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Authorities coordinated 600 participants on the largest disaster response and rescue drill ever held in the region

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WORLD BRIEFS



SYRIA In his first public address in a year, embattled Syrian President Bashar Assad vowed yesterday to win his country's long-running civil war while acknowledging his troops had lost territory because of a shortage of manpower. Assad's televised speech yesterday morning, given to local dignitaries in the Syrian capital, Damascus, was his first public address since he was sworn in for a third, seven-year term in July last year.

UK The former first minister of Scotland says a second referendum on Scottish independence is "inevitable." Legislator Alex Salmond told BBC Sunday that the British government has not followed through on post-referendum promises to give Scotland more powers.

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Alfred Liu

GAMING

Galaxy buys stake in Monaco casino operator

GALAXY Entertainment Group Ltd. is taking a stake in a Monaco casinos and hotels operator, as the company controlled by billionaire Lui Che-Woo expands beyond Macau amid a gambling downturn in the Chinese city.

Galaxy is buying 5 percent of the shares of Société des Bains de Mer et du Cercle des Étrangers à Monaco (SBM) from an independent third party, the company said in an e-mailed statement Saturday. It didn't name the seller or the sale price.

"We see it as a potential to develop a strategic long-term partnership with them," Galaxy spokesman Peter Caveny said by telephone.

Separately, LVMH Moët Hennessy Louis Vuitton SE, the world's largest luxury-

“We see it as a potential to develop a strategic long-term partnership with them”

PETER CAVENY



Customers exit the Galaxy Macau casino resort

goods maker, also said it would take a 5 percent in the Monte-Carlo based company. SBM, 34 percent-owned by the state of Monaco, has properties including the Casino de Monte-Carlo and the Casino Café de Paris, as well as luxury hotels, restaurants and night clubs, according to its website.

Macau's casino revenue fell in June to the lowest in more than four years as the world's biggest gambling hub was hurt by China's slowing economy and a graft crackdown that deterred high rollers. Galaxy in May opened two new casinos in the Chinese city, including a major expansion to an older project which Chairman Lui had said performed weaker than expected.

Macau's gross gaming revenue is expected to plunge 30 percent this year, according to the median estimate of 11 analysts surveyed by Bloomberg, before rebounding next year. **Bloomberg**

World's largest casinos by gambling revenue located in town

EIGHT of the world's largest casinos ranked by annual gambling revenue are located in Macau, according to data compiled by the Global Betting and Gaming Consultancy (GBGC), based in the Isle of Man.

The GBGC research shows that Galaxy Macau, SJM Grand Lisboa and City of Dreams, Wynn Macau and The Venetian are the five top casinos in the world based on Gross Gaming Yield (percentage of wagers kept by casino/gaming operator). Marina Bay Sands and Resorts World Sentosa,

both located in Singapore, also made it to the top ten list.

Crown Melbourne was nudged into 11th place, Genting Highlands was ranked 12th, while Sands Macau and Kangwon Land, South Korea, ranked 13th and 14th respectively.

In the United States, Wynn is the largest casino by gaming revenue, having profited USD0.69 billion last year.

"In many respects the comparisons are not fair because Las Vegas has diversified its product mix towards en-

tertainment, food and beverages, where the split is probably 55 percent entertainment and 45 percent gaming," the consultancy company explained in a press release distributed by Bu-

siness Wire.

GBGC nonetheless recalled that the United States remains the largest casino market in the world, followed by Macau, Canada, Singapore and Australia. **CP**

CASINO REVENUE BY REGION (2014)

	USD MILLIONS
1 US	62,161
2 Macau	45,150
3 Canada	7,304
4 Singapore	4,110
5 Australia	3,995

Problem gambling cases up

THE Gaming Inspection and Coordination Bureau (DICJ) has registered 183 requests to exclude pathological gamblers from entering casinos between January and June. That's 65 percent more than the number of requests made during the same period of the year in 2014. The large majority of the requests (168) were made by the pathological gamblers themselves and only 15 were submitted by a third party.

According to the data published at DICJ's website, in 2014 the number of self-exclusion requests from casinos reached 280, four more requests than in 2013.

If the tendency registered during the first five months of the year keeps steady, 2015 will largely surpass the previous year in terms of the number of requests made by or on behalf of problem gamblers.

The law 10/2012 establishes limits to the entrance to and work in casinos. According to the law, the DICJ director can ban entry into casinos for a maximum of two years for persons that request it. The request must be made by the problem gambler or by relatives. **MDT/Lusa**

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MDT's Website has logged over **91 million** page views since January 1st, 2012 up to today.

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Public discontent over reclamation zone plan escalates

THE Land, Public Works and Transport Bureau (DSSOPT) has announced that it will extend the planned reclamation zone public consultation period for 20 more days to August 28, following a public outcry criticizing the government's intent to concentrate public housing complexes within Reclamation Zone A, while planning other zones as green areas with low-density or high-end commercial residences.

The five new reclamation zones are projected to accommodate 162,000 inhabitants, with plans for about 28,000 public housing units and 26,000 private units. The current plan places all public housing complexes in Zone A, which projects a residential density of 70,000 people per square kilometer in the area, according to bureau director Li Canfeng.

Responding to the public's demand to evenly allocate public housing units across the five zones, Li defended the master plan by comparing it with the old neighborhoods in the Northern District, where residential



This model is currently displayed at Tap Seac's Glass House depicts Reclamation Zone A, where 96,000 people are expected to live in 32,000 residential units that stretch along 138 hectares

density exceeds 170,000 people per square kilometer.

Although Zone B and the combination of Zone C, D and E are, respectively, able to accommodate a residential density of 12,000 people and 36,800 people per square kilometer, Li stressed that living in Zone A would be more convenient as there would be more complete facilities. Moreover, he said that

not every zone could be a green area with low residential density. Amidst the public outcry, civic

group Macao Civic Power criticized the master plan as, "not only [lacking] an overall urban planning and vision, [it] also shows no professional technical assessments."

The group stressed that the planning of reclaimed zones should be in line with the city's trait of "small but beautiful," thereby designing the new land around connected communities rather than creating urban gaps between each zone.

Furthermore, it criticized the current plan for Zone A as resulting in an isolated isle surrounded by still water due to the site location. Besides shortcomings in terms of public hygiene, environment and transportation, the group argued that the authorities have also failed to provide adequate information in terms of necessary community facilities to serve the area's dense population. **BY**

INDECISION OVER FOURTH MACAU-TAIPA LINK

REGARDING THE fourth Macau-Taipa link, the Secretary for Transport and Public Works, Raimundo do Rosário, said that a bridge and underwater tunnel are both valuable options with advantages and disadvantages. He added that the government is still evaluating which option is more appropriate for the region.

August 29 Plácido Domingo concert announced



Plácido Domingo

ONE of the world's most renowned operatic virtuosos, Plácido Domingo, will play in the city for the first time with his hand-picked artists, in collaboration with the Macau Orchestra (OM).

The "Domingo and Macau Orchestra" concert will be staged on 29 August at 8p.m. at the Macau Cultural Centre's Grand Auditorium.

One of the "Three Tenors", Plácido Domingo has gained international fame for his outstanding skills and artistic achievements. He has played over 144 different roles and performed classical works by composers Giacomo Puccini, Richard Wagner and Giuseppe Verdi, among many others. Domingo has recorded over 100 albums, some of which have sold over a million copies, and has been awarded 12 Grammy awards. He is known for his powerful voice and wide range, which has been described as "soft as velvet."

Several countries, such as the United Kingdom, the U.S. and France, among others, have bestowed accolades on the tenor in recognition of his musical talent and lifetime contributions to his field. The Economist once described his performance as having "a musical lyricism and a sexual passion that make the cost and the effort entirely worthwhile", also characterizing Domingo's performance as "unforgettable" and "luminous." Domingo has held numerous highly acclaimed concerts across the U.S., China and several European countries.

The "Domingo and Macau Orchestra" show is co-organized by the Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC) and the Macau Government Tourist Office, with the support of MGM Macau. According to a press release issued by the IC, it will be a one-time only performance. Tickets have been available since Saturday, and prices range from MOP1880 to MOP680.

Chris Brown plays in Macau after ordeal over legal issue

Teresa Cerojano

CHRIS Brown finally left the Philippines and performed at a local night club, but not without last-minute complications at the end of a three-day ordeal.

The 26-year-old R&B artist sang at a packed concert in Manila on Tuesday, then wasn't able to leave because a fraud complaint was filed against him and a promoter for a canceled concert last New Year's Eve.

In a series of social media postings during the delay, most of them since deleted, he said "I've done nothing wrong," expressed frustration over being stranded and pleaded to be allowed to leave.

Late Friday afternoon, Brown was able to obtain a departure clearance from the Immigration Bureau. Before boarding his private jet, he invited Filipinos to join him in a party in Macau. "Manila, it was fun. I love y'all, man. If you can come to Macau, party tonight! Turn up," he said in a video posted on Instagram.

But once the group boarded, a three-hour wait followed because of a flight plan discrepancy.

They took off at 9:04 p.m. for Hong Kong, the Philippines' Civil Aviation Authority spokesman Eric Apolonio said.

He said that Brown's original approved flight plan had Hong Kong as its destination and wasn't revised for unclear reasons.

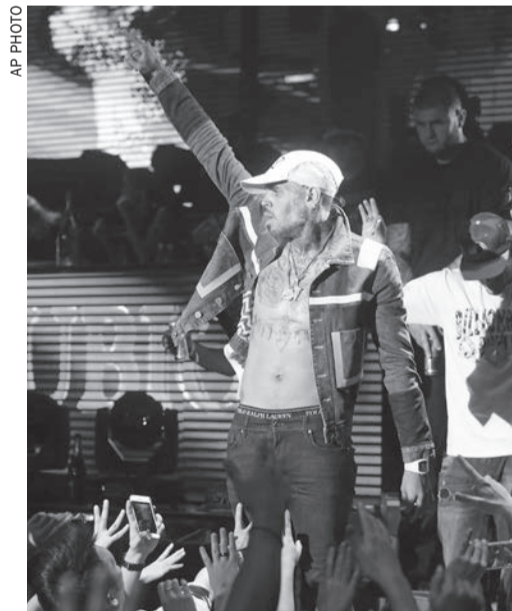
During the delay, Brown missed a concert in Hong Kong that has not yet been rescheduled. In a later Instagram video, Brown called Macau "popping" in apparent celebration of his arrival.

He said he returned to Manila to make up for the canceled New Year's Eve concert. The initial performance was to be at the 55,000-seat Philippine Arena, operated by a corporation owned by the politically influential Iglesia ni Cristo religious group.

In its complaint, the Maligaya Development Corp. alleged Brown and promoter John Michael Pio Roda canceled after being paid in full for a \$1 million contract. The organizers said they were told at the time that Brown lost his passport and couldn't make the concert.

Immigration Commissioner Siegfred Mison said late Friday that Pio Roda was held at a bureau detention center because a complaint against him alleges he was working in the country without a permit and absconded or ran away from his debt.

Because of that, Brown was required to obtain a departure clearance.



Grammy award-winning singer Chris Brown performs at Club Cubic

In a tweet since deleted, Brown said: "This is a very serious situation and someone needs to be held accountable for mixing my name up in all this."

Justice Secretary Leila de Lima said state prosecutors will summon Brown for a preliminary investigation into the complaint, but his presence at that stage of the criminal proceedings can be waived. Charges will be filed in court if prosecutors find probable cause to charge Brown and the promoter.

"What is important at this point is for him to know that there are criminal proceedings against him at the preliminary investigation level," De Lima told reporters. **AP**

Inmate dies of illness after three-month treatment

A Macau Prison inmate from mainland China has died of an illness after undergoing over three months of treatment in a local public hospital, as revealed by the prison Saturday. Due to issues with travel documentation, the man's family members from the mainland were unable to visit him in person.

The 31-year-old man, surnamed Li, died on the evening of July 24 due to respiratory failure caused by spinal tuberculosis and pneumonia. The prison authorities cited the Conde S. Januário Hospital's statement, saying that the definite cause of the man's death has yet to be confirmed as the hospital has not yet issued his death certificate.

The inmate was detained in Macau Prison since March 18 for aggravated theft, damage, vehicle burglary, and identity theft. According to the prison doctor's medical records, he had previously received surgery in the mainland last year for spinal trauma and fractured ribs, where a metal fixture was installed in his lumbar catheter. About one month before his detention, he



had seen the doctor for the rupture of another wound.

The inmate was sent to the emergency clinic of Conde S. Januário Hospital on March 30 for the infection of a back wound as well as a fever. He was hospitalized for further observation. His illness had become aggravated since July 6 because of respiratory failure, which required the support of a ventilator.

"During the inmate's treatment at the hospital, the prison had arranged social workers to visit and provide assistance, as well as to keep in touch with his relatives to inform them of his progression. However, his family members couldn't come to visit him in person due to document issues," stated Macau Prison, adding that the social workers are now assisting the family. **BY**

Anima vows to continue campaigning against Canidrome

DEMAND for the closure of the Yat Yuen Canidrome will escalate as local animal rights group Anima has promised to wage another wave of campaigns in the second half of the year.

With the group's efforts to collect signatures on Change.org still ongoing, Anima leader Albano Martins told the Times that they are still considering further action, unless the greyhound racetrack backs down.

"We will do a few more combinations. We're working on that," said Mr Martins, who did not disclose specifics. "We're organizing a lot of events before the end of this year."

Despite a one-hour meeting with the Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau head Alex Vong last Friday afternoon regarding dog-racing in the territory, the advocate said that he was looking forward to

one more meeting with the chief executive before the end of the year.

"I don't know if Alex Vong will reply to us, or the chief executive," he said. "But I believe that I'll be with the chief executive in one of these days. I hope I will be with him to talk [about our appeal] as soon as possible."

Their appeal to the authorities last week, as Martins said, was well received by them, and they promised to "forward their stance" to Chui. Accompanying the group's head were representatives of other animal rights groups from Beijing, Taiwan, Hong Kong and the United Kingdom.

Over the years, Canidrome operators have refused to meet Martins group over their conflicting views of the issue, with only two meetings in 2012 thus far, Mr Martins recalled. **Staff reporter**

AD



MACAU GOVERNMENT TOURIST OFFICE

NOTICE

The Macau Government Tourist Office hereby announces an invitation to tender for the **Production of Macau Promotional Videos and TV Commercials**, in accordance with the approval of the Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture dated 10th July, 2015.

From the date of publication of the present notice, interested parties may visit the Macau Government Tourist Office Reception Counter, located in Alameda Dr. Carlos d' Assumpção, no. 335-341, "Hotline" Building, 12th floor, Macau, to view the Tender Process within the working hours, and pay MOP 200.00 (two hundred patacas) to obtain the copies, including Terms of Tender, General Conditions of the Bid and other relevant attachments; or visit the Macau Government Tourist Office website (<http://industry.macautourism.gov.mo>) to download.

The explanation meeting will be held at Alameda Dr. Carlos d' Assumpção, no. 335-341, "Hotline" Building, 14th floor, Macau, at 15:30, on 31st July, 2015.

The maximum price limit for the service is MOP 5,000,000.00 (five million patacas).

Based on the following criteria and evaluation factors:

Criteria for awarding	Evaluation
Price	10%
Creativity (storyboard/slogan)	40%
Music	15%
- CV Portfolio of composer;	
- Original musical score	
Experience and ability of the bidder	20%
- Company experience on same type of service	
- CV Portfolio of Director	
- CV Portfolio of Producer, Director of Photography, Art Director and Post production team	
- Experience of the talents	
- Experience of the professional photographer (According to point 3.6 of General Condition of the Bid, part II)	
Production Plan	10%
- Filming equipments; Post- production equipments	
- Location shootings in Macau	
Efficiency in the delivery of the service	5%
- Production and completion time of the service	

Bidders must submit the tender written in one of the official language of MSAR or English, within the working hours by 17:00, on 21st August, 2015, to Macau Government Tourist Office Reception counter, located in Alameda Dr. Carlos d'Assumpção, no. 335-341, "Hotline" Building, 12th floor, Macau. The bidder should submit the provisional guarantee fee of MOP100,000.00 (one hundred thousand patacas), to be paid by 1) cash deposit to the account of "Fundo de Turismo" in Banco Nacional Ultramarino of Macau; or 2) bank guarantee; or 3) cash, cashier order or mark good cheque deposit directly to Macau Government Tourist Office, cashier order or mark good cheque should be made payable to "Fundo de Turismo" as the payee; or 4) Wired Transfer to the account of "Fundo de Turismo" in Banco Nacional Ultramarino of Macau.

The tender opening session will be held in the Auditorium of the Macau Government Tourist Office, located at Alameda Dr. Carlos d'Assumpção, no. 335-341, "Hotline" Building, 14th floor in Macau, at 15:00, on 24th August, 2015.

According to the article no. 27 of Decree-Law no. 63/85/M, of 6th July, the legal representatives of the Bidder should be present during the tender opening session for any complaints and/or to explain any doubts regarding their respective tender.

The legal representative of the bidder may appoint, by a notary certified power of attorney, an authorized representative to attend the public action of the Opening of the Tenders on their behalf.

In case of closure of the services of Macau Government Tourist Office due to typhoon or force majeure, the deadline for submission, the explanation meeting and opening of tenders will be postponed until the first working day that follows immediately.

Macau Government Tourist Office, 16th July, 2015.

Director
Maria Helena de Senna Fernandes

Authorities hold rescue drill responding to possible disaster

LOCAL authorities coordinated 600 participants on Saturday morning to hold the largest disaster response and rescue drill since the city's handover. Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture Alexis Tam, who also served as the drill's commander-in-chief, stated that Macau has mature mechanisms and sufficient capacity to respond to major accidents.

The three-hour drill, titled "Operation Mars," simulated a fire alarm occurring during a performance at the Macao Forum, injuring some 200 people. Various go-



vernment departments - health, social affairs, tourism, information broadcasting services, municipal administration and security forces, as well as hospitals and the

Red Cross - joined the drill to test their response capacities.

Alexis Tam stated that the drill proceeded smoothly and that he is confident in Macau's capacity to respond to major disasters. He explained the government has long established an interdepartmental coordination mechanism and that the city has enough medical personnel and facilities to cope with a disaster, as demonstrated in the simulation.

"Even if a bigger disaster occurs, the SAR government has already established an emergency rescue

mechanism in collaboration with Guangdong province. When Macau's medical institutions are unable to cope with a calamity, [the government] can transfer injured parties to Zhuhai's hospitals for treatment."

Tam revealed that the authorities have been preparing for the drill for two months. Moreover, the government has regularly carried out rescue drills on different scales in order to "ensure readiness at any time."

"As an international tourism city with a high population density, Macau received over 30 million visitors during last year alone. The SAR government must make sure the city has the ability to respond to natural disasters, terrorist attacks, maritime and aviation accidents that could happen," he stated. **BY**

UM student wins gold for 'TongueMove' design



Leong Ka Chon, a fourth-year student from the University of Macau's (UM) Department of Computer and Information Science, recently won a gold medal for his invention, "TongueMove", at the Pan-Pearl River Delta Region Universities IT Project Competition 2015. The invention enables physically disadvantaged individuals to use their tongues to control electronic devices such as wheelchairs and computer keyboards. Equipped with a webcam, TongueMove captures the user's tongue movements before sending the photos to a mobile phone or tablet for processing. After interpreting the movements, the program gives appropriate instructions to electronic devices under the user's control.

Police conduct joint operation to tackle cross-border crime

MACAU'S Unitary Police Service carried out late-night inspections in casinos and entertainment venues between Friday night and the early hours of Saturday morning, as part of a joint mission simultaneously held in Hong Kong and Guangdong to crack down on cross-border organized crime.

Authorities dispatched a total of 230 police officers and six police dog squads for the operation, where they stopped and searched 1,617 people. Of these, 124 were taken to the police station for further investigation;

amongst these, 22 people of Chinese, Vietnamese and Filipino nationalities were found guilty of overstaying and illegal entry.

The Assistant to the Commissioner General of the Unitary Police Service, João Augusto da Rosa, stated before the operation that its purpose is to "purify the public security environment" through a joint effort. "By conducting this joint operation, we are confident that we are contributing to the improvement of public safety and security in all three regions," he said, adding that the operation will run over the course of three months.

The Unitary Police Service stressed in a press release that it would pay close attention to the security situation and reinforce police cooperation and the exchange of information among the three territories.

According to the People's Daily, the mission, titled "Thunder 15," focuses on ten key targets, including triad crimes; illicit trafficking or possession of firearms; cross-border illegal gambling, prostitution, human and drug trafficking; usury and crimes generated by gambling debt recovery; as well as interstate hiding of fugitives. **BY**

AD

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IC establishes partnership with HK company

In order to expand the sales channels of its publications beyond Macau's borders, the Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC), has established a partnership with publishing company Sup Publishing Logistics (HK). Through the publisher's webpage, the IC's publications can be distributed and sold to readers in Hong Kong and abroad. Sup Publishing Logistics (HK) Limited is a subsidiary of Sino United Publishing (Holdings) Limited, which has business relations with over 400 publishing houses and close to 1,000 bookstores in Hong Kong and around the world. As Hong Kong's biggest online publishing house, its vast sales network includes business links to convenience store chains, online bookstores and department store chains.

Nine new HIV infections recorded in 1st half-year

Macau has recorded nine new cases of HIV infection in the first six months of this year. All of the patients are local residents. According to the Fight Against AIDS Committee, sexual contact still remains the main cause of AIDS transmission in the territory. At the Committee's plenary meeting last Friday, the Health Bureau also promoted safe sex among different groups, including adolescents and sex workers. The bureau has focused work plans on routinizing HIV detection in local medical institutions, holding community forums on AIDS and surveying adolescents' recognition, attitudes and behavior toward the disease.

ADMINISTRATION RESHUFFLE

ExCo gives green light to IACM's new function

Catarina Pinto

THE Executive Council (ExCo) has concluded discussions on the ongoing restructuring and reshuffling of Macau's Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau (IACM), which will take on a new function: to coordinate 'one-stop' services allowing the department to handle requirements and procedures of other public services.

Under the terms of the plans, some of IACM's duties and functions will be reassigned to the Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC) and the Sports Development Board (ID). Two hundred IACM employees will then work under IC or ID. The IC will manage 10 IACM facilities, while 20 will be managed by the ID.

The ExCo has analyzed a bill introducing amendments to IACM's by-laws, which will soon be tabled at the Legislative Assem-



A bus passes in front of IACM's headquarters at Senado Square

bly (AL). It provides IACM with a new function, while revoking the bureau's duty to promote and implement cultural, recreational and sports policies. The latter will be performed by the ID and the IC when the bill takes effect.

The deputy director of

the Public Administration and Civil Service Bureau (SAFP), Kou Peng Kuan, told a press conference on Friday that they hope IACM will coordinate and promote a mechanism for planning developments among the interdepartmental public services.

Under specific protocols with other public departments, IACM will handle citizens' requirements and procedures in the name of other public entities. It is intended to ease bureaucratic procedures, allowing for the development of the "one-stop" services.

Regarding staff transfers, IACM's president Alex Vong said the 200 staff members' duties will not change. They will perform the same tasks under the authority of either IC or ID.

Mr Kou added that duties performed by the 200 IACM employees will not overlap after the transfer to the new services.

"Our task group held meetings with personnel and we have taken into consideration the staff's concerns. The [reshuffling] plan focuses on the restructuring and transferring of duties, functions, and personnel. Therefore, employees will remain at their services but will be working under IC and ID," he clarified.

ExCo spokesperson Leong Heng Teng promised that reshuffle preparation works are currently underway, in order to ensure a smooth transition process.

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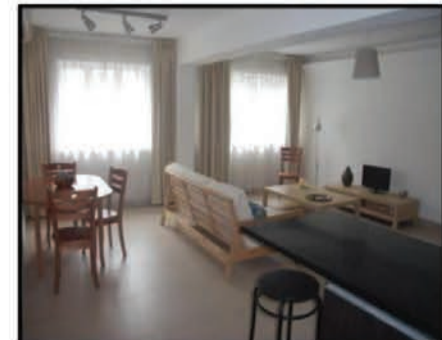
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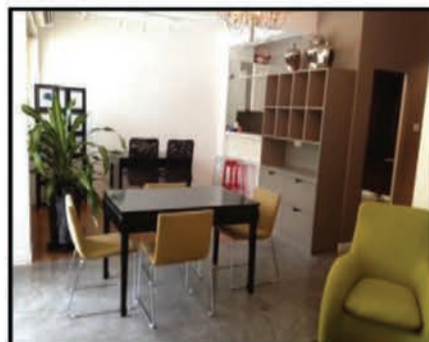
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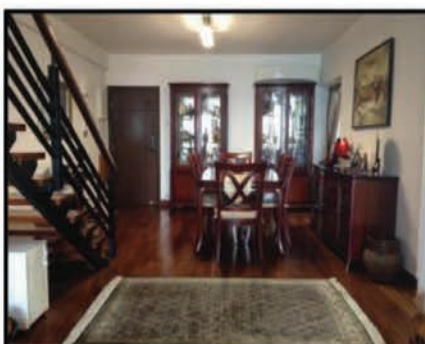


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Greek bailout talks format still being negotiated



A vendor sells lottery tickets outside a bank in Athens

Derek Gatopoulos and Demetris Nellas, Athens

GREECE and rescue lenders are still working out the format of upcoming talks, the labor minister said yesterday, confirming a delay in the negotiations for a third international bailout.

Giorgos Katrougalos told private Skai television yesterday that pre-negotiation discussions were still ongoing.

"The way the negotiations will take place is still being discussed within the government," Katrougalos said.

Bailout negotiators from the European Commission, European Central Bank, and International Monetary Fund had been due to start arriving in Athens last Friday to start talks for the new res-

cue package worth an expected 85 billion euros (USD93 billion).

But late Saturday, a government official said talks at a "technical level" were now set to start tomorrow. The official asked not to be named because the negotiations were ongoing.

Katrougalos said Finance Minister Euclid Tsakalotos and other Cabinet colleagues were likely to meet directly with the inspectors — a move that had been previously ruled out by the country's left-wing government.

"At the point we have reached, we are obliged to negotiate ... Faced with the prospect of financial collapse, we were forced to compromise," he said.

Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras, elected six months ago on an anti-bailout platform, had promised to end austerity measures and stop

direct talks in Athens between ministers and debt inspectors.

But the government was forced to reach a compromise after banks and the stock market were closed late last month, as deposits ran dangerously low.

Banks have since reopened but strict limits on money withdrawal and other transactions remain in effect.

Tsipras' government has already begun imposing new austerity measures demanded in return for the new bailout — but had relied on support from opposition parties after nearly a quarter of lawmakers in the ruling Syriza party opposed him.

The new agreement must be reached before Aug. 20 when Greece faces a debt repayment to the ECB worth more than 3 billion euros (\$3.3 billion). **AP**

Forget shorts, jeans made with jade help Chinese beat the heat

Lindsey Rupp

THE Lee jeans brand has a solution for anyone who dreads wearing denim in the summer.

The company, a division of VF Corp., is weaving crushed jade stones into its jeans to keep wearers cooler. The Jade Fusion line, which debuted in Hong Kong in May and is now rolling out in the rest of China, sold out in its first seven weeks, said Stephen Dull, VF's vice president of strategy and innovation.

The jade fabric rapidly pulls sweat away from the body and quickly dries, creating a cooling sensation, Dull said. Lee is marking the pants with the tagline "denim refreshment."

"It's not magic," Dull said in an interview. "But it takes away a lot of the smelly, icky, sweaty, sticky feeling you get when you wear denim in the heat."

The product is part of a five-year initiative by VF to study consumer needs and develop more innovative products. The company has spent tens of millions of dollars on the strategy, Chief Executive Officer Eric Wiseman said in an interview, and the new products are beginning to fuel sales.

The company estimates that jeanswear revenue will grow by a mid-single-digit percentage this year, excluding currency fluctuations. That's up from an earlier forecast for a low-single-digit increase.

Lee, a brand that dates back to 1889, also is trying to combat a shift to yoga pants and athleisure apparel-gym clothes that can double as streetwear. To get people to wear denim again, the company has reworked the material in its pants. They now have more stretch and can wick sweat five times faster than traditional denim.

For now, the Jade product will be limited to China, Dull said. To promote the pants, the company set up 3-D visual illusions in public spaces that consumers can take photos with. In one, a jade road appears to lead into a "magical world" painted on the wall.

"Jade particles woven into the fabric not only works well, but it has a spiritual and emotional appeal to that customer," Dull said. **Bloomberg**



corporate bits

THE PROMENADE BY BENYO: MACAU'S NEWEST SHOPPING DESTINATION



Galaxy Macau and Benyo are celebrating the opening of new luxury retail development — The Promenade.

A shopping destination and café society for the style community, The Promenade connects the first and second chapters of Galaxy Macau, featuring over 200 luxury

and lifestyle brands including around 30 first-to-Macau brands at the Pearl and Opal Lobbies.

Now over 100,000 square meters and nearly 1.5 kilometers in length, The Promenade is a luxury retail destination that loops the length of Galaxy Macau.

4TH TERM "MACAU OUTSTANDING SENIOR CITIZEN AWARD"

CEM has been hosting the "Macau Outstanding Senior Citizens Award" since 2012 in recognition of the contributions made by the elderly to society and their families, as well as to encourage elders to make good use of their leisure time.

The event is co-organized by the Macau Federation of Trade Unions, General Residents Association of Macau, Women's General Association of Macau, Association of Returned Overseas Chinese Macau, Caritas Macau, Macau Special Olympics and Fu Hong Society of Macau.

The "Macau Outstanding Senior Citizens Award" is now open for nominations until 31 August. Eligible candidates must be Macau permanent residents, aged 65-years-old or above, and should be referred or nominated by a co-organizer or a local association. Each winner will be given a trophy and a cash prize of MOP 5,000.

SOFITEL MACAU WELCOMES NEW CHINESE EXECUTIVE CHEF FOR LE CHINOIS CANTONESE RESTAURANT

Sofitel Macau welcomes Chef Choy Leung Kwong who brings authentic Cantonese cuisine to Le Chinois. According to a Sofitel press release, Chef Choy has many years of cooking experience polished from 5-star hotels in Hong Kong and his Cantonese cooking techniques enhance traditional homemade dishes with innovative ideas and delicate interpretation to capture the essence of the ingredients. Chef Choy is able to individualize authentic Cantonese cuisine with French presentation. His signature dishes demonstrate exquisite garnishing with a healthy balance.



MOZAMBIQUE

Mine has gem reserves of 432 million carats

AN independent report shows that the Montepuez Ruby Mining concession in northern Mozambique could contain reserves of 432 million carats of rubies and corundum, announced British multinational Gemfields, which leads the concession's consortium.

Authored by British consultancy SRK Consulting, the report also said that the mine could be explored for a period of 21 years, anticipating that the project would be able to generate cash flow of USD2.7 billion over its lifetime.

With a forecast of increasing annual production capacity from 3.3 million tons to 5.6 million tons in 2017, in this period the project may receive investment of USD64 million,



the document said.

The British consultancy said the project has primary ore reserves of 253 million tons at a concentration of 114.9 carats per ton, and secondary reserves of 179 million tons at a lower gra-

de of 7.07 carats per ton.

At the end of June Gemfields held its fourth auction in Singapore with rubies mined in Mozambique, achieving revenues of US\$29.3 million.

The British multinational's

entry in the Mozambican market occurred in June 2011 when it acquired a 75 percent stake in Montepuez Ruby Mining from Mwiriti Limited, which now has a 25 percent stake in the consortium. **MDT/Macauhub**

Business mission from Brazil visits Angola and Mozambique

A delegation of the Brazilian Trade and Investment Promotion Agency (Apex-Brazil) including 40 companies in the machinery, equipment, building, construction, food and beverage sectors is in Luanda on a visit that will continue in South Africa and Mozambique until the end of the month.

A statement from Apex-Brazil said that some of the companies were present at the Luanda International Fair (Filda) taking place in the capital of Angola until next Sunday.

According to the same agency in 2014 Brazil's exports to Angola amounted to USD1.261 billion and imports totaled USD1.109 billion. The main products exported were sugar, beef, poultry and pork, cornmeal, shoes and furniture.

In 2014 Brazil exported goods to Mozambique worth USD63.861 million and imported US\$10.207 million.

The main Brazilian products exported to Mozambique were poultry, generators and transformers, trains and materials for railroads, tractors, footwear, furniture, machinery and equipment for mining, construction and agriculture, among others. **MDT/Macauhub**

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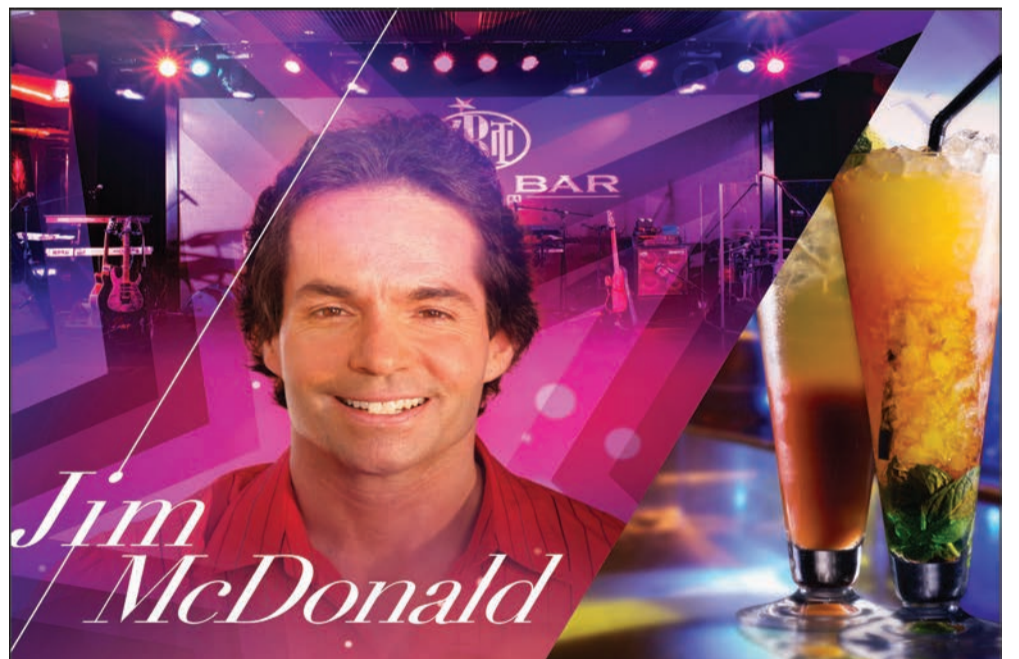
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Mainland dissident Wu'er Kaixi running for Taiwan's parliament

PROMINENT exiled Chinese dissident Wu'er Kaixi announced his candidacy Friday for a seat in Taiwan's parliament, saying he wants to serve as a check on the ruling Nationalist Party and help shore up the island's global status.

The former co-leader of 1989 student-led pro-democracy protests centered on Beijing's Tiananmen Square said he would fight for human rights, environmental protection and social justice amid a growing wealth divide within Taiwanese society.

Wu'er said he would take a tougher approach to Taiwan's relations with mainland China, from which the island split in 1949 and remains locked in a tense rivalry for international recognition.

"Self-censorship has been the main theme of Taiwan's cross-Straits relations. It is not working," Wu'er said, while also chastising the U.S. and other major nations for going along with what he called Chinese bullying of Taiwan's democratic government.

Wu'er fled China after the military crushed the 1989 protests, killing hundreds. He was the second most wanted among the student leaders after famously berating then-premier Li Peng in a televised meeting. Unable to return home, he married a Taiwanese woman and settled on the island in 1996.

China's authoritarian Communist Party-led government says its crackdown on the protests was necessary to maintain order and



Former student leader in the 1989 protests, Wu'er Kaixi

contain unrest. In the years since, the party has enforced strict limits on civil freedoms and rejected any notion of democratic reforms. Taiwan, meanwhile, has blossomed into a flourishing democracy with lively electoral politics and an outspoken media.

Dressed casually and answering questions in both Chinese and English, Wu'er said he saw no contradiction between his Chi-

nese roots and commitment to Taiwanese democracy.

"China is the home of my parents. Taiwan is the home of my children," Wu'er said. "My standpoint, my view, my idea of promoting democracy and freedom for my homes has been consistent."

Wu'er, 47, is running as an independent from the central city of Taichung. **AP**

Hebei province head investigated for corruption

THE head of a major Chinese province and former aide to disgraced official Zhou Yongkang has been placed under investigation as part of a widening probe into alleged corruption.

Hebei province Communist Party head Zhou Benshun is suspected of "severe violations of discipline and the law," the party's anti-graft watchdog said in a brief statement issued late Friday.

No details were given, although the term is a standard euphemism for corruption.

Zhou is the first serving provincial chief to fall in a crackdown on corruption at all levels of government by President Xi Jinping that's seen as also targeting threats to Xi's power.

Zhou formerly held key positions in the central government's Politics and Law Commission headed by Zhou Yongkang, a former member of the all-powerful Politburo Standing Committee who was sentenced to life in prison last month on charges that he took 130 million yuan (USD21 million) in bribes and caused 1.4 billion yuan (\$229 million) in losses of public money.

The two Zhoues are not believed to be related.

In a further step in the anti-corruption campaign, former President Hu Jintao's top aide was arrested last week on corruption charges, stripped of his party membership and removed from all government positions.

The move came seven months after Hu's former aide Ling Jihua was placed under internal investigation for disciplinary violations. **AP**

Court sentences 5 on charges of spreading cult teachings

A court in northeast China sentenced five people to prison Saturday for spreading the teachings of a banned religious group that's been linked to a killing of a woman in a McDonald's restaurant last year.

The Intermediate Court in the city of Panjin said the five were sentenced to two to three years for undermining the implementation of the law, recruiting believers and propagating the group, called Quannengshen.

Members of the sect, whose name translates roughly as "all-powerful spirit," were sentenced for killing a woman in May 2014 after she refused to give her phone number to the suspects, who were trying to recruit new members.

The group believes Jesus has been resurrected as a Chinese woman, and it has been officially banned along with 13 other sects of various types.

Following last year's incident, authorities announced the roundup of hundreds of alleged cult members. The killing was caught on security camera footage and shown repeatedly on state television, along with the trial proceedings, in which two members were sentenced to death.

China has struggled at times to control grass-roots religious movements based on Christian or Buddhist ideology, most notably the Falun Gong meditation movement, which attracted millions of adherents before being brutally repressed in 1999. **AP**

Man restrained after trying to set fire aboard flight

A man attempted to set a fire on board a Chinese flight early yesterday, but was restrained by passengers and crew members and taken into custody, the aviation authority said.

It was the latest in a rash of dangerous incidents aboard Chinese flights, including passengers opening emergency exits and fights between flyers and crew members.

The attempted arson occurred at around 1:00 a.m. yesterday aboard a Shenzhen Airlines flight from the city of Taizhou to Guangzhou near Hong



Kong, the Civil Aviation Administration of China said.

It said an investigation was underway but gave no other details.

Photos posted on newspaper websites showed a partially charred passenger seat and a blackened emergency exit door.

Official broadcaster

CCTV and other state media reported that the pilot issued a mayday call and the plane was guided into Guangzhou airport. Slides were deployed and 95 passengers and nine crew members were evacuated. Two people were injured.

The incident appears to point to a serious breakdown in security at Taizhou airport. China bans the carrying of cigarette lighters and flammable substances, including spirits, aboard all flights.

A statement from Shenzhen Airlines confirmed the incident but offered no additional details. **AP**

Did Tang, Beijing

Activist known for brash tactics among dozens held

BEARDED, bald and burly ex-soldier Wu Gan calls himself The Ultra Vulgar Butcher. He poses for online portraits brandishing knives in both hands that he says he'll use to "slaughter the pigs" among local officials who've done wrong.

Since 2009, he championed a confrontational approach to compel police, local officials or the courts to address alleged unfairness in China. He traveled to remote communities to shame local authorities into doing the right thing.

His stunts included putting the likeness of a local official's face on a naked mannequin and threatening to hold a funeral service for a top judge. When authorities held a fellow activist at a hotel, Wu had an open invitation for like-minded people to visit the detainee, prompting his release by jittery officials wary of a crowd.

"I don't want to see policies being dictated by hooligans who will do harm to the nation. And so we go out there to help people, with the simple hope that our action will make this country a better place to live," he said in a 2012 video he made for supporters in the event that he should ever disappear or be arrested.

That day has come. Wu was formally arrested this month, as part of a recent crackdown on a loosely allied group of more than 200 "rights-defender lawyers" and the activists associated with them. He is among dozens who remain detained and may eventually stand trial.

They are the latest group targeted by the government under President Xi Jinping as it dismantles — one by one — any group with the potential to gain enough influence to threaten the Communist Party's monopoly on power. The party also has launched campaigns since 2013 to hush influential online bloggers, and to lock up members of the New Citizens movement that had openly called for greater government accountability.

Authorities have accused the lawyers of sabotaging the country's legal system, including by

PHOTO VIA AP VIDEO



In this image taken from a July 10, 2012, video provided to APTN, activist Wu Gan is seen with the subtitle "I am Wu Gan. My internet name is 'Super Vulgar Butcher' in Sanming city in southeastern China's Fujian province

arranging illegal demonstrations outside the court venues of cases they were involved with. The lawyers and activists argue that public action is sometimes necessary to get any justice at all in the largely party-controlled courts.

Wu was perhaps the highest-profile of the non-lawyer activists in this latest group, known for his knack at transforming online sentiment into on-the-ground activism. He was nominally an employee of a Beijing law firm, but it was unclear whether he was paid.

Activists like Wu and the lawyers focused on individual cases instead of challenging Communist Party policy at the national level, making them a greater headache for local officials than for Beijing. But their ability to organize and bring people out on the ground apparently made authorities nervous.

"If his acts did not inspire fear

in them, why are they arresting him?" said fellow activist Zhu Chengzhi.

Zhu credits Wu for his release in early 2013, when he was under house arrest in a hotel in the southern city of Shaoyang because of online activism. Wu invited fellow activists to travel there to celebrate Chinese New Year with Zhu in the hotel. That made Shaoyang officials nervous enough to let Zhu go.

"He put enough pressure on the local government that I was released on parole before the Chinese New Year," Zhu said in an interview. Otherwise, he said, "I would still be having jail meals."

Unlike China's well-educated liberal intellectuals, Wu hails from a humble, rural background in the southeastern province of Fujian. He had no more than nine years of schooling, joined the army and worked as an airport security officer after discharge.

Wu rose to fame in 2009 when he traveled to Hubei province to meet a young woman who fatally stabbed a government official who police said had made sexual advances. The high-profile case generated heated discussions online, but Wu was the first one to step away from his computer keyboard and take action by meeting with Deng Yujiao. He later persuaded her family to hire lawyers and raised money for her.

"Public attention snowballed" after that, said Human Rights Watch researcher Maya Wang, who credited Wu for Deng's eventual release. "He was the leader of that thread that connected with victims, rights lawyers, the online community, and so on."

In 2010, Wu helped mobilize 1,000 people to descend on a court in the southeastern city of Fuzhou to protest a trial over on-line speech.

In May 2015, after a police officer killed an unarmed but irate villager inside a train station in a northeastern Chinese city, Wu used social media to seek out an

Wu's stunts included putting a local official's face on a naked mannequin and threatening to hold a funeral service for a top judge

independent video of the incident, and found one in which the villager was beaten by the policeman. That widely circulated clip generated sympathy for the villager, and forced authorities to take the unusual step of releasing additional security camera footage of the incident to state media. That footage showed the villager clearly out of control, but Wu's clip had raised questions about whether the police officer had unnecessarily provoked the man.

State media have been critical of Wu and his tactics. The party-run People's Daily wrote in May that since the stabbing case, "his clown-like acts and vulgar performances have never been

absent from the scene of any hot issues around the country."

"As time went on, he grew bolder, his acts more outrageous to put pressure on local governments and achieve personal gains," the paper wrote. "He even used illegal means that were degrading, and he launched vicious attacks, but he labeled all of these as unique 'performance art.'"

In 2012, when local residents in a Fujian province community were protesting what they considered an unfair seizure of their land by local officials, Wu targeted the female official most associated with the seizure. He put a likeness of her face on a naked mannequin and then uploaded photos of himself making obscene gestures with it, the People's Daily said.

Wu was arrested May 19 in the southeastern city of Nanchang. He had traveled there after defense lawyers were denied access to files in a case in which four men were serving prison time for a double murder despite a later confession from a fifth man.

Wu wanted to put pressure on the court's chief judge, Zhang Zhonghou. In social media, Wu called Zhang a rogue and said he planned to hold a mock funeral for him, order white chrysanthemums for mourning and parade a statue of him around town.

He was arrested after unfurling a banner that insulted the judge. He was later moved to the Fujian province city of Xiamen, where he faces broader charges of causing trouble and inciting to overthrow state power, though prosecutors have not released details of the case against him.

Wu could not be reached for comment. His lawyers, Li Fangping and Yan Xin, have argued that his acts are a protected form of free speech and that public officials should be subjected to a higher level of scrutiny than the public.

Zhang Weiyu, one of the lawyers representing the four men believed to have been wrongfully convicted, said they were hoping Wu's activism would "prod the authorities into doing the right thing."

"And in reality, it did help raise the profile of our case. You cannot underestimate the impact his acts have generated," the lawyer said.

Zhang Weiyu said he does not think Wu's acts were unlawful, although Wu did push the envelope.

"I really admired his courage, and I cautioned him to be more careful," he recalled. "And he told me he did not believe he was doing anything wrong, and that he knew the boundaries." AP

PHOTO VIA AP VIDEO



In this image taken from May 19, 2015, police surveillance video footage run by China's CCTV on July 19, 2015 via AP Video, activist Wu Gan protests outside a courthouse in Nanchang city in southeastern China's Jiangxi province



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Mari Yamaguchi, Tokyo

JAPAN

Small plane crashes in Tokyo neighborhood; 3 dead, 3 survive

A small plane crashed into a quiet neighborhood in Tokyo yesterday, killing the pilot, a passenger and a woman on the ground, while three people were pulled alive from the wreckage, officials said.

The single-engine propeller plane plowed into and set ablaze a row of houses just minutes after takeoff from an airport used by small aircraft about 500 meters away in Tokyo's western suburb of Chofu.

Television footage showed a mangled plane, broken up with its tail upside down, resting on a crushed car in a residential lot as dozens of firefighters battled the blaze and treated the victims.

The roofs of the two houses next to the site were also damaged.

Tokyo Fire Department spokesman Teruaki Seki said the dead included the pilot, one of the four passengers and a woman who was inside the house where the plane crashed into, setting it ablaze. Five others, including the three remaining passengers and two people on the ground, were taken to hospitals, but their conditions were not immediately known.

The plane was operated by a private company for aviation training and other activity, not for commercial air travel, said Hideaki Kobayashi, the Tokyo metropolitan government official in charge of the Chofu Air-



The wreckage of a plane is seen at a crash site in the suburbs of Tokyo

port.

Police are investigating the cause of the crash.

Minako Akiyama, a resident in the neighborhood, said that after the crash, she heard the loud sound of something being torn. "I ran upstairs, then I saw the house just over there on fire, with a tail of the plane sticking out of it," she said.

The PA-46 Mirage plane, produced by Piper Aircraft, was flying to Izu Oshima Island, about 100 kilometers south of Tokyo in the Pacific Ocean, according to the Chofu Airport. The airport was opened in 1941 for Japan's Imperial Army during World War II and is now administered by the Tokyo metropolitan government.

The plane that crashed yesterday also experienced an accident in October 2004, when it crashed into a field in the northern Japanese city of Sapporo in a failed takeoff, according to a transport ministry report. Nobody was injured in that accident, which the ministry attributed to operational error. The aircraft had since been repaired. **AP**

AUSTRALIA

Islamic State group medic arrested on return home

An Australian nurse who says he was forced by Islamic State militants to work as a medic in Syria was arrested after returning home and faces terrorism-related charges of supporting the movement.

Adam Brookman, 39, was arrested at Sydney International Airport on Friday night on a Victoria state warrant relating to his alleged involvement in the conflict in Syria, Australian Federal Police said in a statement on Saturday.

He is the first Australian involved with the Islamic State known to have returned home since the Sunni fighters swept into western Iraq in June last year and declared the establishment of a caliphate, Monash University terrorism expert Greg Barton said.

"He's certainly the first Australian to come back from IS-controlled ter-



In this photo provided by a website of the Islamic State militants, taken Thursday, June 25, Islamic State militants move toward Syrian government forces' positions

ritory having lived and worked among IS," Barton said. "Culpability is the nub of the issue here."

Dozens of Australians who are suspected of fighting with militias in the Middle East have previously returned home. But none has been charged because of a lack of proof.

Brookman appeared from a police cell by video link in the Parramatta Bail Court on Saturday, where a magistrate gran-

ted an application by the Melbourne Joint Counter Terrorism Team to extradite him to his hometown of Melbourne in Victoria. He is to appear in a Melbourne court no later than this morning on two charges that each carries a maximum of 25 years in prison.

Court documents show both charges allege that Brookman knowingly provided support to the Islamic State movement by undertaking guard

duty and reconnaissance for the militants. That support would allegedly help the group "prepare or foster" a terrorist act.

The court was told that a warrant for Brookman's arrest was issued on Friday. Brookman did not speak during his brief appearance.

He surrendered to Turkish officials in Turkey last Tuesday and voluntarily flew back to Australia with a police escort.

Brookman, a Muslim convert and father of five children who live in Melbourne, told Fairfax Media in May that he went to Syria last year to do humanitarian work for civilians caught in the war. He said he was innocent of any crime and was forced to join Islamic State militants after being injured in an airstrike and taken to a hospital controlled by the group at al-Bab in Aleppo province.

"After I recovered, they

wouldn't let me leave," he told Fairfax.

He won the militants' trust by working as a medic and was able to escape to Turkey in December, he said.

Brookman told Fairfax that he opposed the violent and extreme actions of the militants, including the beheading of their captives.

"Of course there will be an investigation. That is fine. Hopefully things don't look that bad," Brookman told Fairfax.

It is not clear whether Brookman was still in Syria on Dec. 4, when Australia made a presence in the Islamic State stronghold of al-Raqqa province in Syria a crime punishable by 10 years in prison. If charged, the onus would be on Brookman to prove he had a legitimate reason to be in the terrorist hotspot.

Barton said it was un-

clear whether Brookman was ever in al-Raqqa, although he admits to being in a town controlled by the Islamic State.

Islamic State militants have had conspicuous success in recruiting in Australia, which has 24 million people. The majority are Christian while 2 percent are Muslim.

The London-based International Center for the Study of Radicalization and Political Violence estimates that between 100 and 250 Australians have joined Sunni militants in Iraq and Syria. The center estimates only 100 U.S. fighters have arrived from an American population more than 13-times larger.

The government estimates that up to half the Australian foreign fighters are dual nationals. It plans to legislate to strip them of their Australian citizenship to prevent them from returning. **AP**

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Honda Macau



Suzan Fraser, Ankara

TURKEY

Car bomb kills 2 soldiers in mainly Kurdish province

A car bomb struck a military vehicle in southeast Turkey, killing two soldiers and wounding four others in an attack blamed on Kurdish rebels, authorities said yesterday, a day after Turkey launched airstrikes against Kurdish insurgents in northern Iraq.

The Kurdish rebel group, the Kurdistan Workers' Party, or PKK, has said the airstrikes likely spelled the end of a cease-fire announced in 2013. Turkey has simultaneously bombed Islamic State positions near the Turkish border in Syria and carried out widespread police operations against suspected Kurdish and IS militants and other outlawed groups inside Turkey. Hundreds of people have been detained.

The strikes against the PKK, muddle the U.S.-led fight against IS. The United States has relied on Syrian Kurdish fighters affiliated with the PKK while making gains against IS.

The car bomb exploded late Saturday on a road in the town of Lice as a vehicle carrying military police officers was traveling to intervene against Kurds who had blocked a main intersection and set cars on fire, said the governor's office in Diyarbakir, a mainly Kurdish province.

The military said the PKK militants also fired on the troops in the attack it called a "treacherously pre-planned" ambush. The military statement said a large-scale operation was underway to capture the attackers.



Protesters carry a wounded man in Istanbul, Saturday, during clashes between police and protesters

Assailants also opened fire at police stations in the southeastern cities of Diyarbakir, Siirt and Mardin, Turkish media reported. No one was injured in the attacks.

The PKK has fought Turkey for autonomy for Kurds in a

conflict that has claimed tens of thousands of lives since 1984.

On Saturday, Turkish fighter jets struck Kurdish rebel shelters and storage facilities across the border in northern Iraq, its first such strikes since the peace process with the Kurds was lau-

nched in 2012. A cease-fire was announced the following year.

Tensions have been flaring with the Kurds in recent days following an IS suicide bombing in a town near the border with Syria. Kurdish groups have blamed the government

for not doing enough to prevent IS operations. On Wednesday, the PKK claimed responsibility for the killing of two policemen in the Kurdish majority city of Sanliurfa.

Late Saturday, the White House said Turkey has the right to defend itself against attacks by Kurdish rebels. Spokesman Alistair Baskie strongly condemned recent attacks by the PKK, which the U.S. has designated a terrorist group, and said the PKK should renounce terrorism and resume talks with Turkey's government.

But Baskie also said both sides should avoid violence and pursue de-escalation.

Meanwhile, a deputy national security adviser to President Barack Obama, said yesterday that Washington welcomed Turkey's "increased focus and accelerated efforts" against IS militants.

Authorities banned a peace rally, scheduled for yesterday in Istanbul to denounce this week's suicide bombing, on grounds that it may be used by outlawed groups for "provocative" acts. Organizers canceled the rally and said they would read out a brief statement instead. AP

KENYA

On visit, Obama urges an end to corruption

Darlene Superville, Nairobi

PRESIDENT Barack Obama told Kenyans yesterday that their country is at a crossroads and urged them to "choose the path to progress" by continuing to root out corruption, confront terrorism and be more inclusive of women and girls.

Closing out a historic visit to the land of his father's birth, Obama said Kenya has come so far in just his lifetime, but can go even further.

"You can choose the path to progress, but it requires making some important choices," he said in a speech to several thousand Kenyans packed into an indoor arena here in Kenya's capital, a normally bustling place that largely has been on lockdown during Obama's stay.



President Barack Obama delivers a speech at Safaricom Indoor Arena, in Nairobi

Thousands more Kenyans lined Obama's motorcade route to the arena and his roughly 40-minute speech was broadcast on TV.

Obama became the first sitting U.S. president to

visit Kenya with his arrival last week, years after he was first elected in 2008 and after many Kenyans had grown restless of waiting for the man they consider a local son to return. Obama previously had come in

2006 when he was a U.S. senator.

He was introduced at the arena by Auma Obama, his sister on his father's side of the family, who presented him to the audience as "my brother, your brother, our son."

The president traced the history of Kenya's evolution, from colonialism and isolation to independence and global engagement since it won independence from the British just over 50 years ago, in December 1963.

But Obama said challenges remain. He urged Kenyans — particularly its future leaders — to deal with corruption and tribal conflict, create opportunity for all, improve education and health care, treat women better and confront the threat of terrorism.

"When it comes to the people of Kenya, particularly the youth, I believe there is no limit to what you can achieve," he said. "Because of Kenya's progress — because of your potential — you can build your future right here, right now."

The speech struck many of the same notes that Obama has hit in remarks during past visits to Africa, urging the continent's leaders to shape up and not look to others to determine their destiny.

He said corruption was not unique to Kenya but described the pervasiveness of it in Kenya as a "cancer" that is holding back every aspect of economic and civic life like an "anchor."

Obama noted Kenya's booming economy — it has one of the fastest-

growing economies in Africa — and asked that the country's economic gains be shared more broadly with all Kenyans.

He urged an end to old tribal and ethnic divisions that he said are "doomed to tear our country apart" and urged Kenya's leaders, as he did President Uhuru Kenyatta during their meetings on Saturday, to confront the terrorist threat posed by al-Shabab militants based across the border in Somalia. The group has killed scores in Kenya in brazen attacks carried out in the past two years.

Obama also pressed for more tolerance and respect of women and girls, calling for an end to violence against women, forced marriages for girls who should otherwise be attending school, sexual assault and the tradition known as "genital mutilation."

"These traditions may date back centuries. They have no place in the 21st century," he said. AP

what's ON



MACAU SCIENCE CENTRE

TIME: 10am-6pm daily (Except Thursdays)

ADDRESS: Avenida Dr. Sun Yat-Sen

ADMISSION: Exhibition Centre: MOP25

Planetarium (Dome/Sky Shows): MOP50

Planetarium (3D Dome/3D Sky Shows): MOP65

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MACAU ANNUAL VISUAL ARTS EXHIBITION 2015 – CHINESE PAINTING AND CALLIGRAPHY CATEGORY

TIME: 10am-8pm

UNTIL: August 2, 2015

VENUE: Old Court Building

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8399 6699

MACAU GRAND PRIX MUSEUM & WINE MUSEUM

TIME: 10am-8pm daily (Except Tuesdays)

VENUE: Rua Luis Gonzaga Gomes, 431, basement

(Tourism Activities Centre-CAT)

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8798 4108 / 2833 3000

INSTALLATION 'VALKYRIE OCTOPUS'

BY JOANA VASCONCELOS

TIME: 24 hours

UNTIL: October 31, 2015

VENUE: MGM MACAU, Av. Dr. Sun Yat Sen, NAPE

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8802 8888

Offbeat

ROCKER VINCE NEIL DROPS LAWSUIT OVER SOCIAL MEDIA PASSWORDS



Vince Neil speaks at a Motley Crue and Kiss tour news conference in Los Angeles

Motley Crue frontman Vince Neil got back his social media passwords after suing a consultant he hired to manage the accounts and accusing her of posting online without his consent, a lawyer for the rocker said Friday.

Kristy Sinsara handed over the passwords and the case was dismissed in early June, attorney James Kohl confirmed. The breach-of-contract lawsuit accused Sinsara of holding the passwords hostage and making unauthorized posts.

Sinsara said Friday that Neil had the passwords all along.

In the March lawsuit filed in state court in Las Vegas, Neil said he gave his Facebook, LinkedIn and Twitter account passwords to Sinsara, who said she was a social media branding expert and would manage the accounts.

Sinsara offered to manage the profiles for free in exchange for promotion of her book and self-help website, according to court records.

When Neil asked for the passwords in December 2014, Sinsara gave him the one for Twitter but not the others, according to the lawsuit. Later, Sinsara handed over the Facebook password but enabled a security feature allowing access only from her computer, records say.

Sinsara has said it was a misunderstanding. She disputed Friday that the case was dismissed because she handed over the passwords, saying Neil always had access to his accounts.

"I did not give Vince Neil anything he did not already have," she said Friday in an email, adding that the rock star also could have verified his account directly with Facebook.

The lawsuit turned into a case of who didn't like whom. It claimed Sinsara kept the passwords from Neil because she didn't like his girlfriend, Rain Hannah, and suspected Hannah would promote her business ventures on the rocker's accounts.

Sinsara said the lawsuit was filed because she stood up to Hannah. AP

TV canal macau

13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:30	RTPi Live
18:50	The Illusionist (Repeated)
19:40	Soap Opera
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	TDM Sports
22:10	The Illusionist
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Documentary Series
00:05	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
00:40	RTPi Live

cinema

CINETEATRO

23 Jul - 29 Jul



INSIDIOUS: CHAPTER 3

ROOM 1

2.15, 4.00, 5.45, 7.30 pm

Director: Leigh Whannell

Starring: Dermot Mulroney, Stefanie Scott,

Angus Sampson

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 97min

MINIONS

ROOM 1

4.00 pm

Director: Pierre Coffin, Kyle Balda

Language: Cantonese (Chinese/English)

Duration: 91min

ANT-MAN

ROOM 2

(2D) 2.30, 4.45, 9.30 pm

(3D) 7.15 pm

Director: Peyton Reed

Starring: Paul Rudd, Michael Douglas

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 117min

INSIDE OUT

ROOM 3

(2D) 2.00, 3.55, 5.50 pm

(3D) 7.45 pm

Director: Pete Docter

Language: Cantonese (Chinese)

Duration: 94min

MINIONS

ROOM 3

9.45 pm

Director: Pierre Coffin, Kyle Balda

Language: Cantonese (Chinese/English)

Duration: 91min

MACAU TOWER

16 Jul - 29 Jul

ANT-MAN

2.30, 4.45, 7.15, 9.30 pm

Director: Peyton Reed

Starring: Paul Rudd, Michael Douglas

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 117min



this day in history



1950 TELEVISION CROSSES THE CHANNEL

The BBC has transmitted the first ever live television pictures across the Channel. A two-hour program was broadcast live from Calais in northern France to mark the centenary of the first message sent by submarine telegraph cable from England to France.

British viewers were able to watch the town of Calais "en fete", with a torchlight procession, dancing and a firework display all taking place in the Place de l'Hotel de Ville. Presenters Richard Dimbleby and Alan Adair gave commentaries on the festivities and interviewed local personalities in front of the cameras.

The historic transmission, which has taken more than two months to plan, was made possible largely because of recent developments in portable television radio links. In the past the working range for outside broadcast units was just 40 km.

Five portable radio-link stations, designed to receive and send microwave signals, were set up temporarily along the 153 km route from Calais to London. The first was installed at the top of the Hotel de Ville in Calais.

The microwave links work on wave-lengths of a few centimetres and concentrate the radio energy into sharp beams. The idea is to direct as much energy as possible towards the next receiving station, which in this case was situated high above Dover at the Air Ministry Radar Station at Swingate.

There were initial teething problems when it was found that the strength of the signal fluctuated greatly according to the weather, the tide and shipping in the Channel.

Technical adjustments were required and the broadcast signals were eventually received by equipment situated at the top of London University's 61m Senate House, having passed through the towns of Leatham and Harvel in Kent.

From there the pictures were transmitted via cable to Alexandra Palace and onto Sutton Coldfield by the GPO radio-link from where they were beamed to the nation.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

KEY EVENTS IN BROADCASTING HISTORY

Radio

- 14 November 1922 - first broadcast by British Broadcasting Company.
- 26 March 1923 - daily weather forecast first broadcast.
- 1 October 1939 - first wartime speech by Winston Churchill.
- 18 March 1947 - first Party Political Broadcast.
- 28 October 1957 - first broadcast of Today.
- 23 April 1968 - Radio coverage of the House of Commons begins.
- 9 June 1975 - first live broadcast from House of Commons.

Television

- 5 January 1948 - first transmission of Newsreel, the first regular TV news programme.
- 27 August 1950 - first cross-channel transmission.
- June 2 1953 - Broadcast of Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II in Westminster Abbey.
- 11 November 1953 - first transmission of Panorama.
- 5 July 1954 - first transmission of News & Newsreel, Britain's first daily TV news programme.
- 4 September 1955 - newsreaders appear "in vision" for the first time.
- 1955 - Launch of ITV
- 1960 - Television Centre in Shepherds Bush opened.
- 1964 - Launch of BBC2
- 23 Sept 1974 - first regular transmission of CEEFAX
- 21 November 1989 - House of Commons televised for the first time
- 4 November 1997 - launch of BBC News Online
- 9 November 1997 - Launch of News 24

YOUR STARS

Aries Mar. 21-Apr. 19 Subliminal heavy business is your favorite guest. Or is it just your most familiar? Either way, you can avoid the inevitable and make a buck all at the same time if you simply stay focused on money.

Taurus April 20-May 20 If you're feeling everything with intensity right about now, know you're not alone. But whether it's possessiveness, jealousy or just plain moodiness, you can channel the energy into turning a profit.

Gemini May 21-Jun. 21 Don't let weird feelings get in the way of making rational decisions. Give yourself extra time for extra calculating. Your financial future is counting on it.

Cancer Jun. 22-Jul. 22 Don't let the emotionally intense week knock you off balance. Be just as careful as you would with any business venture. Don't get your money involved in anything you are unsure of.

Leo Jul. 23-Aug. 22 With most people focusing on feeding family in more than the usual way, there won't be much money to be made. But at least it's not one of your nervous weeks, so enjoy what does trickle in.

Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22 Fitting five days of profits into a three day week is an unrealistic goal. But that doesn't mean you should throw all hope of making money out the window. Do what you have to stay motivated.

Libra Sep.23-Oct. 22 You're right on cue. It's the time to be thinking about generosity versus stinginess. Give your account the once over and come up with the highest amount you can afford to let someone need to be thankful for.

Scorpio Oct. 23 - Nov. 21 Something is clouding your vision. Is the promise of a good meal all it takes to make money issues fly right out the window? Try to stay focused for the rest of the day.

Sagittarius Nov. 22-Dec. 21 Should you even bother trying to make a buck? There's nothing going on and it's not hard to figure out why. Everyone is planning on putting their money where their mouths are, literally.

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19 When things quiet down and people around you leave early, it's the perfect time to look into all the details. Go over everything you've been putting off. You'll find quite a profit hiding in the cushions.

Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 18 If you're the type who does better with a little privacy, then you're in luck. If you make good use of time, you can make as much in this short week as you would in two with an audience.

Pisces Feb.19-Mar. 20 Don't consider anything a done deal. Lots of people will be wishy-washy this week. Don't count on spending the money until you see it show up in your account.

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- Money; 5- Tolkien tree creatures; 9- Surgery souvenirs; 14- Arthur Ashe's alma mater; 15- Meat dish; 16- Fields of comedy; 17- Possible; 19- Diamond flaw?; 20- Marsh plants; 21- 1/100 of a monetary unit; 23- Dug in; 24- Clockwise; 26- Class struggle?; 28- Variety show; 30- Soup made with beets; 34- Ltd., in Paris; 37- The dark that precedes today; 39- River to the Ubangi; 41- Sailor; 42- Keep it, to an editor; 43- Conversion; 48- Indy 500 sponsor; 49- Guard; 50- Earthquake; 52- Oscar ___ Rent; 54- One who enjoys inflicting pain; 57- "You've got mail" co.; 60- To a smaller extent; 62- Female parent; 64- City on the Nile; 66- Holy Land; 68- City on the Ruhr; 69- Archer of myth; 70- Tied; 71- Undercover operation; 72- Baptism, e.g.; 73- Defense grp. since 1949;

DOWN: 1- Intersects; 2- Felt sore; 3- Slip; 4- Shelter; 5- Elusive; 6- Kan. neighbor; 7- After-bath powder; 8- Winter woe; 9- Felt hat; 10- ___ anglais (English horn); 11- Gillette brand; 12- Public disturbance; 13- Shrivelled, without moisture; 18- "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest" author; 22- Wyo. neighbor; 25- Enthusiastic; 27- Speaker of note; 29- Les ___-Unis; 31- Cpls.' superiors; 32- Guitarist Atkins; 33- URL starter; 34- Drinking vessels; 35- Able was ...; 36- North Carolina university; 38- Great Lakes tribesmen; 40- Cornerstone abbr.; 44- Soon; 45- Singer Lovett; 46- Like some cats; 47- Windows predecessor; 51- Fingerless hand cover; 53- According to; 55- The Hindu Destroyer; 56- Belief; 57- Breezes through; 58- Klin; 59- Actress Vima; 61- Delhi dress; 63- City in Western Nevada; 65- Stimp's pal; 67- Destiny

Friday's solution crossword grid with filled-in words.

Large crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1-73.

Crossword puzzles provided by BestCrosswords.com

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

- Emergency calls 999
Taxi 28 939 939 / 2828 3283
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
Customs 28 559 944
S. J. Hospital 28 313 731
Kiang Wu Hospital 28 371 333
Commission Against Corruption (CCAC) 28326 300
IACM 28 387 333
Tourism 28 333 000
Airport 59 888 88



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One Grantai, Unit Y Taipa 3 Bedrooms Apartment Beautiful Green Views HKD 22,000 / 2,158 sq ft Ref: 1505508

Hellene Gardens Coloane 1,663 sq ft. / HKD 8.8M HKD 5,292sq ft Car Park Included Ref: 15055437

CHUN LEONG Taipa Car Park Space Car Park for Rent HKD 1,700 / 00 sq ft Ref: 1505051

Old Taipa Village Taipa Taipa 1,000 sq ft / HKD 6.5M HKD 6,500sq ft Near Lady of Carmel Church Ref: 15035434

Va Fu, Old Taipa Village Taipa 1 Bedroom Apartment Very Centrally Located HKD 12,500 / 800 sq ft Ref: 15050511

Vila Bela Macau 1,978sq ft / HKD 16M HKD 8,088sq ft Stunning Views Ref: 15055442

YEE HOI Garden Macau 2 Bedrooms Apartment Amazing Views HKD 14,000 / 1,200 sq ft Ref: 15050513

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AD

Ex-World Cup winners Spain, Italy to play in 2018 qualifiers

Rob Harris, St. Petersburg

RELIEF for Germany. Apprehension for Spain, Italy, France, and the Netherlands. And England resuming international football's oldest rivalry with Scotland.

While World Cup-holder Germany received a relatively kind qualifying draw on Saturday, reaching the 2018 finals in Russia will be no easy task for some of Europe's traditional powers.

Italy, the 2006 world champion, paid the price for recent poor results by being drawn once again in qualifying with 2010 winner Spain in Saturday's ceremony at Konstantin Palace.

"It will be very stimulating for our team," Italy coach Antonio Conte said through a translator

in St. Petersburg. "Spain is very strong."

Spain ended Italy's European Championship hopes in the 2008 and 2012 finals before they both embarrassingly exited the last World Cup in the group stage.

"The World Cup was a slight misadventure, the same as for us," Conte said. "At the moment, they are constructing something new." Group G also features Balkan neighbors Albania and Macedonia, and Israel and Liechtenstein.

The heavyweight group is undoubtedly A. Either France, Sweden or the Netherlands, which finished third in the 2014 World Cup, will not be going to Russia.

There is only one automatic

place from each of Europe's nine groups. Eight of the best second-place teams from the continent's nine groups will get a second shot at reaching Russia through the playoffs.

France prepares for Group A, which also features Bulgaria, Belarus, and Luxembourg, knowing it has not beaten the Dutch in a competitive match since Euro '96, and lost to Sweden at Euro 2012.

"It's not really easy to think after the draw, do we qualify for the next World Cup?" France coach Didier Deschamps said. "It won't be very easy."

Many teams would relish the start Germany has to its title defense from September 2016, and it was thanks to Germany team manager Oliver Bierhoff who drew the European groups. Group C is seemingly straightforward with Czech Republic the strongest rival for Germany, and other games with Northern Ireland, Norway, Azerbaijan, and San Marino.

"I'm happy that we won't play against France or Italy," Bierhoff



Germany's Thomas Muller (2nd right) scores a goal during a 2014 FIFA World Cup semifinal match between Brazil and Germany. The World Cup holders received a relatively kind qualifying draw on Saturday

ff said.

Cristiano Ronaldo's Portugal also should not be too concerned about Group B with matches against Switzerland, Hungary, the Faeroe Islands, Latvia, and Andorra.

For the first time in a World Cup qualifying draw, England and Scotland were paired together. The neighbors played the first international match 143 years ago.

"That's the fixture which is going to capture the imagina-

tion because England-Scotland fixtures go back a long, long way, and there's been many a fierce encounter over the years," said England coach Roy Hodgson, who hopes his contract is extended after it expires next year.

Adding to the intrigue for the neighbors could be the lingering effects of Scotland's 2014 independence referendum, when the majority voted to stay part of Britain. Group F also features Slovakia, Slovenia, Lithuania, and Malta. **AP**

THE OTHER EUROPEAN GROUPS ARE:

- D:** Wales, Austria, Serbia, Ireland, Moldova, Georgia.
- E:** Romania, Denmark, Poland, Montenegro, Armenia, Kazakhstan.
- H:** Belgium, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Greece, Estonia, Cyprus.
- I:** Croatia, Iceland, Ukraine, Turkey, Finland.

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John Leicester

Surviving '1,000 deaths,' Froome all but locks up Tour

FEELING like he was “dying a thousand deaths,” Chris Froome started to think that a second Tour de France victory might be melting away like the patches of snow on surrounding Alpine peaks.

Up ahead, already out of sight on the 21 hairpin bends lined by frenzied spectators, Froome’s biggest rival at this Tour and those to come, Nairo Quintana, was flying, out of his saddle, getting away.

Grimly, Froome clung on. Following the wheels of two teammates who led him up cycling’s most iconic climb to the Alpe d’Huez ski station, he passed — barely — the last big test before the three-week race rolls to its finish in Paris today [Macau time].

This wasn’t the dominant Froome whose powerful performances in the Pyrenees seemed, to some skeptics, reminiscent of dope cheats who did so much damage to the Tour. This was just a man, fighting pain, fighting the mountain, fighting to survive.

“There was a moment where I felt this could go either way,” the British rider said. “I was on my absolute limits. I was dying a thousand deaths.”

Quintana was outstanding on the storied ascent, piling on speed in his last real opportunity to unseat the race leader. Over his radio, Froome’s Team Sky updated him on the Colombian’s progress as he scythed through fans waving flares and smoke bombs.

“We were getting time checks every few minutes,” Froome said. “It was comforting to see it wasn’t suddenly jumping by 30 seconds each time. It was slowly moving up 5-10 seconds at a time.”

Thibaut Pinot won Saturday’s Stage 20, the third French victory of this Tour. But it was Quintana’s bold last assault and Froome’s tenacious defense that provided the thrilling



Britain’s Chris Froome, wearing the overall leader’s yellow jersey, climbs towards Alpe d’Huez during the twentieth stage of the Tour de France

The 1 minute, 12 seconds Froome preserved over Quintana will see him crowned the winner on the Champs-Elysees

finale to a spectacular race.

The 1 minute, 12 seconds Froome preserved over Quintana will see him crowned the winner on the Champs-Elysees. “An amazing, amazing feeling,” he said.

Froome essentially won this

Tour on the first big climbs in the Pyrenees in week two when, closely followed by teammate Richie Porte, he triumphed at the La Pierre-Saint-Martin ski station to give him a big time cushion. He picked that climb weeks earlier in training as the place to make his move.

That decisive blow carried Froome through those mountains and the hilly Massif Central region on the way to the Alps, and — with the exception of Quintana — resigned other contenders to fight for second and third.

Ultimately, Quintana left himself too much to do on the last of four days in the Alps. Just as in 2013, he’ll finish runner-up again to Froome.

Quintana said time lost in the first week cost him dearly.

Still, he said: “Second at the Tour de France isn’t half-bad.”

Their engrossing, developing

rivalry is box office for the sport after the ravages wrought by Lance Armstrong’s era of systematic doping and lying.

At age 25, Quintana’s future is ahead. He again will win the white jersey as the Tour’s best young rider.

At 30, Froome can still add to his soon-to-be two Tour wins, and says he sees himself competing for at least another six or seven years.

But on this Tour’s evidence, Quintana is getting closer to finding Froome’s breaking point. In 2013, Froome won with a lead of 4 minutes, 20 seconds. This Tour wasn’t so comfortable. “Nairo pushed me all the way to the end, literally,” Froome said. “We’ll be back for the rematch.”

On the Alpe d’Huez, Froome clung to the lifeline of his teammates Porte and Wouter Poels, who kept glancing behind to make sure their leader was still on their wheels.

“They saved it for me,” Froome said. Barring further loss of time on Sunday’s largely ceremonial ride, which is very unlikely, Froome’s winning margin will be the smallest since Carlos Sastre beat Cadel Evans by 58 seconds in 2008.

Quintana’s Movistar teammate, Alejandro Valverde, will take third overall, 5:25 back.

Froome, his voice rough, said at his winner’s press conference he’s battled a cough and “been struggling” in the Alps.

Although unintended, those first signs of vulnerability shot holes in the idea that his dominant riding in the Pyrenees was somehow fishy. Such doubts reflected the climate of suspicion that prevails post-Armstrong, despite tighter drug testing.

Froome has defended himself against repeated questions about doping, and how he generates such power. He did so with calm and patience, insisting that cycling has moved on from the “Wild West” era of Tours won with doping.

But after a spectator threw urine at him on Stage 14, the mild-mannered Froome showed steel, blaming “very irresponsible” commentators for souring public opinion.

Some spectators spat at him — including, he said, on Saturday’s final climb.

“There’s been so much going on in the background,” Froome said. “I’ve done nothing wrong. I’ve done nothing to deserve this.” AP

PARIS POLICE OPEN FIRE ON CAR

PARIS POLICE were searching for a car that struck a taxi and crashed through barricades set up near the Tour de France finish line yesterday morning, drawing police fire hours before the arrival of the cyclists and spectators. Police said they didn’t suspect terrorism. The car escaped with at least two

occupants who were apparently unharmed after police opened fire on the vehicle in the Place de la Concorde, where the cyclists make their final triumphant rounds to conclude the race, said a union police official and a government official with knowledge of the incident.

F1 Vettel wins action-packed Hungarian GP

FERRARI driver Sebastian Vettel won an action-packed Hungarian Grand Prix for the first time yesterday, while Nico Rosberg saw his chance to catch Lewis Hamilton in the title race disappear with a puncture near the end.

Four-time F1 champion Vettel started third on the grid. It was his 41st career win — moving him level with Brazilian great Ayrton Senna — and his first since the Malaysian



Ferrari driver Sebastian Vettel

GP in the second race of this season.

Red Bull took advantage

of late chaos as Russian driver Daniil Kvyat placed second and Daniel

Ricciardo, who clipped Rosberg, took third.

Vettel’s win put the Ger-

man driver back into the title race, as Hamilton finished sixth and Rosberg placed eighth.

Vettel dedicated his win to Jules Bianchi, the French driver who died last week at the age of 25 from injuries sustained in a head-on crash at the Japanese GP last October.

“Merci Jules, cette victoire est pour toi,” (Thank you Jules, this win is for you), Vettel said in French on race radio, before continuing in English.

“You are always in our hearts, sooner or later we know you would have been in this team.”

A poignant minute’s silence was held in honor of Bianchi before the race, with drivers forming a ring and placing their race helmets on the ground.

“Mentioning Senna’s record is something incredible. I don’t know how to put this in words,” Vettel said. “But nevertheless this is for Jules and his family.”

Bianchi’s mother Christine and father Philippe, brother Tom and sister Melanie joined them as they all linked arms on the Hungaroring grid. AP

opinion

World Views

William Pesek

WHY ULTRALOW INTEREST RATES AREN'T GOING ANYWHERE

For decades, central banks lorded over markets. Traders quivered at the omnipotence of monetary authorities - their every move, utterance and wink a reason to scurry for safe havens or an opportunity to score huge profits. Now, though, markets are the ones doing the bullying.

Take New Zealand and Australia. Last week, the Reserve Bank of New Zealand slashed borrowing costs for the second time in six weeks even as housing prices continue to skyrocket. Its counterpart across the Tasman Sea (already wrestling with an even bigger property bubble of its own) said a third cut this year is "on the table."

Just one year ago, it seemed unthinkable that officials in Wellington and Sydney, more typically known for their hawkishness and stubborn independence, would join the global race toward zero. But with commodity prices sliding, China slowing and governments reluctant to adopt bold reforms, jittery markets are demanding ever-bigger gestures from central banks. Even those presiding over stable growth feel the need to placate hedge funds, lest asset markets falter. When this dynamic overtakes countries such as New Zealand (growing 2.6 percent) and Australia (2.3 percent), it's hard not to conclude that ultralow rates will be the global norm for a long, long time.

Indeed, the major monetary powers that are easing - Europe, Japan, Australia and New Zealand - have all suggested rates may stay low almost indefinitely. Those angling to return to normalcy, meanwhile - the Federal Reserve and Bank of England -- are pledging to move very slowly. Even nations with rising inflation problems, like India, are hinting at more stimulus.

"As interest rates continue to fall across most of the globe, central banks are also united in their main message: Once rates have come down, they're likely to stay down," says Simon Grose -Hodge of LGT Bank. "And when they finally do tighten, the 'normal' rate is going to be a lot lower than it used to be."

Could the People's Bank of China be next? "With underlying GDP growth still looking weak, more monetary policy moves are likely," says Adam Slater of Oxford Economics. "And China may even face the prospect of short-term rates dropping towards the zero lower bound."

In April 2013, International Monetary Fund head Christine Lagarde asked her staff to study how markets might react to major central banks reversing their easing policies. Yet Japan's experience illustrates just how hard it is to restore normalcy after a huge economic shock. Markets, businesses, banks, consumers and politicians alike quickly learn not just to love free money, but to rely on it. Zero rates are about the only thing keeping Japan's huge debt load sustainable, thus making it all but impossible for Bank of Japan Governor Haruhiko Kuroda to taper.

Even if Fed Chair Janet Yellen manages to pull off a rate hike or two later this year, she'll be hard-pressed to return to the monetary-policy framework that prevailed before the Lehman Brothers crisis. Yellen would be pilloried by Wall Street and summoned to Capitol Hill for a browbeating if she tried. Similarly, European Central Bank President Mario Draghi would face rebellions across the euro zone to any tapering moves.

At this point, rather than pretend they can return to normalcy, central banks should be devising ways to adapt to a low-rate world. Surely, they should prod governments to do their part to boost growth and upgrade economies. But monetary authorities also must make sure the liquidity they churn out doesn't increase financial risks.

In New Zealand, for example, central bank Governor Graeme Wheeler has been experimenting with so-called macro prudential steps to tame asset bubbles, including limits on leveraged lending. Australia should be eyeing new regulations and taxes to make sure its record-low 2 percent benchmark rate doesn't add froth to property markets. That goes, too, for officials in the U.S., Europe and elsewhere still thinking they can regain their power over markets or the business cycle. Those days aren't going to return anytime soon. **Bloomberg**

THE BUZZ WOMAN GETS LIFE AFTER HIRING TEEN WHO KILLED WRONG MAN

A U.S. woman was sentenced to life in prison after she hired a teen to kill a man, and he killed the wrong man by mistake. Authorities have said that Karlita Desean Phillips, 41, hired a 17-year-old to kill her estranged husband in March 2013, but the teen killed her husband's brother by mistake. The brother was ambushed as he slid his key into the door

of his home, investigators say. Phillips was motivated in part by life insurance payouts due to her at her husband's death. The husband had a life insurance policy through work that would have paid her USD500,000 at his death, prosecutors said. She also took out an additional \$25,000 life insurance policy on her husband through her own employer.

MACAU

'Theatresports' promotes anti-drug message to youth



LOCAL youngsters competed against one another last night in an impromptu drama competition at Pui Ching Middle School as part of the government's anti-drug efforts targeting local youth.

The second edition of 'Theatresports' organized by the Social Welfare Bureau and Theatre Farmers saw a total of seven participating teams, two more than last year's, giving the teenage contestants an opportunity to hone their improvisational performing skills while spreading the message of rejecting drugs across the city.

Held every year since 2001, the group's founding member Jacky Li introduced the concept of improvisational

theater to the city, based on an idea he saw implemented in Canada. The local theater promotion group holds a regional championship where stage actors from surrounding Asian countries come to the region to pit themselves against each other for titles.

The idea of the miniature championship came about last year as part of the government's strengthened efforts to combat drug abuse among local youth, using a similar format.

With props available for use on the stage, participants equipped with anti-drug knowledge through earlier training had to battle it out in the first round, which consisted of 14 games, to get

through to the second round, also known as danger round, that was to determine the final champion out of only two finalists. The competition also had other awards to recognize outstanding teams for their command of anti-drug knowledge or teamwork.

One interesting feature about the impromptu drama challenge is the audience's involvement, as it requires spectators to set the context in some of the games.

"Its biggest feature is the interaction with audiences, as they sometimes have a chance to suggest roles such a nurse or street cleaner and a scene, based on which the contestants improvise a story," said Sun Li, program coordinator at Theatre Farmers, also among the personnel assisting last night's function. "Different games give the audiences freedom to set the scene to different extent."

'Theatresports' was first pioneered by British-Canadian theater director Keith Johnstone, who wished to spice up theatrical activities by turning them into a sport-like competition, where two sides or more vie on the stage as a way to entertain the audience. **Staff reporter**

Station	Air quality
Roadside	10-30 Good
High Density Residential Area	25-45 Good
Ambient	30-50 Good

WORLD BRIEFS

ISRAEL Police entered a holy Jerusalem site on yesterday to prevent Arab youths from attacking visiting Jews marking a biblical holiday, a police spokesman said.

INDONESIA A strong earthquake hit off of Indonesia's main island of Java yesterday afternoon, causing residents to pour into the streets, but there were no immediate reports of injuries or damage, and no tsunami warning was issued.



USA Family and friends of Illinois woman Sandra Bland, who was found dead in a Texas jail, remembered her Saturday as a "courageous voice" for social justice and promised to keep fighting for clarity on the circumstances surrounding her death. Hundreds of people attended funeral near the Chicago suburb where she grew up. Mourners said they were still struggling to understand how a traffic stop for failing to use a turn signal escalated into a physical confrontation and landed her in the cell where authorities say she killed herself three days later.



USA Pluto is hazier than scientists expected and appears to be covered with flowing ice. The team responsible for the New Horizons flyby of Pluto last week released new pictures of the previously unexplored world on the edge of the solar system.

USA A new letter from intelligence investigators to the Justice Department says secret government information may have been compromised in Hillary Rodham Clinton's private email server. The former secretary of state and now the leading Democratic presidential candidate remains unable to fully escape the questions surrounding her decision to run her State Department correspondence through an unsecured system set up at her New York home.

THE DECISIVE MOMENT

Xinhua/Rachen Sageamsak



Rescuers work at the accident site where a total of 17 Chinese tourists were injured after their tour bus overturned yesterday in Phuket City, Thailand.