacted a new anti-corruption law that extends a maximum penalty of capital punishment to foreigners as well as Thais.

Previous legislation provided various punishments, including a possible death penalty, for Thai officials convicted of bribery, though apparently no one was ever executed for the crime. The new statutes,

which took effect July 9 and are part of a separate anti-corruption law, extend those punishments to non-Thais working for foreign governments and international organizations.

The military government that took power after the ouster of an elected civilian government last year has said countering corruption is one of its major goals. **Bloomberg**

THE DECISIVE MOMENT

Paulo Barbosa



The Minghua ship stands at the center of the Seaworld Plaza in Shenzhen's Shekou district, located very close to the terminal where ferries from Macau dock. The ship was originally a luxury liner built in France in 1962 and bought by China in 1973. The huge dry docked cruise ship was transformed into a hotel and restaurant and became the landmark of a lively residential and commercial area in Shenzhen.