



COMMUNITY NANNY PROGRAM SCRAPPED

The pilot program aimed at providing community-based babysitting services will end next month due to lack of demand

P4



INTERVIEW WITH AKIKO TAKAHASHI

Melco's executive vice president says that the company wants to "become the employer that people choose to stay with"

P5



PROTESTERS, POLICE CLASH AHEAD OF AQUINO SPEECH

P12 PHILIPPINES

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"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN' "

WORLD BRIEFS

CHINA A Chinese court has accepted a case brought by a social organization against oil giants ConocoPhillips China and China National Offshore Oil Corp. over oil spills in northern China in 2011. It is the first case accepted since China changed its law to allow NGO lawsuits against heavy polluters. *More on p11*

N KOREAN officials warned the United States that another war on the Korean Peninsula would leave no Americans alive to sign a surrender document as the country marked yesterday's anniversary of the armistice that ended fighting in the Korean War. *More on p13*

AUSTRALIA An Australian nurse who says he was forced by Islamic State militants to work as a medic in Syria did not apply for bail when he appeared in a court in his hometown of Melbourne yesterday charged with supporting a terrorist group. Adam Brookman, 39, voluntarily returned to Australia from Turkey on Friday.

AP PHOTO



YEMEN Shiite rebels and their opponents battled across several provinces yesterday after the start of a five-day humanitarian pause in the Saudi-led air campaign, Yemeni officials said. Coalition planes carried out flyovers over Yemen but did not drop munitions, the officials said. Ground fighting erupted in multiple provinces within minutes of the start of the unilateral cease-fire late Sunday.

More on backpage

National Geographic shoots documentary on local culture

P3



78 athletes represent Macau at the Los Angeles Special Olympics

P3

Gem fair exhibitors display mixed feelings about sales

JEWELRY exhibitors from more than 15 countries placed their glittering products on sale at a four-day fair at the Venetian Macao, showcasing unique Asian gems and accessories for approximately 900 professional buyers from China and Southeast Asia.

Officials from the Macau Trade and Investment Promotion Institute (IPIM) extolled the region's MICE facilities yesterday morning after an inaugural ceremony for the International Gem Fair, organized by three Hong Kong groups.

"Our spacious venues and concentration of rooms is one selling point," said Irene Lau, one of IPIM's executive directors. "There are around 20,000 rooms here, and we welcomed 9,000 guests last week. There is no other place that can hold that many people, they don't even need a shuttle bus to commute for a meeting," she added.



Lau said that the region's "world-known" hardware and service pleased the organizers,

who already promised to return to the city in the following two years for another exhibition.

"Primarily we touched them with our services as one of the conditions about Macau is its small size that makes it easier to communicate and set arrangements in place," she added.

However, some of the firms expressed their discontent over part of the exhibition arrangements, chiefly regarding security, staff training and opening hours.

Vanessa Chung, sales executive at Hong Kong-based La Vie Premium admittedly disclosed that she was not optimistic about sales performance in the upcoming three days given the faraway venue of the fair, saying their involvement this time was merely an "experience." Additionally, she criticized the event's logistics as "incomplete."

"We stayed up until 12:00 a.m. last night because no one had built our booth even though we had asked them to build

it at noon. It was still yet to be built before the event started this morning," she complained, also saying the staff stationed on the site failed to give proper directions.

Tony Ho, a local assisting a Zhuhai exhibitor, believed that the exhibition should be held in the evening to allow more local potential customers who worked during the daytime on workdays to attend. He also felt pessimistic about their business in the next few days, citing similar distance reasons.

Lokesh Gupta, from the Thai Manufacturer Co., who aimed for mainland Chinese customers, echoed the above two exhibitors' pessimism about the fair: "I had hope in participating here. We hoped there would be many visitors," he said. "But I didn't expect it to be like this. However, let's see how it goes later." Nonetheless, he was satisfied with the event's arrangement.

Staff from Hong Kong's Legar Co. told the Times that most of the visitors to their booth were non-professional buyers, one of whom was even caught by the police for allegedly committing theft at another counter. **Staff reporter**

CRIME

Man arrested for indecent exposure

THE Public Security Police Force arrested a local man for allegedly publicly exposing himself over 100 times to female passersby, during their regular anti-crime operations on Sunday.

The 42-year-old insurance agent was also said to have a fetish for female buttocks as the police authorities found more than 40 video clips on the suspect's cellphone capturing women's lower parts. On top of that, the three memory cards discovered in his apartment contained a total of 1,600 pictures and 310 videos also featuring that body part.

Two days ago, the suspect was seen on the prowl staring at female pedestrians in the street

near the Three Lamps Districts by police agents, who subsequently stopped him. His identity was later confirmed by one of his victims, who had earlier reported him to the authorities.

The man confessed that he began to make the videos in 2010 and started showing his genitals in public one year later. The police believed that there were still many other victims yet to come forward.

In a separate case, three local pawn stores have lost a total of MOP1.16 million to an illegal immigrant from the mainland, where the suspect fraudulently exchanged bogus tiny diamonds for cash.

The 36-year-old man, already arrested by the

Judiciary Police (PJ), was said to have entered the region illegally in April. During the past three months, he carried out the crimes either on his own or with his other accomplices. Receiving reports by the duped victims earlier, the PJ authorities pinpointed the suspect after investigation.

They finally took action against the mainlander while he was reported to be gambling in a casino in the NAPE district. Around 200 grams of phony diamonds were discovered inside the suspect's home, also in that area. It was estimated that the counterfeits had a street value amounting to over MOP1.4 million if sold as genuine. **Staff reporter**

Forum focuses on 'judicial system impartiality'

THE president of the Court of Final Appeal, Sam Hou Fai, has said that China's law reform has invariably captured the attention of Macau, Hong Kong and Taiwan. Hence, the third Cross-Strait High Level Forum on the legal affairs of Macau, Hong Kong and Taiwan, which is being held here for the first time today, is committed to "ensuring the judicial system's impartiality."

At the forum's opening ceremony yesterday, Mr Sam recalled that the three regions will be discussing how to further cooperation on legal affairs, while debating topics ranging from human resources and judicial organization, to courts' budgetary matters or the current legal affairs situation of each region.

Furthermore, the forum will enable the three jurisdictions to provide further details on the operations of their particular judicial systems.

Mr Sam stressed in his speech that the three regions will be able to learn from each other, aiming to overco-



me hurdles and fix similar system issues, while working toward "the development of the civilization of Chinese Rule of Law."

The forum ends today with the closing ceremony being held at 11.30 a.m. at the MGM.

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NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

Local culture and architecture featured on documentary

Catarina Pinto

A documentary reflecting upon Macau's architectural, urban and cultural heritage is due to be aired by National Geographic later this year, as a team recently visited the city to interview local experts and capture the MSAR's charming heritage and landscape.

Architect Carlos Marreiros is among several Macau personalities and experts interviewed for the piece, he told the Times.

"I was asked to talk about heritage and heritage preservation; its past, present and future. And how different cultures met here in Macau, while reflecting upon Macau's identity," said Mr Marreiros.

The documentary, which is due to be aired in December, is hosted by freelance writer and editor Julian Davison. The piece is intended at portraying Macau beyond its glaring casinos, while reflecting upon the relation between the city's old and modern elements.

Mr Marreiros said that other experts and personalities have been interviewed for the documentary, to speak on different subjects, including Patuá, a creole dialect that mixes Portuguese, Cantonese and Malay, among other languages.



The St. Paul's Church façade, built in 1602-1640, is one of the elements analyzed in the documentary to be aired by National Geographic

"Regarding heritage I said that there's a need to strike a balance, by implementing daring policies so that heritage could be vitally preserved," he said.

The local architect recalled that we would need to look beyond Macau's historic center, which has already been listed as UNESCO World Heritage, as there are more places and monuments worth noticing. "There's more heritage beyond this protected area that is worth being listed, too. There are more pieces that should be recognized as well, including heritage from the 1930s, 1940s,

1950s..." he stressed.

Mr Marreiros said that the team filmed at the St Paul's Ruins, perhaps Macau's most iconic heritage site. More important than the imposing church's architecture, he recalled, is how symbolic the building is. "The church is located beneath a little temple. Such harmony is one of the most moving images of Macau in my opinion," he conceded.

The architect recalled that Macau's architecture and urban planning has been influenced by two main civilizations: the Chinese and the Portuguese.

But other nations have also contributed to shape the city we live in today, he added. "The influences of Goa, in particular, and India in general... the influences of Sri Lanka, the Philippines, or Indonesia can be traced here as well, and even on Macau's traditional gastronomy, or in the Patuá," he said. The architect added that from Portugal came other European influences, too.

Mr Marreiros believes the territory needs stronger policies not only to protect its heritage but also to focus on its contemporary architectural elements. While interviewed for the documentary, he also stressed the need for Macau, the peninsula in particular, to retain its "relationship with the sea."

I was asked to talk about heritage and heritage preservation; its past, present and future

CARLOS MARREIROS

Number of non-resident workers increases

The number of non-resident workers in Macau continued to increase in June, reaching 180,523 according to data released by the Human Resources Office. Most non-resident workers (117,316) are from mainland China, while over 23,000 have come from the Philippines. The majority of non-resident workers are employed in the construction sector, followed by the hospitality and food service industries.

Portuguese judges get contracts renewed

The contracts of four Portuguese judges have been renewed, according to a notice published in the government's Official Gazette (BO). Judge Rui Ribeiro will continue to head the Collective Court of Macau's First Instance courts for another two years, starting on October 15 this year. The contracts of judges Jerónimo Santos, Mário Meireles and Ana Meireles have also been renewed for two years starting on September 1. They serve as Court of First Instance judges. The Portuguese judges' contracts were renewed as suggested by an independent commission tasked with nominating judges, the notice also stated.

OPENING CEREMONY LA2015

A unique moment for local Special Olympics athletes



THE Macau delegation took part in the Opening Ceremony of the 2015 Special Olympics World Games, held at the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum. According to the chairperson of Special Olympics Macau, Ada Lo, "it was a very special moment" for the local team, that included a

total of 114 members, including 78 Special Olympics athletes.

Saturday's three-hour event was attended by a crowd of 62,338 fans who watched the 6,500 athletes representing 165 countries and regions. It is the largest number of nations to have ever gathered for a sin-

gle event in Los Angeles, even though the American city has hosted the Olympic Games in 1984.

According to Ada Lo's recollection of the event, after all the teams had participated in their parades, an opening speech was delivered by the mayor of Los Angeles and Tim Shriver, CEO of Special Olympics international, followed by musical performances from Avril Lavigne and Stevie Wonder, among others. Furthermore, Maria Shriver talked about her mother Eunice Kennedy Shriver and her experience as the founder of the Special Olympics.

The first lady Michelle Obama officially opened the Games. "My husband and I, we are so proud of you, so incredibly proud of you, and we love you all from the bottom of our hearts," she said, adding that the participating athletes were an example to the millions of people watching the event on television.

At the end of the opening ceremony, Special Olympics athletes and Olympic gold medalists including swimmer Michael Phelps, diver Greg Louganis and skater Michelle Kwan marched into the arena together carrying the Special Olympics flag. A flaming torch carried from Greece was used to light the Coliseum's Olympic beacon. Athletes will be competing in 25 different sports at venues throughout Los Angeles until August 2.

New street parking fees in September



On-street parking spaces in the busiest areas of Macau (Nam Van, ZAPE and Taipa) will become more expensive starting on September 1. Street parking meters will cost MOP6 per hour, meaning MOP1 for every 10 minutes. According to the rules published in yesterday's Official Gazette, no vehicle will be allowed to park for more than one hour.

Community nanny program scrapped due to lack of demand



Officials of the Social Welfare Bureau hold a press conference on the experimental babysitting scheme

Brook Yang

THE Social Welfare Bureau (IAS)'s pilot program aimed at providing community-based babysitting services will end next month after a one year trial period, as the authorities have failed to identify multiple reasons to continue the program.

Since last July, the program has received a total of 69 applications whereas only 36 of them were accepted. The IAS explained in a press conference yesterday that the service is only available to young children who didn't secure a nursery seat and their working parents

were unable to find anyone to look after them in the daytime.

"We started this pilot program because there has been a gap between society's demand for child-care and the supply of nurseries in recent years, and that the public is concerned over the lack of support to dual-career families in caretaking. Its basic goal was to build a social service safety net for those families in need by assisting them with community nannies," said the head of the IAS's Children and Youth Service Division, Ms Lao Kit Im.

Jointly operated through three organizations namely the Caritas Macau, the Women's

General Association of Macau, and the General Union of the Neighborhood Associations (UGAMM, known as Kai Fong), the program granted a fund of MOP1 million to each group for providing the service. Currently, only three of the 36 qualified applicants are still using the service, as the rest have either found an alternative or no longer need it.

"The demand to continue it has proven to be quite limited. In fact, we've found parents expect more assistance in nurturing and fostering rather than in caretaking," stressed the official. "However, we wouldn't gain an insight into society's actual needs without this actual experience."

Ms Lao further explained the pilot program was mainly a transitional option, which is similar to the function of some temporary daycare services. "Taking all aspects into consideration, we've decided not to renew the pilot program. (...) On the other hand, we will expand the temporary daycare service coverage to more districts," she added.

STATISTICS

Unemployment rate continues at 1.8 percent



Card dealers receive their table assignments. The gaming sector is by far the largest employer in Macau

THE unemployment rate for April-June 2015 remained stable at 1.8 percent as in the previous period (March-May 2015), according to the Statistics and Census Service (DSEC). The underemployment rate was recorded at 0.4 percent, up by 0.1 percentage point.

DSEC indicated that the total labor force was 405,400 and total employment decreased slightly by 200 from March-May 2015, at 398,300. There were 7,200 persons unemployed, similar to that of the March-May period in 2015. Fresh labor force entrants searching for their first job accounted for 9.5 percent of the total unemployed, up by

3.6 percentage points over the previous period.

Analyzed by industry, employment in Real Estate & Business Activities (29,600) and Gaming & Junket Activities (83,800) dropped by 1,400 and 800 respectively, while that in Hotels & Similar Activities (28,400) rose by 2,300.

Median monthly employment earnings of the employed held stable as the previous quarter, at MOP15,000 in the second quarter; median earnings of employed residents stood at MOP17,500, down by MOP500 quarter-to-quarter, as the seasonal effect of the thirteenth month salary, bonuses, etc. of the first quarter receded.

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INTERVIEW | AKIKO TAKAHASHI

'Our strategy is to become the employer that people choose to stay with'

Catarina Pinto

As gaming operators develop new casino resorts along the Cotai Strip, the use of recruitment strategies to fill job vacancies have become crucial. In an exclusive interview with The Times, Melco Crown Entertainment's executive vice president and chief human resources/corporate social responsibility officer, Akiko Takahashi, acknowledges that it has become more difficult to hire new employees in Macau, and thus Melco Crown is betting on developing the skills and knowledge of those already working for the company.

Ms Takahashi stressed that the casino operator is focusing on retaining and advancing employees' careers internally.

Macau Daily Times (MDT) – Melco has invested in lifelong learning programs to develop staff in-house, by introducing for instance the "Back to School" program. What have been the main achievements from this so far?

Akiko Takahashi (AT) – This came as a result from a focus group that we began in 2008. We realized that people want a high school diploma, but their schedules, or having to deal with the inconvenience of the traffic... all those issues make it really difficult.

So we're focused on local development, but if so many of our colleagues don't have a high school education, it kind of hampers our ability to develop them.

We tried to look at education differently, to change the paragon and see if education could come here. We were very lucky that the education bureau and the Luso-Chinese School [Luis Gonzaga Gomes] were willing to partner with us.

Regarding our achievements I was very touched today [Thursday during a graduation ceremony] because among our first graduates there's a woman of about 55 years old who's applying for the diploma program, which is a year-long program at the University of Macau. So she's going to be ready for her advanced diploma. Another among today's graduates is a lady going for her bachelor's degree. We have transformed two people's lives.

MDT – So this was intended as the first step to furthering their studies beyond high school...

AT – Yes. We knew that it would start small because peo-



Akiko Takahashi

ple didn't want to say that they didn't have a high school diploma but as time has passed it has mushroomed in popularity. We were very confident that this would take on a life of its own. It's quite a big achievement for them.

MDT – How were they selected?

AT – They came forward themselves and applied for the program. We communicate with people all over and we talk about the educational programs we have available, and so those that are interested come and apply. And you know there are drop outs too, because it's hard; five days a week, three hours a day, juggling that with family and all. That's why it's important to keep encouraging them, that's why it's so inspiring to see them here today, because this is a result of a lot of work.

MDT – Macau's unemployment rate stood at 1.8 percent in March-May. How difficult is it to recruit under these circumstances?

AT – It has become more and more challenging, because obviously as portfolios grow, there are less local people available. So it is challenging. And that's the reason why we're focused on developing the people that we have. Creating a place where people like to come in and work. And creating the kind of environment that I talked about, because as it becomes more difficult to recruit what you need to try and do is to stop

people from leaving.

If people don't leave and see a purpose with what they do in this company... It can't always be recruit, recruit, recruit. It has to be about retention.

MDT – You said that employees at Melco are encouraged to try other areas within the company. Is that part of the same strategy to retain people?

AT – Yes, because of the whole person development. Basically what we tell our managers is if [a staff worker] applies outside the company you would never know. So, if I am a dealer today and I want to try F&B this is what happens: I don't need the manager's permission to apply [for other jobs inside the company]. Once they apply and they're about to get selected and the qualification is equal, the manager gives internal approval... that's the reason why we're able to complete 18,000 internal promotions and transfers.

The reason we do that is because we want people to feel like there's career advancement opportunities within our company.

MDT – Studio City will be the first of a new wave of Cotai resorts to open later this year. What's the recruitment strategy now?

AT – The strategy is to become the employer that people choose to stay with and want to come to work for, and in order to do that you need to focus on

the things that are meaningful to employees: career and quality of life, as research indicates. As you can see, it really starts all the way from the top providing the competitive benefits and wages as necessary.

MDT – How important is it for fresh graduates to start from the bottom?

AT – It is very important. But people need to have hope. We are a young company. And when we first started and needed to recruit for City of Dreams, people would think: why would I leave a known name like other existing brands and then come to work for you? Because we only started in 2006.

So I think it's very important to get people to understand why they're working so hard, because when there's a company that's growing, we have a great leader.

People need to see a future here. They also have to see that there's growth within this company. It's like in a house: when I don't like a particular room, I shouldn't leave the house because of it. If I don't want to be in that room I need to go and live in the other living room.

That's kind of a metaphor for what we are. This house has many rooms, and they need to feel that this is a great house.

MDT – What advice would you give fresh graduates who want management positions right from the start?

AT – Well, my advice would be to start with setting up your expectations. I always say that

it's about building a castle, but making sure the castle is not made out of sand. You might only be interested in the title and in the money, but once you get there people have to respect you and feel that you deserved [the position you're filling].

MDT – Will the company consider hiring foreign workers if there are not enough locals to fill in all the positions?

AT – Well, it's in the math. At the end of the day you need to look at the number of unemployed people. It's very difficult to recruit because there's more jobs than local people available. But we have to give priority to local people.

MDT – But is the company considering applying for more quotas?

AT – I think in time if Macau were to keep growing there won't be enough people to fill all of the jobs. So hopefully the good jobs go to the local people because they have received good training.

MDT – How do you see the development of young people's skills and education since you first arrived in Macau?

AT – I see a big change, it's evolving and it's a good positive change.

MDT – Apart from long-life learning programs, what other opportunities have Melco employees been afforded in terms of training?

AT – There's thousands, and hundreds of thousands of hours of training provided to further people's technical skills. Internal career opportunities are a way to develop people professionally. People develop as a result of doing something, not just learning it in a classroom. Allowing our people to learn more than your job overall is a very important thing, and the investment we have in terms of allowing them to take classes, university programs, our in-housing learning academy. We have hundreds of courses per year, including the dealer career progression program. Our gaming division does wonderful things in terms of training, and service. There's going to be an acceleration program for pit supervisors who are going to be promoted and they're going to be put through this three-month program, because you need to develop that way.

Echo is using jewelry to track down the world's top gamblers

David Fickling

ECHO Entertainment Group Ltd. needs a way to penetrate the exclusive community of the world's top gamblers and lure them to its Brisbane casino. It's partnering with the world's largest jeweler to get a foot in the door.

A loyalty program that offers yacht cruises and truffle tastings to people who spend more than HKD1 million (\$129,000) a year at Chow Tai Fook Jewellery Group Ltd. stores will help bring in high-rollers to Echo's new casino resort in downtown Brisbane, according to its Chief Executive Officer Matt Bekier.

"The universe of very, very serious VIPs is probably 1,500 to 2,000 players," he said in an interview Thursday, referring to gamblers who typically bet more than USD2,000 an hour on games of high-stakes baccarat. "We can de-risk the project by building a pipeline of visitors back into China."

Echo will partner with the jewel-



An employee touches gold bangles as they sit in display inside a Chow Tai Fook Jewellery Group Ltd. jewelry store in the Central district of Hong Kong

ry chain's sister company Chow Tai Took Enterprises Ltd. and with property developer Far East Consortium International Ltd. to build the 1,100-room hotel and casino that will open on the shores of the Brisbane river in 2022.

The Hong Kong-based companies, which will each take 25 percent stakes in the resort, will win fees for each VIP customer they refer to the new property.

"They have a very large customer base in Asia," Bekier said. "If they bring them in they want to

be able to generate an extra fee for that."

Echo shares fell 0.8 percent to A\$4.86 at 1:03 p.m. in Sydney, trimming their gain this year to 28 percent. The S&P/ASX 200 benchmark dropped 0.1 percent.

Cheng Yu-tung, the Hong Kong billionaire whose family controls the Chow Tai Fook group, owns a stake in closely held Sociedade de Turismo & Diversoes de Macau SA (STDM), founded by his longtime friend Stanley Ho. The stake in STDM gives him con-

Australia's natural environment and clean air are the top attraction for Chinese tourists

trol of 293 million shares of SJM Holdings Ltd., Asia's largest casino operator by revenue.

Chow Tai Fook Enterprises is also linked to Suncity Group, Macau's largest junket operator, and the duo will develop a casino project in Vietnam.

Cheng's and Far East's connections will help "add value to the Brisbane VIP business, given their relationships and deep knowledge of the high-end consumer in China," Sam Theodore, a Sydney-based analyst at UBS AG, wrote in a July 20 note.

It'll cost about A\$2 billion (USD1.5 billion) to build the resort and the casino could see A\$22 billion a year being wagered in its VIP rooms by 2023, Theodore said.

More money needs to be spent on new hotels and resorts if Australia wants to stop Chinese tourists losing interest and going elsewhere, according to the country's former Prime Minister Paul Keating. Chinese tourists spent A\$5.7 billion in the country last year and make up the biggest group of visitors after New Zealanders, according to government data.

The country has the best image among Chinese consumers but only comes 14th in terms of destinations they actually visit, Bekier said, citing Echo's internal research.

Australia's natural environment and clean air are the top attraction for Chinese tourists, he said. Echo hopes to capitalize on this by offering speed ferries to dolphin-petting sessions on the islands off Brisbane's Moreton Bay.

"You're looking at a massive trend where as people become wealthier they seek to have more experiences," he said. "There's a lot of investment flying out of China right now, so that group of customers is growing very quickly." **Bloomberg**

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Broaden the horizon and unleash the potential of Macau youngsters "CTM Youth Development Program 2015"

As the forefront in the local telecom industry, CTM is always committed to nurturing talents for the sustainable development of Macau. Organized by CTM, co-organized by Bosco Youth Service Network, and supported by Caritas Macau, Fuhong Society of Macau, Administration of Airport Ltd. (ADA) and Galaxy Entertainment Group, "CTM Youth Development Program 2015" was held for the second consecutive year. Through the adventure camp, hands-on training, visits and volunteer activities, CTM aims to broaden local youngsters' horizons, unleash their potentials, build self-confidence, and establish a proactive outlook on life and values.

"CTM Youth Development Program 2015" was held between June and July. 23 students were divided into four teams and participated in various activities, including work experience in CTM retail shops and customer service management, visit the Macau International Airport and Galaxy Macau™, and involving in volunteer activities. Through a series of activities, students have improved their communications skill and gained an insight of corporate operation.



"CTM Youth Development Program 2015" was held between June and July.



Adventure Camp

The students have participated in a 2-days adventure camp in Hong Kong which helped built up their self-confidence, problem solving ability and communication skills, and also established ties with peer.

customers. "It is crucial for the frontline staff to have a full picture about the services detail, products information and specification, at the same time, they have to listen to customers with patience to understand customers' requirement and make quick response. I feel so satisfied when customer thanks me for the help!" said Jennifer Fong.

Network service



After the work experience in Network Service, Saturn Lao changed her impression towards CTM. "The huge network construction, the complexity of cabling throughout Macau, all these required tremendous manpower support in order to maintain smooth operation and stability. In case the network shows sign of instability, CTM technicians will immediately conduct investigation and solve the problem to minimize the impacts to customers. I was truly impressed by the professionalism and dedication of CTM team!"



Mock-up Interview

Job interview is the first step for youngsters to start their career path. To enhance the student's interview skills, CTM specially set up a mock-up interview session for the students. After the interview, HR profession will feedback to students regarding their performance, their strength and weakness, as well as opinions for improvement. The students considered the mock-up interview session as a precious opportunity to understand their shortage, from which they will learn for improvement.



Visting Progam

Apart from the work experience in CTM, students have participated in the volunteer activities organized by Caritas Macau and Fuhong Society of Macau, in which they not only build a team spirit, but also reinforce their awareness to the vulnerable groups in the society. Moreover, students have paid visits to the Macau International Airport and Galaxy Macau™, through which to gain an insight on the daily operation of large scale enterprise.



Work Experience in CTM

After that, the students embarked on a new journey of working experience at CTM. Under the mentorship of supervisors from Customer Experience Management, Retails Service and Network Operation, the students have increased their self-confidence and interpersonal communications, which helped them to set their future career path.

Direct communications with the senior management team

During the 3-weeks program, different workshops were specially arranged where CTM Senior Management Team conducted interactive communications with students, sharing their professionalism, point of views in career, as well the fun and challenge at work.



Customer survey

Kelvin Chan, who conducted customer telephone survey for his first time, was deeply impressed through this activity. "A telephone survey is not as simple as I thought. It is a challenge to us not only requires communication and language skill, but also our patience. Though some customers have rejected our calls, however, when we successfully interviewed customer who gave comments towards the improvement of CTM, the satisfaction and accomplishment is great!"



Mysterious shopper

Besides telephone survey, students were also required to pretend as mysterious shoppers to visit the retail shops of CTM and other operators, then to prepare analysis report. Based on the analysis and comparison, they made a lot of useful suggestions for CTM for further improvement of customer service quality. Students considered that the role as a mysterious shopper has given them better understanding on CTM's professionalism and considerate services.



Retail service

Working at retail shop is a challenge to students, in the meantime they have gained great accomplishment when managed to solve the problem for



During the Closing Ceremony of "CTM Youth Development Program 2015", witnessed by the officiating guests, students were awarded the certificates and scholarships. Meanwhile, "The Qualified Team Award" were also presented to the winning teams. Tony Choi was granted "The Most Outstanding Individual Performance Award" with his overall outstanding performance.

The Closing Ceremony has brought a successful conclusion to the "CTM Youth Development Program 2015". During the 3-weeks program, students have gained a comprehensive understanding of themselves, of CTM and the telecom industry. CTM envisaged that through this Program, the students can integrate the knowledge with practical work experience, ultimately increase their confidences to embrace a brilliant future!



corporate bits

PRISCILLA CHAN TO PERFORM
AT THE VENETIAN

Veteran Hong Kong singer Priscilla Chan will bring her latest concert tour, "Back to Priscilla Live Concert in Macao", to The Venetian's Cotai Arena for one night on Saturday Sept. 5. Tickets go on sale today.

One of Hong Kong's most recognizable voices, Priscilla Chan has been in the entertainment business for over 30 years. To celebrate that achievement, the concert will see Chan repackage the biggest hits from her extensive back catalogue in a completely new way.

Greece, creditors get down to business on bailout deal

Menelaos Hadjicostis, Athens

TECHNICAL talks over Greece's third bailout in five years are poised to start in the next day or so as negotiators representing the country's creditors continued arriving in Athens yesterday.

The talks involving lower-level officials, delayed from last Friday, are set to incorporate a wide array of issues such as pensions and labor market reforms.

They are designed to pave the way for high-level discussions between Greek ministers and top officials from the European Union and the International Monetary Fund that should start later this week.

Worries that the discussions over Greece's bailout are dragging out have weighed on stock markets across Europe yesterday. The Stoxx 50 index of leading European shares was



A pedestrian looks at a board where people can write their comments about the Greek capital, displayed on a wall in Athens

down 1.5 percent.

After passing a series of reforms demanded by creditors, the Greek government is hoping that negotiations on the bailout will be completed by Aug. 20 when the country has a big debt repayment of around 3.2 billion euros (USD3.5 billion) to make to the European Central Bank.

Without the money due from the expected three-year bailout totaling around 85 billion euros, Greece would be unable to make that payment — a develop-

ment that would likely trigger fresh fears over the country's future in the euro.

Greece has already implemented steep sales tax hikes, and overhauled its judiciary and banking sectors, to secure the start of the third bailout talks.

Greek government spokeswoman Olga Gerovasili sought to downplay the fears in the markets about the delay and insisted that it was the creditors who decided when to get the talks underway. She said the talks will take place in a "hotel in the cen-

ter of Athens," without specifying.

Mina Andreeva, a spokeswoman at the European Commission, said negotiations "should now progress as swiftly as possible."

"Teams from the institutions are now already on the ground in Athens and work is starting immediately," she said.

She added that, while Athens has already delivered "in a timely and overall satisfactory manner" the reforms demanded for the talks to start, more will be required to secure a swift rescue loan disbursement.

"And this is also what is being discussed right now."

Some sort of debt relief for Greece is up for negotiation though a direct cut in the amount owed is off the agenda. The IMF has said Greece needs big relief and has advocated delaying Greek debt repayments to European creditors for many years. **AP**

AD



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Chinese financing to Mozambique increases 160 pct in 2 years

CHINA is now Mozambique's largest creditor, after increasing its funding to the African country by 160 percent since 2012 as significant Chinese investments are being prepared.

The weight of financing from China to Mozambique will grow nearly 50 percent, compared with current loan values, with a new loan of US\$400 million announced last week.

The new loan is for construction of a 600-kilometer power transmission line between the Mozambican provinces of Zambézia and Nampula, according to the Mozambican government.

Construction of the northern plant of the Cahora Bassa hydroelectric facility is scheduled to



Mozambique's President Filipe Nyusi

begin soon and the Mozambican government expects the project will cost USD413 million attracting the interest of China Three Gorges and China State Grid, ac-

ording to Portuguese financial daily *Diário Económico*.

China State Grid also intends to finance and build the hydroelectric plant of Mpanda Nkua, designed to be the second largest hydroelectric in the country and awarded to Brazilian construction companies in 2010, but which ran into difficulties.

According to data compiled by the Portuguese bank in its latest report on Mozambique, total debt to China was USD886 million in 2014, 160 percent more than in 2012, when the main creditor of Mozambique was still Portugal.

Debt to China already accounts for about one-third of Mozambique's total debt, which has nearly doubled since 2010. The recent increase in debt was "essentially

based on taking on bilateral loans with China, which accounted for about 70 percent of new disbursements in 2014," along with multi-lateral loans, said the BPI report.

Taking on foreign loans has been a way for Mozambique to offset the declines in extraordinary income and donations, which resulted in an increase in the state budget deficit.

BPI expects total debt will continue, in this scenario, to increase to "levels considered high for a country with the level of development of Mozambique," and recommends reducing the general state deficit, even taking into account expected economic growth that will tend to "dilute debt levels."

Last year, the pace of economic

expansion continued to be "high," BPI said, up from 7 percent for the fourth consecutive year, based on the mining and quarrying, construction and financial services sectors.

This year, it is possible that growth will "decelerate slightly" compared to 7.5 percent estimated by the Mozambique government, but "the economic outlook for Mozambique remains largely positive, with strong growth rates enhanced by megaprojects and low inflation rates."

Some recent setbacks for investment in the coal sector, due to the fall in the price of this raw material, have been offset by new agreements signed, particularly with Chinese companies, said BPI. **MDT/Macauhub**

Angola Cables builds submarine station in Brazil

ANGOLA Cables, an Angolan company that will manage the operations of the fiber-optic submarine cable between Angola and Brazil through the cities of Luanda and Fortaleza, already has a plot of land to install a station for the submarine fiber-optic cable and a data center to coordinate the system in Fortaleza, the capital of the Brazilian state of Ceará.

The concession contract for the land was signed on Friday in Fortaleza, in the presence of the Angolan secretary of State for Telecommunications, Aristides Safeca, the ambassador of Angola in Brazil, Nelson Cosme and Antonio Nunes, chairman of the Board of Directors of Angola Cables.

Cosme said at the ceremony that the

Angola Cables projects added to the recent history of relations between Angola and Brazil and supported the existing cooperation instruments, in particular the General Agreement on Political, Economic, Technical and Scientific and Cultural Cooperation and the existing strategic partnership between Angola and Brazil. He also said the government intended to turn Angola into a "telecom hub" in Africa.

At the presentation of the project and the company, Antonio Nunes said that the submarine communications cable between Angola and Brazil will offer a capacity of 40 terabytes per second and data speed exchange of 63 milliseconds.

The fiber-optic submarine cable and the Angola Cables datacenter, to



be built in Fortaleza, will occupy an area of about 10,000 square meters, 3,000 square meters of which will be taken up by information technology.

Angola Cables will manage the 6,165-kilometre fiber-optic cable, which will link Luanda to Fortaleza, within the framework of the Atlantic Cable System, making it possible to connect Africa and South America, initially and later North America, when the Monet system starts operating, which will be a fiber-optic cable linking Fortaleza and Santos in Brazil to Miami, in the United States as part of initiative by Angola Cables, Algar Telecom, Google and Antel Uruguay. **MDT/Macauhub**

Portuguese company sets up chocolate factory in Angola

THE managing director of Portuguese chocolate factory Avianense, founded in Viana do Castelo in 1914, announced the company was in talks with Angolan investors to install a unit in Luanda, as part of an investment of 5 million euros. According to Portuguese news agency Lusa the factory's managing director, Luciano Costa, said the Angolan unit already had a design project and investors for construction of an integrated plant in the Luanda area. The plant will include its own production, under the Avianense brand, also taking advantage of the proximity to São Tomé and Príncipe to import raw materials from there, and provides for the export of chocolate to the countries in the Africa region. Costa said the future factory may start operating within four years with a daily production of 6 tons of chocolate.

AD



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Shanghai share index suffers biggest daily drop since 2007

Youkyung Lee
Business Writer, Seoul

THE Shanghai share index fell the most since early 2007 yesterday as Chinese stocks suffered a renewed sell-off despite government efforts to calm the market.

The Shanghai Composite Index closed down 8.5 percent at 3,725.56 with most of the plunge occurring in the last hour of trading.

Yesterday's fall on the Shanghai market was the biggest one-day decline in Chinese stocks since an 8.8 percent plunge on Feb. 27, 2007, according to financial data provider FactSet.

Some analysts said the dive was sparked by brokerages restricting credit used to finance stock purchases, also known as margin trading. Chinese authorities took aggressive steps to stabilize the market after it tumbled last month, wiping away about USD3.2 trillion in market capitalization. But analysts have been skeptical that such gravity-defying efforts could be sustained.

"The continuous check on margin trading by security companies has triggered today's sell-off," said Xu Xiaoyu, a market strategist at China Investment Securities. "In addition, the recent economic data shows it still takes time for the economy to recover



from its sluggishness."

The dramatic 30 percent slide in Chinese shares in June came after a sizzling yearlong rally took the market to multi-year highs even as the world's second-biggest economy slowed.

A period of stability was

achieved after the government announced draconian support measures earlier this month that included forbidding major shareholders from selling any of their shares and ordering state companies and others to buy. Many companies also voluntarily sus-

pending trading in their stocks on the Shanghai exchange and its smaller counterpart in Shenzhen.

Yating Xu, an economist at IHS Global Insight, said Beijing will likely feel renewed pressure to take more measures to put a floor under the

stock market.

The Shanghai benchmark had risen about 150 percent by the time it peaked in early June. The gains were originally fired by commentary in state media that called the stock market undervalued. That led investors to believe the government would ensure that stock prices gained. Many small investors jumped into the market near its peak and are now sitting on significant losses.

The Chinese sell-off ruffled other markets in Asia though scant foreign investment in Chinese shares limits the ripple effects outside of Hong Kong.

Hong Kong's Hang Seng shed 3.1 percent at 24,288.54 and Japan's Nikkei 225 dropped 1 percent to 20,350.10. South Korea's Kospi fell 0.4 percent to close at 2,038.81. Stocks in Southeast Asia were lower. But Australia's S&P/ASX 200 gained 0.4 percent to 5,589.90.

Asian stocks had already started the week on a dour note, rattled by a last week's report on Chinese manufacturing that sparked a sell-off in gold as well as copper and other commodities.

Prices of copper and gold hit their lowest levels in several years following the survey that showed China's manufacturing contracted in July. Yesterday, the price of gold bounced back from a five-year low but other metal prices lost more ground.

A drop in China's industrial profits for a second straight month in June has also added to signs that stimulus efforts are taking time to take hold in the world's No. 2 economy. **AP**

Lisa Pham, Penny Peng
and Sharon Chen

Hong Kong feeling the mainland's pain

FOR Hong Kong, it's been one thing after another when it comes to China.

A series of anti-China and pro-democracy protests last year prompted stores to close and mainland tour groups to cancel bookings. Meanwhile, a slowing Chinese economy and President Xi Jinping's anti-corruption and austerity campaigns have also made the Chinese more wary of buying pricey cognac and Gucci bags in the city.

While the biggest outbound destination for Chinese tour groups last year, Hong Kong is in danger of losing its lead to regional rivals such as Thailand and South Korea, as well as mainland alternatives including Shenzhen and Shanghai.



Mainland Chinese travelers to Hong Kong last year grew by the slowest pace since 2009, Bloomberg Intelligence data show.

Chinese tour group visitors to Hong Kong plunged 40 percent in the first two weeks of July compared with the same

period a year earlier, the Hong Kong Economic Times reported yesterday, citing Michael Wu, head of the city's Travel Industry Council. With fewer mainland Chinese staying overnight, average daily rates at Hong Kong's hotels fell for a ninth straight month

through June.

In addition, China slashed tariffs on products such as face creams and imported sneakers from June 1, reducing Hong Kong's draw as a cheaper shopping destination.

The effect on Hong Kong's retailers has been immediate and painful. Retail sales fell in four of the five months through May, with jewelry, watches and other high-end gifts the worst hit.

Burberry Group Plc, whose stores in Hong Kong's Causeway Bay and Tsim Sha Tsui shopping districts sell HKD18,500 (USD2,400) handbags and HK\$24,000 dresses, has said it may try and lower its rent bill to off-

set a worsening slump in Hong Kong, while Emperor Watch & Jewellery Ltd., which sells Cartier and Montblanc watches, said it may shut one or two of its Hong Kong stores when their leases end this year.

And the news out of China doesn't inspire much confidence. French distiller Remy Cointreau SA reported first-quarter sales that missed analyst estimates as Chinese wholesalers continued to hold back on cognac orders. Prada SpA also reported first-quarter profit that trailed analyst estimates on slumping sales in China, while foreign carmakers including Audi have stepped up discounts to woo buyers.

So there's no relief in sight for Hong Kong. The tourism board forecasts overall visitor arrival growth to slow to 6.4 percent in 2015 from 12 percent last year, with mainland Chinese tourist arrivals expected to drop by half to 8 percent. Hong Kong's economy expanded 2.1 percent in the first quarter from a year earlier, weaker than a revised 2.4 percent expansion in October through December.

"We're just too exposed to China," said Silvia Liu, a Hong-Kong based economist at UBS AG. "Structurally, until the tourism sector consolidates and Hong Kong finds new growth engines, I don't see the way out yet." **Bloomberg**

Woman dies after being trapped in escalator, but saves son

A Chinese woman died after being trapped in a shopping mall escalator, but not before pushing her 2-year-old son to safety.

Sunday's horrific accident in the central city of Jingzhou was caught on surveillance camera footage that circulated heavily on the Internet in China.

The woman — identified in media reports as 30-year-old Xiang Liujuan — is shown reaching the top of the escalator when the section of landing platform she had stepped onto suddenly collapses, trapping her inside the still-moving machinery.

The footage shows that Xiang managed to push her son into the arms of shop attendants near the top of the escalator. The attendants tried to pull her to safety, but Xiang fell into the mechanism and was killed.

The state-run People's Daily's online edition and other media outlets



said her body was recovered four hours later, after crews disassembled the escalator.

Although escalator deaths are extremely rare, China's breakneck economic development and some-

times cavalier attitude toward safety, quality control and maintenance have led to frequent industrial accidents such as fires, building and bridge collapses, and ship sinkings or collisions. **AP**

Christopher Bpdeen, Beijing

CHINA'S state media care pouring cold water on President Barack Obama's visit to Africa, saying U.S. attention to the continent is largely due to concern over China's booming influence there.

The Global Times newspaper said yesterday that "offsetting China's growing influence in this continent and recovering past U.S. leverage" were major factors in Obama's visit.

The U.S., it said, is "taking China as a rival in Africa."

In contrast to China's steady and fair-minded interactions with Africa, the U.S. "obviously lacks a consistent Africa policy," said the paper, published by the ruling Communist Party's flagship People's Daily. It cited what it said was Obama's "cold shou-

State media snipe at Obama's Africa trip



lder" to the continent during his first term as an example of U.S. inattentiveness.

The official Xinhua News Agency took a similar tone, criticizing what it described as ineffective U.S. aid programs for Africa while touting China's own projects, largely in roads,

dams and other infrastructure.

"Obama may have to work even harder if he wants to build his legacy on a continent where U.S. commitment has long been questioned," Xinhua said.

Obama huddled with Ethiopia's leaders yesterday for talks on counter-

terrorism, human rights and regional security issues, including the crisis in neighboring South Sudan.

His visit to Ethiopia, the first by a sitting U.S. president, followed a stop in Kenya, his late father's homeland.

China's economic ties with Africa have soared in recent years, with two-way trade in 2013 — the last year for which figures were available — hitting a record USD200 billion, mainly in Chinese imports of African oil, copper and other raw materials.

U.S. trade with Africa has fallen, meanwhile, hitting \$85 billion in 2013. **AP**

Court accepts group's case against ConocoPhillips, CNOOC

A Chinese court says it has accepted a case brought by a social organization against oil giants ConocoPhillips China and China National Offshore Oil Corp. over oil spills in northern China in 2011.

It is the first case brought by a social organization over maritime pollution since China changed its law to allow registered non-government organizations who have been dealing with environmental issues for at least five years to sue heavy polluters.

Qingdao Maritime Court said that the plaintiff, China Biodiversity Conservation and Green Development Foundation, wants the defendants to "immediately repair the damage in the Bohai Bay's ecosystem" so as to restore the area to its original state before the oil spill.

In June 2011, oil spills from an oilfield jointly owned by Houston-based ConocoPhillips' Chinese subsidiary and CNOOC, China's main offshore oil and gas producer, drained into the Bohai Sea and its bay.

China's changes to its Environmental Protection Law, which took effect Jan. 1 and also allow for unlimited fines against persistent polluters, were the first in 25 years and a response to the country's serious pollution problems.

The Beijing-based China Biodiversity Conservation and Green Development Foundation is a nonprofit, independent social organization that nevertheless has representatives of the environment ministry, forestry bureau and State Oceanic Administration as part of its management structure, according to its website.

Qingdao Maritime Court said on its microblog that the organization filed the lawsuit on July 7 and the court accepted it two weeks later.

In 2012, ConocoPhillips and CNOOC reached a USD160 million agreement with the Ministry of Agriculture to settle compensation claims related to the spill. ConocoPhillips also said it would help pay for social projects in Bohai Bay and reduce pollutants in the bay. **AP**



Local fishermen work to clean up oil following an explosion in Xingang port, Dalian, northeastern China

Gov't lifting ban on sales of video game consoles

CHINA is lifting its ban on sales of video game consoles to promote the industry and a new manufacturing zone in Shanghai.

Consoles produced in the Shanghai Free-Trade Zone will automatically be approved for sale in the rest of China, according to a Ministry of Culture notice dated Friday.

The announcement eases a sales ban

imposed in 2000 due to concern Chinese children would waste time playing video games.

Communist leaders are promoting entertainment and technology development as part of a marathon effort to shift the world's second-largest economy to more sustainable growth supported by domestic consumption and cleaner industries.

The Shanghai trade zone was created in 2013 and gives foreign companies wider access to a range of industries, allowing bigger ownership stakes and activities that are prohibited elsewhere in China.

Sony Corp. and Microsoft Corp. both have announced plans to manufacture game consoles in the Shanghai zone with Chinese partners.

"We welcome the move," said a Sony spokesman, Sousuke Kamei, in an email. "We remain committed to deliver fun and exciting console gaming experiences to as many Chinese users as possible."

Nintendo Co., another video game maker, declined comment.

The latest rules are intended to promote technology development and a "healthy and progressive" entertainment environment, the ministry notice said.

Content of games will be subject to government censorship, it said. **AP**

LEFT-WING protesters clashed with riot police amid a downpour yesterday as they tried to breach a barricade of barbed wire and shipping containers ahead of the Philippine president's final state of the nation address.

Some of the approximately 4,000 drenched protesters started to push away the metal cargo containers and iron railings blocking them from getting close to the House of Representatives in suburban Quezon city where President Benigno Aquino III was to deliver his speech later yesterday, police said.

At least three policemen and 16 protesters were injured when authorities used water cannon to push back the activists, who hurled rocks and bottles at the police, according to police and Red Cross volunteers.

The most popular Philippine president for three decades, Aquino, 55, whose six-year term ends next June, was expected to report on the progress of his fight against corruption and poverty, his campaign battle cry that landed him a landslide victory.

But problems have persisted in a Southeast Asian coun-

PHILIPPINES

Protesters, police clash ahead of Aquino speech



Protesters clash with police as they try to make their way to the House of Representatives ahead of the State of the Nation Address by Philippine President Benigno Aquino III, pictured on a poster, in suburban Quezon city, northeast of Manila

try where about a fourth of its 100 million people remain mired in long-entrenched poverty. Communist and Muslim insurgencies that have raged on and off for more than four decades have combined with natural disasters in the typhoon-prone archipelago and law and order problems to turn governance into a tough and complex dilemma.

As he prepares to endorse a candidate for next year's election, Aquino has been meeting with potential contenders including Senator Grace Poe and Interior Secretary Mar Roxas and is expected to name his preferred candidate this week.

Lawmakers at the opening session of parliament yesterday pledged to pass a bill creating a new Muslim autonomous region before its end next year. Speaker Feliciano Belmonte and Senate President Franklin Drilon said in separate speeches that they would also push measures to curb smuggling and toughen a law to sustain infrastructure programs.

May's poll will see Filipinos elect a president, vice president, senators and congressmen, and all local officials down to city councilors. **AP/Bloomberg**

INDIA

7 killed as militants attack police station, bus

Ashok Sharma, New Delhi

INDIAN forces fought a prolonged gunfight yesterday with militants who attacked a moving bus and stormed into a police station in a northern town bordering Pakistan, with at least nine people killed in the violence, officials said.

The attackers killed at least seven people — civilians and policemen — in the pre-dawn attack in Punjab state, said Harcharan Singh Bains, a state government spokesman.

Two of the attackers, numbering three or four in all, were killed in ongoing fighting with Indian forces that had lasted more than 10 hours as of late yesterday afternoon, Bains said.

Senior police officer Dinkar Gupta said the attackers hijacked a car and then fired at the bus and a roadside eatery before entering a police station near Gur-



An Indian army soldier takes position during a fight in the town of Dinanagar, in the northern state of Punjab

daspur, a border town in Punjab that was put on a maximum alert.

Eight injured people were hospitalized, seven of them in serious condition, the Press Trust of India news agency reported.

Police are investigating whether the militants came from the Indian portion of Kashmir — which borders Punjab — or from Pakistan after crossing the land border. Rebels routinely stage attacks in Indian-held Kashmir, where they've been fighting since 1989 for

an independent Kashmir or its merger with Pakistan.

Defense Minister Manohar Parrikar said army commandos had joined the police operations in Dinanagar, a small town in Gurdaspur district located 450 kilometers north of New Delhi.

State-run All India Radio said that police had discovered five bombs on a railway track in the area, causing train service to be suspended, though it was unclear whether it was related to the attack. **AP**

AFGHANISTAN

21 dead, 8 wounded in wedding gunfight

A shootout at a wedding party in northern Afghanistan has left 21 people dead and eight wounded, an official said yesterday.

Abdul Jabar Perdili, police chief of Baghlan province, said a gunfight broke out between two groups attending the wedding in Dih Salah district late Sunday. He said that most of the dead were wedding guests and at least two of the wounded were younger than 18 years old.

Perdili's spokesman, Jaweed Basharat, had earlier said that 10 people were wounded. Conflicting accounts are common in the chaotic aftermath of violent incidents.

Baghlan and other provinces of the north have been plagued by insurgent attacks since the U.S.-led invasion in 2001 that toppled the Taliban. However, the war is often used as a cover for criminal activity and personal feuds.

The police chief of Dih Salah, Col. Gulistan Qasani, said hostility between the two groups involved in the gunfight had been simmering for many years.

"The clash broke out after a relative of a provincial police official was assassinated during the wedding party," Qasani said.

He said some 400 people had gathered at a private house for the wedding of a local mullah's son.

"When we collected the bodies it



An Afghan wounded teenager lies on a bed in a hospital in Puli Khumri, capital city of Baghlan province, north of Kabul

was difficult to determine who were the shooters and who were not, because I could not find any weapons," Qasani said.

Meanwhile in northern Sari Pul province, a local police commander and seven of his men surrendered to the Taliban in Kohistanat district, according to provincial police chief Gen. Mohammad Asef Jabarkhail.

Jabarkhail said the surrender came after Taliban fighters attacked police checkpoints on Sunday. Reinforcements have reached the area to support police still fighting, he said.

The Taliban, who often exaggerate battlefield gains, said in a statement that 100 police in Sari Pul had defected to their side, a claim Jabarkhail denied. **AP**

Eric Talmadge, Pyongyang

NORTH KOREA

With warning to US, Pyongyang marks end of Korean War

NORTH Korean officials warned the United States that another war on the Korean Peninsula would leave no Americans alive to sign a surrender document as the country marked yesterday's anniversary of the armistice that ended fighting in the Korean War more than six decades ago.

Pyongyang and other cities around North Korea were decked out with flags and banners as North Koreans flocked to patriotic gatherings and mass dance celebrations to mark the anniversary of the July 27, 1953, agreement that brought the three-year Korean war to an end with an armistice, not a peace treaty.

North Korean officials took the opportunity of the anniversary to step up their anti-U.S. rhetoric and call upon the nation to redouble its devotion to the nation's current leader, Kim Jong Un, the third leader in the Kim dynasty, and prepare for a final showdown with Washington.

The anniversary is hailed in North Korea as a victory over the U.S., which fought with the South Koreans and U.N. allies against the North's forces,



North Koreans bow in front of bronze statues of the late leaders Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il at Munsu Hill in Pyongyang

who were supported by China and the Soviet Union.

In a speech to veterans on Saturday, Kim Jong Un stressed the importance of instilling the country's young people with the same fighting spirit and devotion as the generation that experienced the war. But he also stressed that North Korea has a new ace in the hole — a nuclear arsenal of its own.

“Gone forever is the era when the United States blackmailed us with nukes; now the United States is no longer a source of threat and fear for us and we are the very source of fear for it,” he said in the speech, the text of which was broadcast on North Korean television.

At a separate gathering held Sunday, Korean People's Army Gen. Pak Yong Sik, who is believed to be the country's new defense minister, said that if the United States does not abandon its hostile policies

toward Pyongyang and provokes another war, the North is prepared to fight until “there would be no one left to sign a surrender document.”

“It is more than 60 years since the ceasefire on (the) land, but peace has not yet settled on it,” he told the meeting, which included high-level officials, veterans and diplomats stationed in Pyongyang. “The past Korean War brought about the beginning of the downhill turn for the U.S., but the second Korean war will bring the final ruin to U.S. imperialism.”

The anniversary brought a festive atmosphere to the capital, with citizens using the holiday not only to show their patriotic pride by laying flowers before statues of North Korea's first president Kim Il Sung and his son, Kim Jong Il, but also to enjoy the warm summer weather at parks and ice cream stands. AP

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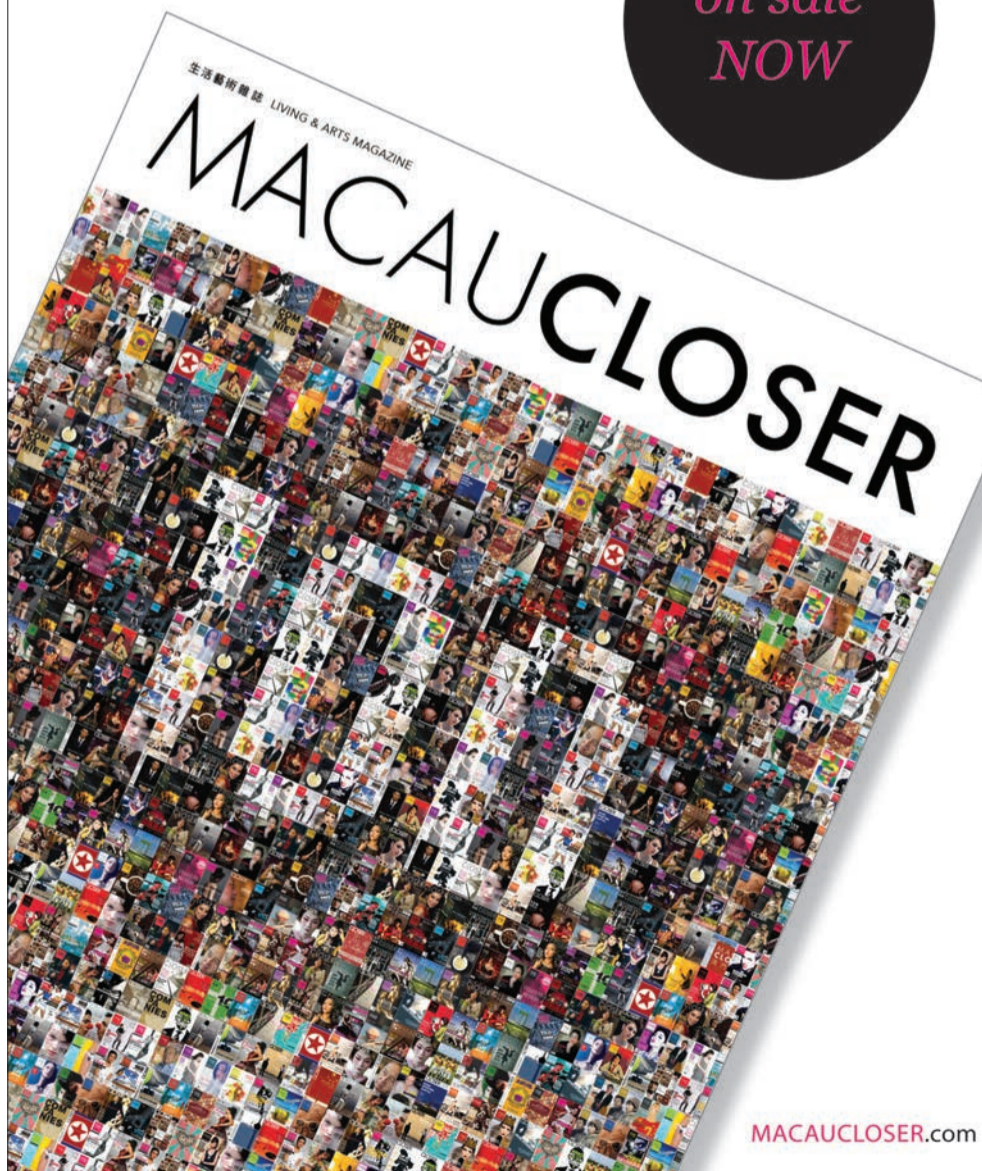


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**Bassem Mroue and Suzan Fraser,
Beirut**

TURKEY

Troops target Kurdish fighters in northern Syria

TURKISH troops have shelled a Syrian village near the border, targeting Kurdish fighters who have been battling the Islamic State group with the aid of U.S.-led airstrikes, Syria's main Kurdish militia and an activist group said yesterday.

The Kurdish People's Protection Units, or YPG, said the Sunday night shelling on the border village of Til Findire targeted one of their vehicles. It said Til Findire is east of the border town of Kobani, where the Kurds handed a major defeat to the Islamic State group earlier this year.

In cross-border strikes since Friday, Turkey has targeted both Kurdish fighters as well as the IS group, stepping up its involvement in Syria's increasingly complex civil war. The Syrian Kurds are among the most effective ground forces battling the IS group, but Turkey fears they could revive an insurgency against Ankara in pursuit of an independent state.

Yesterday the YPG and Syrian rebels captured the town of Sareen in northern Syria, which had been held by the Islamic State group, according to The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights and the Aleppo Media Center in Syria, two activist groups that track the civil war.

A Turkish official said Turkish forces are only targeting the IS



Left-wing protesters try to avoid tear gas and water used by police to disperse them, in Istanbul

group in Syria and the Kurdistan Workers' Party, or PKK, in neighboring Iraq.

The official said the "ongoing military operation seeks to neutralize imminent threats to Turkey's national security and continues to target ISIS in Syria and the PKK in Iraq."

"The PYD, along with others, remains outside the scope of the current military effort," the official said, referring to the political arm of the YPG.

The official added that authorities were "investigating claims that the Turkish military engaged positions held by forces

other than ISIS."

The official spoke on condition of anonymity because of rules that bar officials from speaking to journalists without authorization.

The YPG did not say in its yesterday statement whether there were casualties in the shelling.

The YPG said Turkey first shelled Til Findire on Friday, wounding four fighters of the rebel Free Syrian Army and several local villagers. It urged Turkey to "halt this aggression and to follow international guidelines."

The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said four fighters were wounded in the village of Zor Maghar, which is also close to the Turkish border. Conflicting reports are common in the aftermath of violent incidents.

Earlier this month, Syria's main Kurdish party, the Democratic Union Party, or PYD, warned Turkey that any military intervention would threaten international peace and said its armed wing, the YPG, would face any "aggression."

Turkish police meanwhile raided homes in a neighborhood in the capital yesterday, detaining at least 15 people suspected of links to the Islamic State group, the state-run news agency said.

The Anadolu Agency said those detained in Ankara's Haci Bayram neighborhood include a number of foreign nationals. It did not give details of the foreigners' home countries. **AP**

USA

Bobbi Kristina Brown, Whitney Houston's daughter, dies aged 22

**Jonathan Landrum Jr.,
Duluth, Ga.**

BORN and raised in the shadow of fame and litigation, shattered by the loss of her mother, Whitney Houston, Bobbi Kristina Brown was overwhelmed by the

achievements and demons of others before she could begin to figure out who she was.

Bobbi Kristina died Sunday (early yesterday, Macau time) at Peachtree Christian Hospice in Duluth, Georgia, about six months after she was

found face-down and unresponsive in a bathtub in the suburban Atlanta townhome she shared with Nick Gordon, the man she called her husband. She was 22-years-old.

"Bobbi Kristina Brown passed away July, 26 2015, surrounded by her family. She is finally at peace in the arms of God. We want to again thank everyone for their tremendous amount of love and support during these last few months," Kristen Foster, a representative for the Houston family said Sunday.

The Fulton County Medical Examiner's Office confirmed Bobbi Kristina's death Sunday night. The cause of death was not immediately known. Police said she was found Jan. 31 at her Roswell home. A police report des-

cribed it as a "drowning."

Bobbi Kristina was the only child between Houston and singer Bobby Brown.

She was hospitalized for months in Atlanta — eventually being placed in hospice care — after being found in a manner grimly similar to the way her megastar mother died three years earlier. Gordon said at the time it seemed Bobbi Kristina wasn't breathing and lacked a pulse before help arrived.

Bobbi Kristina — the sole heir of her mother's estate — did have dreams.

She identified herself on Twitter as "Daughter of Queen WH," "Entertainer/Actress" with William Morris & Co., and "LAST of a dying breed." She told Oprah Winfrey shortly after her mother's death in 2012



Bobbi Kristina Brown

MEDICAL EXAMINER: AUTOPSY PLANNED FOR BOBBI KRISTINA BROWN

AN AUTOPSY will be needed to evaluate what led to the death of Bobbi Kristina Brown, daughter of singer Whitney Houston, authorities said yesterday, the day after her death. In a statement yesterday morning, the Fulton County Medical Examiner's Office says the time that elapsed from when she was found unresponsive in January until

her death Sunday will "complicate" its effort to reconstruct events. "Interpretation of autopsy findings and other information will also be challenging," the medical examiner's office said in the statement. "However, an autopsy could be helpful to address questions which may arise about the cause of her unresponsiveness and eventual death."

that she wanted to carry on her mother's legacy by singing, acting and dancing. But her career never took off.

She became a social media sensation, sending more than 11,000 tweets and attracting 164,000 followers.

As the news of her death spread across social media, several celebrities tweeted their condolences.

Grammy-winning performer Missy Elliot tweeted, "My heart is truly

heavy. May u rest in peace with your mommy #BobbiKristina sending prayers 2 the Brown/Houston family."

"Empire" star Taraji P. Henson tweeted, "Rest in heaven."

"RIP #BobbiKristina My deepest sympathies 2 your father #BobbyBrown n your Grandma #CissyHouston We will miss ya 4sho darling ;) Actress Vivica A. Fox said on Twitter.

And Winfrey tweeted, "Peace at Last!" **AP**

what's ON



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TIME: 12pm-7pm (Closed on Tuesdays)
UNTIL: August 9, 2015
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ADMISSION: Free
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"SAUDADE" ART EXHIBITION
TIME: 24 hours
UNTIL: September 30, 2015
VENUE: L2 Showcase / MGM MACAU, Avenida Dr. Sun Yat Sen, NAPE, Macau
ADMISSION: free
GUIDED TOURS: 12pm-9om (Mondays to Fridays); 11am to 9:00 pm (Saturdays and Sundays)
ENQUIRIES: (853) 8802 8888

MACAU JOINT FASHION PERFORMANCE – MINI EXHIBITION
TIME: 10am-8pm
 (Closed on Mondays, open on public holiday)
UNTIL: August 30, 2015
ADMISSION: Free
ADDRESS: Macau Fashion Gallery / No. 47, Rua de S. Roque, Macau
Enquiries: (853) 2835 3341

HISTORICAL PAINTINGS OF MACAU IN THE 19TH CENTURY
TIME: 10am-7pm
 (Closed on Mondays, No admission after 6:30 pm)
UNTIL: December 31, 2015
VENUE: Macau Museum of Art, Av. Xian Xing Hai, s/n, NAPE
ADMISSION: MOP5
 (Free on Sundays and public holidays)
ENQUIRIES: (853) 8791 9814

TRAVEL NOTES VENICE – COLLECTIVE EXHIBITION ON THE SUBJECT OF MACAU'S PARTICIPATION IN THE VENICE ART BIENNALE 2015'
TIME: 12pm-8pm (Tuesdays to Sundays) 3pm-8pm (Mondays)
UNTIL: July 31, 2015
VENUE: Albergue SCM / No. 8, Calçada da Igreja de S. Lazaro
ADMISSION: Free
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2852 2550 / 2852 3205

Offbeat

US: FLORIDA MAN WINS HEMINGWAY LOOK-ALIKE CONTEST IN KEY WEST



A white-bearded Florida man has won the "Papa" Hemingway Look-Alike Contest on his 15th attempt.

Retired air traffic controller Charlie Boice of Palm Beach Gardens prevailed Saturday night at Sloppy Joe's Bar, a hangout of Ernest Hemingway during his Key West residency in the 1930s.

A panel of former contest winners chose Boice, 56, who said he shares Hemingway's passion for marlin fishing. Celebrity cook Paula Deen's husband, Michael Groover of Savannah, Georgia, finished in the top five. The contest attracted 122 entrants. It's a highlight of the annual Hemingway Days festival honoring the author's literary legacy. During his Key West years, Hemingway wrote the novel "To Have and Have Not."

TV canal macau

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

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



1976 CHINESE EARTHQUAKE KILLS HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS

Hundreds of thousands of people are feared dead following an 8.3 magnitude earthquake in China.

The quake has virtually destroyed the city of Tangshan, north-east of Beijing, and Western sources believe the death toll may be much higher than the official figure of 240,000. Some believe the figure is more like 750,000.

The Hong Kong Royal Observatory reports the earthquake was intense although speculation of the magnitude of the quake ranges from 6.3 to 8.3.

Around 2,000 people are believed to have died when the quake devastated the city's biggest hospital, according to sources quoting Chinese officials.

It is feared that many miners are buried alive in coal works in the industrial city, which has a total population of 1.6m.

Diplomatic observers say that up to 80,000 people died in the first shock of the natural disaster.

Up to 164,000 people have been severely injured, according to initial reports from the city.

Tangshan was at the epicentre of the earthquake, although it badly damaged Tientsin. Tremors were also felt in Beijing, where residents were urged to live in the streets and keep to open spaces as it is not thought to be safe to return to their homes in the city.

The force of the quake has been so strong that people are reported to have been thrown into the air after roads, bridges, railway stations, homes and factories were completely destroyed.

The quake has also knocked out power throughout the city, making rescue efforts difficult.

When the earthquake struck Tangshan at 0342 local time, more than a million people lay sleeping. The entire earthquake reportedly lasted approximately 14 to 16 seconds. It was followed by a 7.1 magnitude aftershock.

Survivors have been digging through debris to answer the calls for help as well as find missing relatives.

There is a deep-seated peasant belief that the "Year of the Dragon" - which happens every 12 years - augurs ill.

The survivors of the Tangshan quake are living in tents and are expected to be moved to winter shelters, the New China news agency has reported. Aircraft and lorries have been taking large quantities of relief supplies to help the relief effort.

The authorities later hope to move people to simple houses, which can withstand tremors and are warm and rainproof before winter sets in.

Chinese officials have rejected any offers of help from the outside world, saying that survivors have enough to eat and wear and there are sufficient medical supplies and doctors in the city.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

Officially, the Chinese government estimated between 240,000 and 250,000 people died in the Tangshan earthquake.

The rebuilding of Tangshan began almost immediately after the earthquake and eventually the entire city was rebuilt. It is now home to more than a million people - earning it the name "Brave City of China."

In the decades since the quake, the death toll is estimated closer to half a million although some believe it is higher still. This would make this the most deadly quake in the twentieth century, and the strongest since the Alaska quake in 1964 which was of magnitude 9.2.

More people died in earthquakes in the first 10 months of 1976 than in any year since 1970.

During 1976, there were a string of tremors, stretching from China to Greece, which Swedish expert Dr Marcus Baath believes may be a signal of new movement in the Earth's crust. In August 1976, a new earthquake measuring 6.9 was reported 250 miles north of Chungking, which is around 1,000 miles from Tangshan.

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Beth Harris, Kazan

SWIM WORLDS

From Vegas to Kazan: US wins mixed duet synchro at worlds

CHRISTINA Jones and Bill May, a couple of old pros in the pool making a comeback while juggling Las Vegas show careers, won a gold medal in new mixed duet technical synchronized swimming at the world championships yesterday (Macau time).

The Americans totaled 88.5108 points to beat the Russians by 0.2122 points in their home pool with a 2 1/2-minute routine that included scissor kicks and spins at Kazan Arena.

Aleksandr Maltsev and Darina Valitova of the host nation, who led by just over two points after the preliminaries, settled for silver with 88.2986 points. Maltsev, the only man participating in synchro in Russia, didn't like the results.

"We were underscoring, and all others were clearly overscored," he said. "That's bitter, we are upset."

Italians Manila Flamini and Giorgio Minisini earned bronze with 86.3640 in a sport that has been traditionally dominated by women.

Russia didn't leave the pool empty-handed. Natalia Ishchenko and Svetlana Romashina won gold in the synchro duet technical with 95.4672 points. China was second and Japan third.

China improved to 3-0 in diving when Chen Aisen and Lin Yue won men's 10-meter synchronized platform with 495.72 points, keeping the country on track for a gold-medal sweep.

They easily outdistanced Ivan Garcia Navarro and German Sanchez of Mexico, who took



Gold medalists Bill May, left, and Christina Jones, right, from the US compete during the synchronised swimming mixed duet technical final at the Swimming World Championships in Kazan, Russia

silver with 448.89. Russians Roman Izmailov and Victor Mini-baev earned bronze at 441.33.

The synchro mixed duet is new to the world championships, even though men and women first competed together at the 1998 Goodwill Games. Back then, May was the only man on the U.S. women's team, which earned a silver medal in a group routine.

He had to wait 17 years to reach the world stage again, staying in shape by performing in a Cirque du Soleil show in Las Vegas. May

jelled his hair and donned nose clips for a comeback after the mixed event was added to the worlds program late last year.

"A lot of barriers have been broken," May said. "You see these strong countries, these masculine countries, strong athletes come from these countries. They're going to bring more men into the sport."

Jones and May received mostly 9s and 8s while being judged on execution, impression and performing required elements in a certain order.

Wearing deep coral suits — hers with a deep V-neck and his a bikini style — Jones and May swam an upbeat routine to "Just Kiss Me" by Harry Connick Jr. Their deck work — which is judged, too — included a move borrowed from a Las Vegas choreographer: May dived through a circle Jones created using her left arm and leg while standing on her right leg.

"This has never been done before in synchronized swimming," Jones said.

May jokingly called it "The Bill and Christina dive-through."

Jones added, "Let's name it right now."

The gold didn't come without injury. Jones dived in and May was waiting underwater to lift her when Jones' nail sliced his bruised, but it didn't affect his eyesight.

"I felt bad about it for one second," Jones said, laughing.

Now 36, May won 14 U.S. national titles in the late '90s, having once been banned from synchro because of his gender.

"I don't think you're ever too old to achieve anything," he said.

May added, "I like to call it experienced."

The mixed event is not in the Olympics, although Jones and May hope it will be added soon enough for them to extend their

comeback.

"This was a real big test event to see what type of response the world would give this and I think the world has given a great response," May said. "Someday it will be there."

Besides training up to five hours a day, Jones and the 27-year-old May perform 10 shows a week in Cirque du Soleil's "O" at the Bellagio hotel. They got two weeks off to compete at worlds. Their show friends were cheering them on while watching live at a party back home despite the 10-hour time difference.

"We're both better athletes than we were before we retired because we've learned how to be become performers," Jones said. "When you combine that with our athleticism, it's the gold."

May has a shot at another medal in Kazan. He and 2000 Olympian Kristina Lum Underwood, his duet partner years ago, will compete in the mixed duet free event Tuesday. Lum Underwood performs in "Le Reve - The Dream" at the Wynn hotel in Las Vegas.

Returning to Sin City with gold in their pockets won't necessarily earn Jones and May a raise, though.

"I wish," he said. "It'll probably put us in line for a nice pat on the back." AP

BOXING

Kovalev retains light heavyweight titles

Tim Dahlberg, Las Vegas

SERGEY Kovalev had little trouble taking care of business against an outmatched Nadjib Mohammedi.

Now he can look forward to a homecoming bout in Moscow.

Kovalev stopped Mohammedi in the third round Saturday night, retaining his light heavyweight titles in a fight that was a mismatch from the start.

The unbeaten Russian dropped Mohammedi in the second round with a series of right hands, then put him down for good with a combination in the third round. Mohammedi got to his knees but was holding his nose as if it was broken and referee Kenny Bayless called a halt to the bout at 2:38 of the third.

Promoter Kathy Duva said Kovalev will return to the ring Nov. 28 in Moscow, likely against fellow Russian Artur Beterbiev.

"Sergey is really anxious to fight in Russia," Duva said.

Kovalev, who stopped Jean Pascal in his last fight in March in Montreal, was defending his 175-pound crown against the mandatory challenger from France. Mohammedi was so little thought of that Las Vegas oddsmakers would not even accept bets on the fight.

"I wanted more rounds," Kovalev said. "I wanted him to look like a clown. I wanted him to look foolish."

Mohammedi, who fought most of his career in France, blamed his loss on being thumbed in the



Sergey Kovalev knocks down Nadjib Mohammedi during their light heavyweight title boxing bout in Las Vegas

eye and not being able to see. But he did little against Kovalev, who urged him to get up and continue fighting after being knocked down in the third.

"I told him to stand up," Kovalev said. "It was a short show. People didn't see boxing."

Earlier, Pascal overcame a slow start to beat Yunieski Gonzalez by unanimous decision to set up a possible rematch with Kovalev, who stopped him in the eighth round of their first fight.

The bout will have to wait until after Kovalev fights in Moscow, though,

and perhaps longer if he is able to get a fight with unbeaten Andre Ward next spring.

"If Pascal is interested in a rematch I am ready," Kovalev said. "It is boxing. I am ready for anybody."

Kovalev improved to 28-0-1 with 25 knockouts, while Mohammedi fell to 38-4.

Pascal (30-3-1) won by a 96-94 margin in the 10-round bout on all three scorecards to hand Gonzalez (16-1) his first loss. The decision was loudly booed by the crowd at the Mandalay Bay hotel-casino, and met with disbelief by Gonzalez himself.

Gonzalez had to be restrained in his corner as he lashed out after the decision was announced.

"It was a great fight, very close," Pascal said.

"I'm glad to give the fans another candidate for fight of the year because that's what I think happened."

Pascal, who was stopped in March by Kovalev in his last fight in his hometown of Montreal, took a lot of punishment early, getting hit with several big right hands by the aggressive Gonzalez. He rebounded in the later rounds, though, as Gonzalez seemed to tire.

"I am so sad. I was the real fighter," Gonzalez said. "That was taken from me. He did not win, I did. I am the real winner."

The fight was entertaining, with both boxers more than willing to trade punches. On several occasions Gonzalez seemed to rock Pascal, though the former champion landed some good right hands of his own.

"I was controlling the fight," Pascal said. "The fight was following exactly the rhythm I wanted." AP

opinion

Our Desk

Brook Yang



STATING THE OBVIOUS

The past two weeks I spent holidaying in Japan's diverse Kansai region has left me with three obvious impressions: A) the supply for consumption is endless both in types and quantities; B) standing out from the urban commerce are still the local heritage and customs (whether listed as a "national treasure" or not) C) public transportation, i.e. the rail system, not only serves as a reliable and efficient form of commuting but has also become closely integrated into residents' lifestyles.

Returning to our bustling town here, I see a miniature of the city cycle I grasped in Kansai, as a fertile ground with both glimmering lights hovering over the entertainment and retail sectors, and charms exuded from the heritage sites and folk traditions; and of course, with jostling throngs of visitors. However, residents here are not at ease.

They wish to breathe fresher air; they desire to solve the lack of housing; they hope to enjoy efficient public transportation such as a railway system that is still being built from scratch after a decade.

Furthermore, in the creating of new reclaimed urban zones from the sea, they are facing the master planner's inclination to widen the city's inequality; in the preserving of historical landscapes over the hills, they are fearing a tendency to lose the city's essence as a seaport.

To counter the possibility of an unfortunate fate for their beloved town, many have voiced out by appealing to obvious values.

Local group Root Planning did so yesterday by citing urban planners and heritage experts including Portugal's most renowned architect, Siza Vieira. In plain words, Vieira advises Macau to preserve its architecture of old. He says, "it is important to keep this. All the interesting towns have this, (...) it contributes to the richness and freshness of the town."

Activists and reporters likewise did so by criticizing the government's intent to create a wealth gap among future reclamation zones by concentrating public housing complexes within one zone yet planning green areas with low-density commercial residences within the others.

In fact, Macau has received so much advice indicating the obvious, as every time a big worldwide name comes to town for a summit or a forum, we reporters would seize the chance to get a comment.

On sustainable development and equality, Joseph Stiglitz, a Nobel laureate in Economic Sciences, last March suggested the government plan the city and carry out policies that could simultaneously protect the environment for the future whilst reducing inequality.

In plain words, he says, "the decisions being made today about the design of the city will be there for thirty, forty years. So you have to think about things very hard now." He prompts us to consider that "every city really needs resulting, planning public parks, public transportation. It really has to embrace the entire city," and that "we ought to think about the design of the city, very much in terms of the environment, but also in terms of equity, fairness, affordable housing and not having economic segregation."

But why do we – living alongside a remarkable GDP figure with international attention here – still need to state the obvious over and over again, as common sense is constantly neglected or denied by our administrators?

THE BUZZ LA SPECIAL OLYMPICS GETS LARGEST SINGLE PRIVATE DONATION, USD25M

The Special Olympics has received a USD25 million donation, the largest single private gift in the organization's 47-year history.

The donation comes from the philanthropic foundation of Thomas Golisano, the founder and chairman of Paychex Inc. The Rochester, New York-based company is a payroll processor and human resources services provider.

Officials with the Golisano Foundation announced the donation during the opening of

the Special Olympics World Games in Los Angeles. The foundation says it will provide \$25 million to expand the Special Olympics' health services globally for people with intellectual disabilities.

In 2012, Golisano donated \$12 million to the Special Olympics to help it launch an initiative to ensure that people with intellectual disabilities receive access to health care in their communities on a year-round basis.

Station	Air quality	
Roadside	10-30 Good	
High Density Residential Area	20-40 Good	
Ambient	25-45 Good	

SOURCE: DSMG

WORLD BRIEFS

SOMALIA A suicide bomber rammed a truck rigged with explosives into the blast walls around one of Mogadishu's most secure hotels, killing 15 people including a Kenyan diplomat and a Chinese embassy guard, Somali and Chinese officials said.



ETHIOPIA President Barack Obama urged Ethiopia's leaders yesterday to curb crackdowns on press freedom and political openness as he began a visit that human rights groups say legitimizes an oppressive government. "When all voices are being heard, when people know they are being included in the political process, that makes a country more successful," Obama said during a news conference with Ethiopian Prime Minister Hailemariam Desalegn.

USA The State Department has taken Malaysia and Cuba off its blacklist of countries failing to combat modern-day slavery, leaving the U.S. open to criticism that politics is swaying the often-contentious rankings in its annual human trafficking report. Thailand, downgraded with Malaysia last year because of abuses in its fishing industry, remained on the blacklist. Critics contend that Malaysia's upgrade is related to its participation in a U.S.-backed trade agreement among Pacific Rim countries. Thailand is not part of the proposed agreement.

USA Republican presidential candidate Mike Huckabee is likening the agreement on an Iranian nuclear deal to "marching the Israelis to the door of the oven," a reference to the Holocaust. The former Arkansas governor made the tweet Sunday, a day after first making the comparison when denouncing President Barack Obama for his role in the agreement with Tehran.

Newport Jazz Festival to mark Miles Davis' 60th anniversary

Charles J. Gans, New York

MILES Davis wasn't even listed in the program book when he appeared for the first time at the Newport Jazz Festival in 1955, but he made his presence felt with a career-reviving performance.

This year's program book is Miles-centric as the festival, which begins Friday celebrates the 60th anniversary of the late jazz legend's historic Newport debut.

Newport festival founder George Wein recalls that weeks before the 1955 festival, he ran into Davis at a New York jazz club. Wein had created the first-ever outdoor jazz festival in the Rhode Island seaside resort the year before, and Davis asked if he was going to do it again.

"I said yes, and Miles said, 'You can't have a festival without me,' and he kept repeating that," said Wein, who at 89 is still producing the festival.

But Davis, who had just kicked a heroin habit, didn't have his own band. Wein arranged to add him to an all-star jam session that also included pianist Thelonious Monk and baritone saxophonist Gerry Mulligan.

"Miles was the hit of the festival," Wein said. "He put his



Miles Davis

trumpet right into the microphone and it came through loud and clear on 'Round Midnight.'"

Backstage, Columbia Records producer George Avakian asked the trumpeter to sign with the label – the beginning of a 30-year relationship that saw Davis release classic recordings that changed the direction of jazz.

When Davis next appeared at Newport in 1958 he brought his famed sextet – with saxophonists John Coltrane and Cannonball Adderley and pianist Bill Evans – that the following spring would record his masterpiece "Kind of Blue," one of the best-selling jazz records.

These performances can be heard on "Miles Davis At Newport 1955-1975: The Bootleg Series Vol. 4," a four-CD box set comprised of eight live performances at the Newport festival and spinoff

events in Europe and New York, released earlier this month by Columbia/Legacy.

The collection includes nearly four hours of previously unreleased material, including complete performances from the 1966 and 1967 festivals with Davis' second great quintet – with pianist Herbie Hancock, saxophonist Wayne Shorter, bassist Ron Carter, and drummer Tony Williams – at their peak.

This year's festival will feature panel discussions focusing on Davis, curated by Grammy-winning jazz historian Ashley Kahn, which will include interviews with Wein and former Davis sidemen, drummer Jack DeJohnette and guitarist Mike Stern, at a new intimate indoor stage named after Wein's former Storyville jazz club in Boston.

DeJohnette performed with Davis at the 1969 festival with a group that included Chick Corea on electric keyboard as the trumpeter was making the transition from acoustic jazz to jazz-rock fusion music. Davis spent the weekend checking out the rock bands on the program such as Sly and the Family Stone and Led Zeppelin, and just weeks later began recording his groundbreaking electronic "Bitches Brew" album. AP

THE DECISIVE MOMENT

Steve Marcus/Las Vegas Sun via AP



Vegas on fire. Smoke billows from a fire on the outside pool area of the Cosmopolitan Las Vegas hotel-casino in Las Vegas, on Saturday. The high-rise hotel reopened its rooftop swimming pool the next day, but guest rooms on the 14th floor are still closed. Firemen were called to the resort on Saturday. Two people were treated for smoke inhalation.