RECLAMATION ZONE E: FEARS OVER HARMFUL AIR FROM NEARBY WASTE INCINERATOR

The artificial island will host housing complexes, schools, and social facilities such as a residential care home for the elderly, and an underground sewage plant



**GAMING:** THE DARK SIDE OF GOA'S **CASINOS** 

SOUTH CHINA SEA: BEIJING REJECTS ISLAND BUILDING FREEZE

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Cambodian opposition senator has been charged with three counts that carry penalties of up to 17 years in prison for Facebook comments that criticized a 36-year-old border agreement with Vietnam. Sen. Hong Sok Hour was arrested over the weekend after Prime Minister Hun Sen had accused him of treason.

MALAYSIA's prime minister has a problem: He can't explain away a USD700 million bank account to a skeptical public. His response? A crackdown on critics and the press that has kept him in power but doesn't address a deep reservoir of dissatisfaction with his leadership.

**THAILAND's Crown Prince** Vajiralongkorn leads a 43-kilometer bike ride through the streets of the capital in tribute to his mother, Queen Sirikit, to mark her 83rd birthday — also an exercise in palace public relations at a time of concern about the royal succession.

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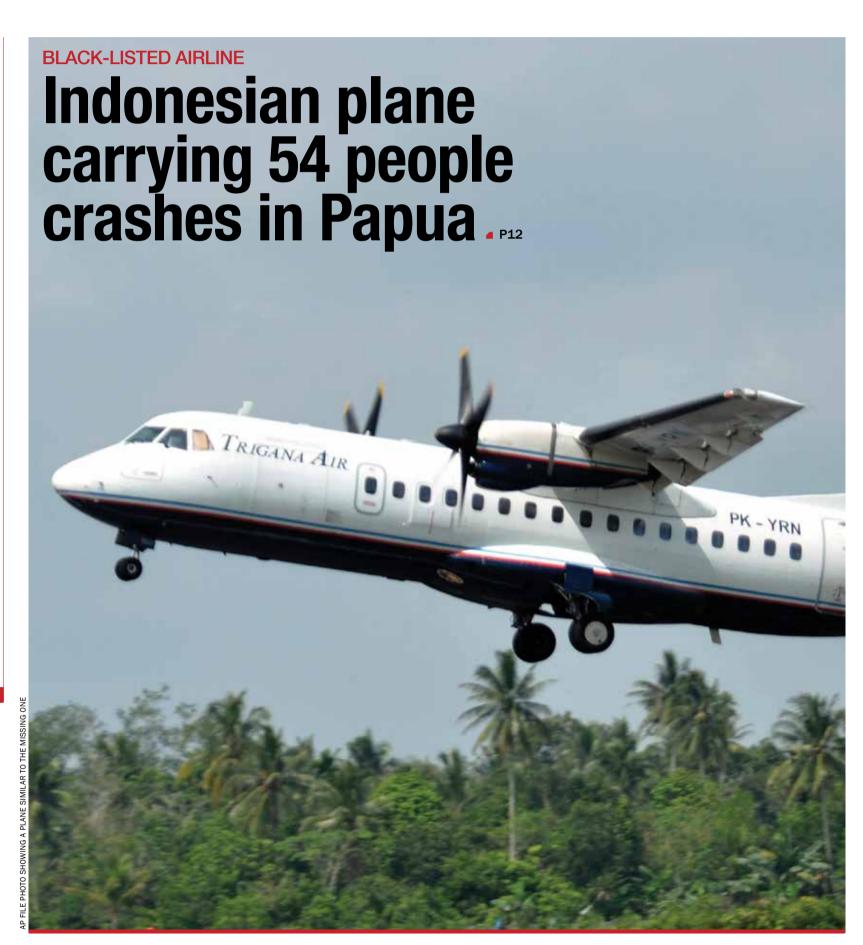
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political fallout



Manila gov't warns against Facebook scam targeting Filipino workers in Macau, HK BACKPAGE

**PUBLIC CONSULTATION** 

# High-rise blocks on reclamation Zone B remain residents' top concern

**Catarina Pinto** 

THE government of partial allow high-rise building **THE** government's plan to gs to be built on reclamation Zone B remains among residents' top concerns, according to a preliminary evaluation of the new reclamation zone blueprint public consultation, now in its third phase.

The Land, Public Works and Transport Bureau (DSSOPT) revealed on Friday that between June and August, it had gathered a total of 218 written opinions on the five new reclamation zones.

A preliminary assessment of residents' opinions show that 117 views focused on potential high-rise blocks planned for reclamation in Zone B, which some fear may have an impact on Macau's landscape.

60 people oppose the development of high-rise blocks in Zone B, since these may obstruct the view to Penha Hill, where some of Macau's UNESCO World Heritage monuments are situated.

On the other hand, 57 respondents called for a "sustained development" of Zone B, claiming that construction of too many low-rise buildings contravenes the principle of rational land use. They called on the government to find a solution.

DSSOPT's deputy director, Cheong Ion Man, told a press conference on Friday that they would be able to balance the opinions of experts with those of residents. He added that regarding Zone B, the government is cooperating with experts, some of whom specialize in UNESCO cultural heritage.

Community centers and facilities planned for reclamation Zone A also feature among residents' top concerns.

They fear that, in an area that is expected to accommodate 28,000 public and 4,000 private housing units, the planned community facilities might not meet residential demand. In addition to public amenities, citizens urged the government to



Press conference - reclamation zones public consultation

■ 60 people oppose the development of high-rise blocks in Zone B, since these may obstruct the view to Penha Hill

build more social services facilities, and health centers, as well as recreational and sports venues.

DSSOPT said that two elderly nursing homes are planned for Zone A and one for Zone E, in addition to other smaller elderly care facilities. Two health centers will be built within Zone A.

Potential traffic woes are another concern in residents' written opinions. They suggested that the authorities carefully plan Zone A's transportation and road systems in order to avoid further traffic pressure.

Furthermore, they have asked the government to give due consideration to planning the links between Zone A and other reclamation land areas, the Macau peninsula, and the artificial island at the border crossing of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau bridge, while also retaining space for the construction of the Light Rail Transit (LRT) system.

Dozens of residents expressed their views on public housing policies, stating that they expect the government to reinforce public housing resources. Moreover, they hope that the administration implements its housing policies within the new reclamation zones under the principle of "Macau land for Macau people".

The public consultation period had been extended amid public outcry over the government's intention to concentrate public housing units within Zone A, while other community facilities and green areas would be built on other reclamation zones.

The public consultation's third phase on the reclamation zones' blueprint will end on August 28.

The five new reclaimed zones are expected to accommodate 162,000 inhabitants, 28,000 public housing units and 26,000 private units. The current plan places all public housing units within Zone A, which is projected to have a residential density of 70,000 people per square kilometer.

## Bridge option could be 24 percent cheaper

THE Macau government and ched consensus on whether to build a bridge or tunnel as the fourth link between Macau and Taipa. The deputy director of the Land, Public Works, and Transport Bureau (DSSOPT), Cheong Ion Man, hinted that Macau's administration favours the construction of a bridge, since the cost of a tunnel could be at least 24 percent higher. Mr Cheong did not, however, disclose an

overall budget.

He said that the authorities hoped to build a link that could be used in severe weather conditions, with a special lane for motorcyclists. This could be modelled on the Sai Van bridge, comprising of a lower deck opening on typhoon days, or a tunnel.

However, he recalled that the tunnel option – in addition to being more expensive - entails more complex construction works,

as it would have to be built 50 to 60 meters below sea level.

The government would need a larger budget to build a tunnel that could be used by both cars and motorcycles, with a particular emphasis on the installation of a ventilation

The administration will make the final decision after receiving the results of a research study on the potential link.

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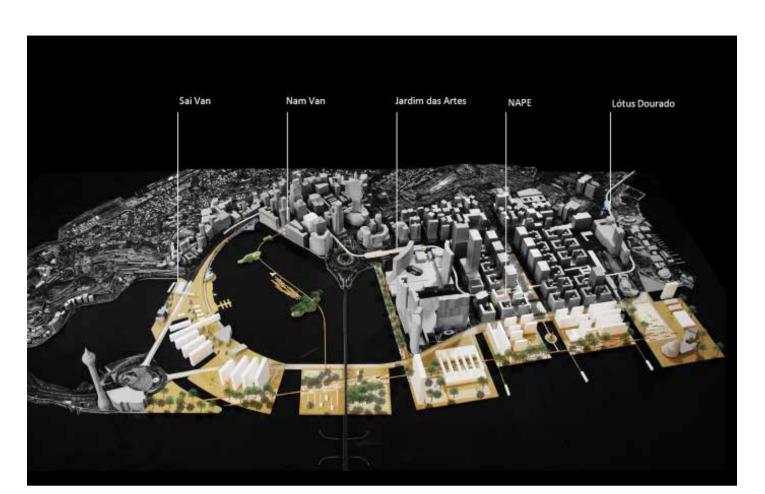
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#### **RECLAMATION ZONE E**

# Public fears harmful air from nearby waste incinerator

**EGARDING** the urban development of the five new reclamation zones, the Land, Public Works and Transport Bureau (DSSOPT) released an environmental impact assessment (EIA) report on its master plan last Friday. In light of the location's proximity to waste disposal and treatment facilities, concerns have been raised over Zone E's livability and the safety of its air.

As the report was based on outdated and inadequate data, the EIA has raised doubts as to whether it reflects the actual challenges of air pollution that residents might face in the area. With the possible risk

of harmful airborne diseases, the public now fears the new land will turn out to be another ash-ridden Ka Ho village.

The artificial island of Zone E will host housing complexes, schools, and social facilities such as a residential care home for the elderly, and a large underground sewage plant, in addition to the existing refuse incinerator and hazardous goods processing center located 250 meters away in Taipa's Pec On area.

The DSSOPT representatives cited the EIA study conducted by the China Academy of Urban Planning and Design, stressing that the refuse incinerator would have no impact on Zone E's living

environment. However, several indicators supporting the EIA result were criticized on the grounds that they lagged significantly behind current realities, such as the projected population increase, waste increase, and measurement standard for suspended particles.

According to the EIA report, the current refuse incinerator will be able to cope with the current amount of waste until 2020, when more land needs to be reserved for solid waste disposal.

However, the facility is expected to reach its limit sooner, as the population data used as underlying variables in the assessment was already out of date. The assessment referred to a projected population of 734,000 by 2031, which underestimated the growth rate reflected in the Policy Research Office's latest population estimate of 750,000 by 2025.

Last year, the incinerator received an average of 1,240 tonnes of solid waste each day, treating 30 percent more waste than in the previous year. As a result, the facility's usage was pushed to over 70 percent of its daily handling capacity.

Once the refuse incinera-

tor reaches its limit, it will have to be expanded along with the rest of the hazardous goods processing center, as revealed by the DSSOPT. However, the expansion was not included in the calculations, whereas the measurement evaluation on pollutants also used the outdated PM10 standard instead of PM2.5.

Senior engineer, Jiang Guoxiang of the China Academy of Urban Planning and Design's Shenzhen branch, told media that the assessment result, which identified a safe zone of 250 meters, was only based on the refuse incinerator's current scale. He explained that the Macau authorities didn't mention the waste facilities' future expansion, nor did they provide assessors with the PM2.5 data apart from PM10.

Despite only assessing the master plan's environment impact based on the refuse incinerator's current scale and PM10 pollutant standard, the EIA report has suggested controlling buildings' heights and densities in Zone E1 as well as increasing ventilation passages, so that residential areas' pollutant concentration levels fall within safety standards. **BY** 

## Foreign exchange reserves reach over MOP140 billion



Macau's foreign exchange reserves reached MOP144.6 billion in July, showing an increase of 0.4 percent from the previous month. The Monetary Authority of Macau said that the city's foreign exchange reserves at the end of July represented 13 times the amount of currency in circulation.

The trade-weighted effective exchange rate index for the pataca, a gauge of the domestic currency's exchange rates against the currencies of Macau's major trading partners, rose 0.76 points month-to-month and 7.43 points year-on-year to 104.75 in July 2015.

#### Anti-drug law revision to enter legislature before year-end

Anyone in the region found in possession of drugs will be punished in the future, revealed the Social Welfare Bureau in its amendment of the existing anti-drug regulations, which could reach the Legislative Assembly to be discussed within the year. Hon Wai, head of the anti-drug department of the Bureau, said the Legal Affairs Bureau has offered their opinions on the revision which, aside from the above addition, will grant greater authorization to police investigators in collecting evidence, as well as tightening penalties and jail terms for drug users and sellers. The new minimum imprisonment for drug vendors is expected to be increased to five years from three years previously. It was also said that the current version of the law contained no specific definitions for certain scenarios, indirectly opening loopholes for the criminals.

#### Local student wins Microsoft Office Olympics



Macau's five-person student delegation returned with three awards last Saturday from the 2015 Microsoft Office Specialist World Championship and the Adobe Certified Associate World Championship, both of which were held in Dallas, USA. Out of 145 young contestants from across the globe, local high school student Chao Ka Hei took home the honor of world champion, specializing in Microsoft Excel 2010. The annual championship was established to gauge students' skills in Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Photoshop, Illustrator, and InDesign. Last year, Macau's Chan Ian Weng and Lo Kin Ian were also announced the MS Office world champions in Word 2010 and Excel 2010 respectively.

## ZONE A RECLAMATION DELAY STILL UNCERTAIN

REGARDING THE waiting time for public housing construction, due to sedimentation after the reclamation of Zone A is completed, the Infrastructure Development Office (GDI) says the new land will already be prepared for infrastructural construction and other procedures upon the completion of sand filling, as a series of

geological disposal works have been laid out since the design phase to eliminate the pre-subsidence of reclaimed land. Nevertheless, the Office acknowledges Zone A's reclamation – now underway – was delayed due to a shortage of sand. The exact length of the delay cannot be assessed until the supply issue is resolved.

## Elderly call for more subsidies as gov't plans support system

**THE** public consultation for a ▲ decade-long action plan which seeks to establish a Support System for the Elderly kicked off on Friday as the Social Welfare Bureau (IAS) held two briefing sessions, one addressing elderly citizens and the other addressing the general public.

The elderly hope to be granted more subsidies, especially for healthcare, and demand public buses and bus stops be properly equipped to ease their mobility, Radio Macau reported.

Some participants at Friday's briefing said communication with government departments failed at times. They argued that public officials do not communicate well with the elderly community.

The president of the Social Welfare Bureau (IAS), Iong Kong Io, acknowledged the difficulty of estimating the overall budget or figures on human resources needed to set the plan in motion.

"This is the first elderly support system implemented here. In the first two years, we will conduct a step-by-step assessment and provide an estimation on the budget and the exact number of human resources needed," he told Radio Macau.

To cope with Macau's aging society, the government set up an inter-departmental research group to develop an action plan focusing on four main categories: enhancing medical services; protecting the interests and rights of the elderly; ensuring elderly people's social welfare and activity; and securing their living conditions.

The policy framework under development will serve as a basis for the government's future policy-making strategies targeted at the elderly.

Macau has entered an "aging society" phase as 8.4 percent of the population last year was recorded to be aged 65 or older. The elderly will make up 16.3 percent of the total population by 2025, according to a research



The public consultation on the Support System for the Elderly kicked off on Friday

study conducted by the Policy Research Office.

The Public Consultation on the Protection System for the Elderly runs until September 12. The government has called on all residents to take part in the consultation by emailing ageing@ ias.gov.mo or visiting the website http://www.ageing.ias.gov. mo/consult. Opinions can also be submitted via fax (28355161) or a 24-hour hotline recording system at 28357048. Residents can also hand in their opinions in writing at IAS or Social Welfare centers, among other public ser-

## IAS and neighborhood group demand greater focus on market potential of local seniors

THE Macau General Union of the Nei-THE Macau General Control of local ghborhood Associations urged local youth to explore the potential benefits of the senior market in the region, while the Social Welfare Bureau encouraged employment for the elderly within non-profit organiza-

During TDM's weekly forum held yesterday morning, Lau Veng Si, the vice-president on the board of directors at the general union, advised the government to take the initiative to introduce the elderly demogra-

phic to local youth starting their own businesses. According to the bureau, the elderly population is estimated to surge to over 150,000 by 2036, suggesting that one in five people in the city will then be aged 65 or above. Lau described the phenomenon as a "direction [in which] to develop."

Likewise, Choi Sio Un, who presided over the region's social solidarity affairs at the bureau, said that the authorities would investigate the possibility of initiating nonprofit business units, the operations of which would be entrusted to local civil groups. Employment of elderly individuals would be made mandatory.

Choi also disclosed that a senior-care subvention scheme for low-income households was under consideration by the authorities and that the results of the deliberation would be available in 2018.

The government is currently seeking public opinion on its action plan and its mechanism framework for the region's aged population. Staff reporter

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**NE** of the many open se-Crets now tumbling into the media spotlight as part of the Louis Berger bribery case involves Goa's deeply unpopular casinos, via the accused Hawala operator, Raychand Soni, who was arrested by the Goa police last week for supplying tens of millions in cash to be paid in bribes to former chief minister Digambar Kamat, and former state public works department minister Churchill Alemao," The Times of India wrote yesterday in an opinion article that draws many comparisons between the Indian state and the MSAR's gaming industry.

According to the Indian paper, the crime branch testified that "casinos are running on Soni's funds." It appears that huge sums of cash have been continuously funneled through Soni's shop in Panaji since 2009 – "all part of the ocean of 'black money' that is awash everywhere in India, where there is more unaccounted money than the rest of the world combined. Like the property market - which has also seen a highly inflated bubble in Goa."

"Make no mistake," argues the paper, "money laundering is the bread and butter of the casino industry wherever it has established itself in the world."

In Australia, a Vietnamese cri-

**GAMING ALERT** 

## Money laundering in Goa's casinos and the Macau experience - report



**Goa shores** 

minal named Pete Hoang generated an estimated turnover of USD1 billion between 2000 and 2012. Just a few weeks ago, the US treasury department's financial crimes enforcement network levied one of its biggest ever fines – an incredible \$75 million against the Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino on the Northern Mariana Islands, a US commonwealth, for "willful and egregious" violations of money-laundering rules. This closely follows another \$10 million fine imposed

on the Trump Taj Mahal casino in Atlantic City, New Jersey, for similar violations.

In spite of that recent history, "it should be noted that there are strict regulations in the USA, and [there] remains some measure of oversight and law enforcement," writes the paper.

"[In Goa], the situation is much more like that of Macau, where the casinos are rigged as money laundry machines, and organized crime dominates from behind the scenes."

According to secret diplomatic cables released by the whistle blowing website, Wikileaks, Macau casinos' "phenomenal success is based on a formula that facilitates... money laundering, upwards of a phenomenal \$200 billion per year."

There is much more in those diplomatic cables on Macau that could also apply to Goa's casinos – "Facilitator organizations work closely with organized crime groups to identify customers and collect debts. Junket operators work directly with casinos to buy gaming chips at discounted rates, allowing players to avoid identification."

"Know-your-customer (KYC) and record-keeping requirements are significantly looser than in other international gaming venues. Oversight...is limited and remains a serious weakness."

"A final comparison between Macau's dangerously out-ofcontrol casino industry, and Goa's insidiously growing menace, is the redirection of that pipeline of unregistered black

money via the casino tables directly into the political system." The paper states the case of Sheldon Adelson, "who makes his fortune on the gaming tables in Macau" and is "a wouldbe political kingmaker in both the USA and Israel."

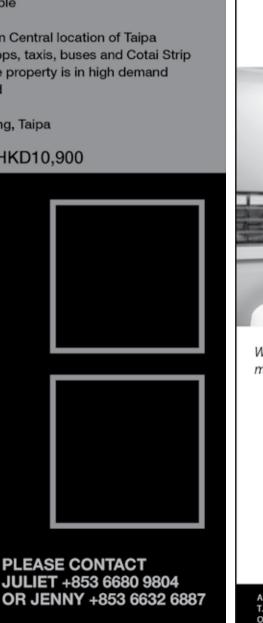
The Times of India writer ends his analysis raising several questions about the existence of casinos in Goa.

"Why does Goa have casinos? Why are they bang in the middle of the river opposite Panaji? Why are images of gambling allowed on billboards, and broadcast on the side of a casino right in the centre of the state capital? Why does this extremely dirty, globally reviled, utterly degraded, extraordinarily dubious so-called industry continue to hang on in a state that does not need it, and despite a public consensus against casinos that has only grown, strengthened and redoubled over the past decade? It's the money, stupid. Just follow the money." **PC** 

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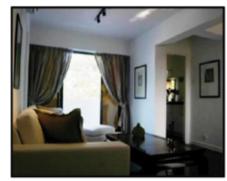


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CHINA'S three yuan depreciation moves over three consecutive days last week have not only sent shockwaves rippling through global markets, but have also triggered fluctuations among local casinos' shares on Hong Kong's stock market to varying extents.

The statistics provided by the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong indicate that the region's listed gaming companies have recorded their first conspicuous decline in share prices since the currency devaluation announcement last Tuesday, followed by another announcement the following day. However, shares picked up on Thursday, defying the further 1.1 percent drop of middle rate between the renminbi and the dollar. Their trading volume has also demonstrated a decline since Tuesday.

It was reported that casino operators such as Wynn Resorts and Las Vegas Sands were sold off last week amid concerns that less cash would flow in from the VIP gaming rooms. Wynn shares closed at USD94.62 on Thursday, down from their high above \$246 last year, while Sands shares closed at \$53.12, down from their peak of above \$87 last year.

#### **ECONOMY**

# Gaming operators' stocks dented by weakened Chinese currency



The sale was justifiable, as local junkets were said to not have reaped their expected repayment in yuan from their debtors when the loans they made to mainland high rollers were in patacas, which are pegged to the greenback (via the Hong Kong dollar).

Despite the share tumbles,

some investors regarded such an occasion a "buying opportunity," saying the gaming situation in the region was "an undervalued asset and the stocks might have been oversold," according to Reuters coverage. The managers of Longleaf Partners Small-Cap Fund, advised by Southeastern Asset Management, even wrote that "weakness in the Macau (China) gaming market provided the opportunity to purchase Wynn Resorts at a substantial discount to our appraisal" in their latest commentary.

Nonetheless, other investors have already sold their holdings in the gaming operators, on the grounds of the central government's threatening antigraft campaign.

Although more resorts in the Cotai Strip are slated to be unveiled soon, Shawn Narancich, executive vice-president of equity research and portfolio management at Ferguson Wellman Captial management, expressed his concerns that the supply might outstrip demand, especially amid different headwinds negatively impacting the region's gaming revenue at the moment. The firm sold roughly 360,000 shares of Las Vegas Sands last year after their value slid.

"Without a firm or improving business environment for gaming companies, it is very difficult for casino stocks to perform well," explained managers from Wintergreen Fund who sold their Wynn Macau shares in the first quarter of the year, in a written commen-

Last week's phenomenon proved that the weakened yuan's impact on stocks was limited and temporary, as shares on the United States' stock market finished 0.7 percent or even higher by Friday's close, unintimidated by China's sucker-punch policy.

Richard Weeks, a partner at Hightower Advisors, was cited as recognizing the Chinese devaluation as a concern, yet saying that last week "nothing fundamental and long-term changed for the U.S. stocks" as the market internals are an area of greater concern. Staff reporter/Agencies

## TOURISM AND INFLATION AFFECTED BY YUAN DEVALUATION

THE MONETARY Authority of Macau (AMCM) has acknowledged that the decision by China's central bank to to devalue its currency may affect Macau's tourism sector and inflation rate.

"The weakening of the RMB might reduce the MSAR's attractiveness as a tourism destination for mainland visitors," the AMCM stated last week, adding that tourism is a key sector for the local economy, and mainland tourists account for over half of Macau's visitor arrivals.

AMCM estimates that tourism and retail businesses will be negatively impacted in the short-term following the yuan

devaluation. Furthermore, AMCM believes that imported prices will be further lowered, leading to "moderate inflationary pressure." Short-term returns will also be adversely affected while appropriate risk-control measures have been taken, it revealed. The Monetary Authority remarked that in the past few years, the return provided by the RMB was generally attractive, leading authorities to allocate the Fiscal Reserve's assets into RMB assets. It is expected that the RMB's weakening against the USD will lower the annual rate of return for the first eight months of 2015. The Monetary Authority said this year's performance will depend on the global financial market, although they expect positive returns for 2016. CP

## Bloomberry Resorts: Devaluation may hurt Philippines' fledgling casino sector

THE recent devaluation of the Chinese yuan is "casting a shadow over the Philippine gaming industry, which aims to attract more gamblers from China and other parts of the [Asia-Pacific] region," the Nikkei Report proposed in a dispatch over the weekend.

The weaker yuan will "probably reduce the spending power of the Chinese and Koreans, who are the main targets of these Philippine gaming companies," Lexter Azurin, research head at Unicapital Securities, told the Japanese agency.

The analyst was referring to the three biggest players in the fledgling sector: Bloomberry Resorts, which runs the Solaire Resort and Casino; Melco Crown Philippines, owner of City of Dreams Manila; and Travellers International Hotel Group, the company responsible for Resorts World Manila.

However, another analyst, who was quoted by Nikkei Report, played down the yuan's impact, noting that the bulk of gaming revenues still originates from domestic gamblers - not foreign tourists. "There could be some effect, but it should not be significant or alarming," said Rommel Rodrigo at Maybank ATR Kim Eng Securities

Amid falling exports, China started to devalue the yuan earlier in the week, battering regional currencies including the Philippine peso and South Korean won. For the Philippines, South Korea is the country from which the majority of its tourists hail.

Weaker spending by tourists could hurt gaming companies that already posted lackluster first-half results, due to stiff competition and mounting expenses.

According to Nikkei, Melco Crown reported a loss of 4.91 billion pesos (USD106 million) for the six months ending in June, while Bloomberry recorded a loss of 1.31 billion pesos. Travellers saw earnings slide 18%, to 2.36 billion pesos, partly due to forex losses stemming from the weak peso.

Two additional large casinos, worth at least \$1 billion each, are set to open in the next three years, as the Southeast Asian nation strives to become a major global gaming hub.

"The Philippine gaming sector is coming from zero," Azurin said. "It has just started, compared with Macau and Singapore. Looking at the horizon, it's still a promising industry."

## Sands China first-half net profit slides 46pct

SANDS China Ltd reported a 46 percent drop in its half-year net profit last week, as a corruption crackdown and a weakening economy on the mainland have interfered with its business in Macau.

The casino operator

said in a statement that it recorded a net profit of USD734.5 million for the first half of the year, down from \$1.37 billion a year earlier.

Its half-year net revenue fell 30.7% to \$3.52 billion from \$5.08 billion pre-

viously. The company did not declare an interim dividend.

A number of analysts have weighed in on the stock. Barclays upgraded shares of Sands China from an "equal weight" rating to an "overweight" rating in a report last month. They noted that the move was a valuation call. Deutsche Bank raised shares of Sands China from a "sell" rating to a "hold" rating in a research note in the beginning of July. Finally, Zacks rai-

sed shares of Sands China from a "sell" rating to a "hold" rating in a research note last week.

Sands is engaged in developing its new largescale property in Cotai, The Parisian Macao, which is now anticipated to open in the second half of 2016. It will include a gaming area, a hotel with over 3,000 rooms and suites, and retail, entertainment, dining and meeting facilities. The costs – including payments made for the land premium and the expected design, development and construction of The Parisian Macao – will be approximately \$2.7 billion. MDT/Agencies





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This image provided by Disney parks shows the Star Wars-themed lands that will be coming to Disneyland park in Anaheim, Calif., and Disney's Hollywood Studios in Orlando, Fla.

# 'Star Wars' themed land planned at Disney parks

Lindsey Bahr, Film Writer, Anaheim, Calif.

theme parks have their sights on a galaxy far, far away.

"Star Wars" is getting its own themed lands at Walt Disney World in Orlando, Florida, and Disneyland in Anaheim, California, Disney CEO Bob Iger announced at the D23 Fan Expo on Saturday.

"We are creating a jaw-dropping new world," Iger said.

The 14-acre attractions represent the largest single themed land expansion ever.

Iger also said that the Star Wars land will be "every bit as thrilling as the films" and will include attractions and entertainment in an area populated by aliens and droids. There will also be a Cantina and the chance to take control of the Millennium Falcon — one of the signature attractions.

One adventure also promises to put guests "in the middle of a climactic battle between the First Order and the Resistance."

Since 1987, Disney parks have only had the Star Tours ride as their "Star Wars" themed attraction, and even that will be getting a facelift to reflect the new characters and worlds from December's "Star Wars: The Force Awakens." The ride was previously updated in 2011.

More comprehensive brand integration into the parks has been expected since Disney acquired Lucasfilm in 2012.

Disney will also be adding the interactive Star Wars Launch Bay and introducing a new seasonal event, Season of the Force, which will update Space Mountain to become Hyperspace Mountain where guests will participate in an X-Wing battle.

Walt Disney Parks and Resorts Chairman Bob Chapek announced an upcoming Toy Story Land at Disney's Hollywood Studios, featuring exaggeratedly large objects to make guests feel as though they are actually in Andy's backyard.

Filmmakers James Cameron and Jon Landau also previewed the currently-under construction World of AVA-TAR at Disney's Animal Kingdom. AP

#### **MACAU**

## IFT sweet treat wins annual Fonterra Pastry Challenge

**TAKING** the words of 18th L century French queen Marie Antoinette to heart, local pastry chefs were battling it out on Friday showcasing their baking skills so they could indeed let the public eat cake. In a flurry of whipping, mixing and icing, the annual Fonterra Pastry Challenge, now in its fourth year, took place at the Macau University of Science and Technology (MUST).

Providing a platform for pastry chefs to showcase and exchange skills in a competitive environment, 18 finalist chefs battled it out in a three hour competition, making mouthwatering cakes and beautiful baking art.

Under this year's theme of "Let's Celebrate", 9 teams of finalists had to select one season of the year and produce two identical cakes showcasing its characteristics, using cream cheese, whipping cream and butter as the main ingredients for their masterpieces.

The Institute for Tourism Studies (IFT) was crowned champion and nabbed the Gold award for its cake named "Le

Pere", while Wynn Macau came in as 1st runner-up, receiving a Silver award for its "Vero Amore" creation. Sheraton Hotel Macao won the 2nd runnerup title, obtaining a Bronze award for its "Story of Diamond Cake". Meanwhile, representatives from Fonterra Management, Angliss Management, the media and fellow contestants judged the "Angliss Excellence Award", presenting it to MGM Macao for its "Dream of Southeast Asia" cake. Macau Daily Times' editor-in-chief was one of the media jurors.

The panel of pastry chef judges included Jean Francois Arnaud M.O.F., Mr Danny Ho, Executive Pastry Chef of Hotel Icon, Mr Roger Luk, Pastry Chef of Disneyland Hotel, and Mr Bruno Jen, Deputy Managing Director of the Taiwan Gateaux Association.

In addition to the prize money, Gold, Silver and Bronze Award winners stand to receive a complimentary pastry training course conducted by the prestigious Meilleurs Ouvriers de France (MOF).



#### corporate bits

#### SANDS CHINA PARTICIPATES IN ONE DAY **VOLUNTEER FOR SEVENTH CONSECUTIVE YEAR**

Sands China Ltd. participated in two activities organized by the Macau Youth Volunteer Association as part of its One Day Volunteer 2015 program yesterday, where 35 Sands China Care Ambassadors (SCCA) spent a day with members of the Macau Deaf Association at Sands Cotai Central. Yesterday's activities marked Sands China's seventh year of participation in the annual One Day Volunteer program.

Around 25 children and parents from the Macau Deaf Association and their families were invited to take part in two activities

held at Sands Cotai Central Sunday: Madagascar Summer Feast and DreamWorks Experience Cool Collection. They were given the opportunity to interact with Madagascar characters such as penguins Skipper and Kowalski, and joined them for a summer lunch buffet. Then, they headed to the DreamWorks Experience Cool Collection, a free-admission treasure hunt to find some of the DreamWorks Animation characters. Each child who participated received a souvenir from Sands China to commemorate





In this Aug. 6 file photo, U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry, left, and Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi, chat after the group photo session before the East Asia Summit Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Kuala Lumpur

SOUTH CHINA SEA WATCH

## Beijing rejects island building freeze

**THE** dispute over the stra-L tegic waterways of the South China Sea has intensified, pitting a rising China against its smaller and militarily weaker neighbors who all lay claim to a string of isles, coral reefs and lagoons mostly in the Spratly and the Paracel islands. Only about 45 of them are occupied. The area is one of the world's busiest shipping routes, rich in fish and potential gas and oil reserves, but it has now emerged as a possible flashpoint involving world powers and regional claimants.

A look at some of the most recent key developments:

#### DIVISIONS AMONG ASEAN MEMBERS WA-TER DOWN ANTI-CHI-NA STATEMENT

At a meeting of foreign ministers from the 10-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations, divisions over how to deal with China again split the regional bloc. The Philippines and Vietnam demanded a more robust statement condemning China's island-building in disputed waters close to their

shores, while Beijing's allies Cambodia and Laos worked to dilute the tone of the final wording, according to diplomats present.

The ministers said in their joint statement that they "took note of the serious concerns expressed by some ministers" on land reclamations in the South China Sea, without mentioning China by name. They did say that the offshore constructions "have eroded trust and confidence, increased tensions and may undermine peace, security and stability." They also called on all parties to "exercise self-restraint in the conduct of activities that would complicate or escalate disputes" — a standard line which has been used repeatedly in the past.

The wording is a compromise between two ASEAN factions. Above all, the group wanted to avoid a repetition of a 2012 fiasco, when delegates for the first time in ASEAN history failed to come up with a common position on the South China Sea.

CHINA SAYS NO TO U.S. PUSH FOR FREEZE OF ISLAND ACTIVITIES U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry and his Chinese counterpart, Wang Yi, also attended the meetings in Kuala Lumpur, but remained far apart in their views on what to do with the South China Sea.

In a speech, Wang repeated China's position ("the South China Sea islands are China's territory"), and said that the U.S. proposal for Beijing to stop constructing artificial islands while their status remains disputed "is not feasible."

"For instance, what is to be stopped? As parties have different positions, what are the criteria for stopping? Who will set the specific criteria? There is no answer to these questions. That said, China still welcomes constructive suggestions from all countries on maintaining peace and stability in the South China Sea. But such suggestions must be feasible and, more importantly, should not impose double standards," he said.

He also said that singling out China for changing the status quo was unfair because others have been doing the same for years.

Other claimants have upgraded their island facilities, however, China's recent work appears to have outpaced any other construction and could fundamentally change the features, in some cases enlarging them three-fold.

#### BEIJING IMPOSES LI-MITS ON NAVIGATION

In a sign that tensions with the U.S. could escalate, China's ambassador in the Philippines, Zhao Jianhua, took issue with Washington's position that freedom of navigation in the South China Sea must never be questioned.

While China said previously it has never threatened international navigation, Zhao said there are limits when it comes to military ships and planes, and referred to a recent overflight of a U.S. Navy P-8A.

"Freedom of navigation does not mean to allow other countries to intrude into the airspace or the sea which is sovereign. No country will allow that," Zhao said. "We say freedom of navigation must be observed in accordance with international law. No freedom of navigation for warships and airplanes."

#### LAST WORD

"In fact, China is a victim on the South China Sea issue. Yet, with a view to upholding peace and stability in the South China Sea, we have exercised utmost restraint." — Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi. AP

## Beijing plays down US human rights concerns

#### **Matthew Pennington, Washington**

CHINA is open to talking about human rights at a September leadership summit with the U.S. but the two world powers should not let the issue "dominate" the discussions, a senior Chinese official said Friday.

The State Department's top official on human rights said Thursday there's growing alarm in the U.S. over the situation in China and vowed that it would be a prominent topic at the Washington summit between President Barack Obama and President Xi Jinping.

Li Junhua, a senior official at China's Foreign Ministry, responded Friday.

"If our American colleagues suggest that next month during the summit our leaders should discuss this issue, then we are open to this proposal," Li told reporters, a day after he led the Chinese delegation at a human rights dialogue with the U.S.

"Yet this issue should not dominate our discussion about our relationship," Li said, according to an English translation of his comments in Chinese. "We should see a bigger picture: How do we seek more cooperation between each other while shelving these differences?"

U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Tom Malinowski on Thursday pressed Beijing to improve its deteriorating human rights record to set a positive tone for the summit, Xi's first state visit to the U.S. since he became president in 2013.

Li contended that human rights conditions were improving daily in China and that the U.S. should resist what he called "megaphone diplomacy."

Asked about U.S. objections to a draft law policing non-government organizations, Li said that was due to a misunderstanding of the law's provisions. Washington says that unless the law is revised or shelved it could jeopardize a large array of U.S. engagements in China.

Li also said the U.S. has exaggerated a crackdown on public interest lawyers. The State Department says more than 250 people have been rounded up recently and some are still being held. Li said about 20 lawyers have been detained and prosecuted for violating the law and it is now a matter for the courts. AP

**Paul Traynor, Tianjin** 

UTHORITIES pulled more bodies from a massive blast site in the Chinese port of Tianjin, pushing the death toll to 112 yesterday as teams scrambled to clear dangerous chemical contamination.

Hundreds of people were injured and 85 firefighters and 10 others are missing since a fire and rapid succession of blasts late Wednesday hit a warehouse for hazardous chemicals in a mostly industrial area of Tianjin, 120 kilometers east of Bei-

By yesterday, authorities confirmed there were "several hundred" tons of the toxic chemical sodium cyanide on the site at the time of the blasts, although they said there have not been any devastating leaks.

Sodium cyanide is a toxic chemical that can form a flammable gas upon contact with water. Earlier state media reports said the warehouse was storing 700 tons of the chemical -70 times more than it should have been holding at one time.

Angry relatives of the missing firefighters and local residents whose homes are destroyed by the blasts showed up at a government news conference yesterday to demand information and accountability.

The death toll includes at least 21 firefighters — making the disaster the deadliest for Chinese firefighters in more than six decades. About 1,000 firefighters responded to the disaster, and 85 of them remained unaccounted for yesterday.

The public has raised concerns whether firefighters were put into harm's way in the initial response to the fire and whether the hazardous material including compounds com-

# Tianjin blast zone blocked over contamination fear; 112 dead



A man walks past the charred remains of new cars at a parking lot near the site of the warehouse explosion in Tianjin municipality

bustible on contact with water was properly taken into account in the way the firefighters responded.

The massive explosions Wednesday happened about 40 minutes after reports of a fire at the warehouse and after an initial wave of firefighters arrived and, reportedly, doused some of the area with water.

Outside the Mayfair Hotel where the authorities hold regular news conferences, a woman pleaded for information on her husband.

"(They) have said nothing. We know nothing," the woman said. "We've been told nothing."

Another man demanded information from a government official. "We've been here for three days, and we've not had one piece of information," he

Local officials have been hard-pressed to explain why authorities permitted hazardous goods warehouses so close to residential complexes and cri-

tical infrastructure, clearly in violation of the Chinese rule that hazmat storage should be 1,000 meters away from homes and public structures.

Homeowners of the nearby Qihang residential compound yesterday unfurled banners demanding government accountability and proper compensation for their damaged homes. Many were wearing masks, and some had bandages, possibly over cuts.

Yesterday, Shi Luze, chief of

staff for the People's Liberation Army's Beijing district, said authorities believe there were "several hundred" tons of cyanide at the warehouse. He said that leaked chemicals were being neutralized and those still in packages removed from the site.

He also said that 3,000 soldiers had been dispatched to the disaster zone to clean up any leaks of hazardous mate-

Authorities temporarily detected the highly toxic hydrogen cyanide in the air slightly above safety levels at two locations, Tianjin environmental official Bao Jingling told a news conference yesterday morning. The contamination Saturday afternoon, at 4 percent and 50 percent above the safety level, was no longer detectable later Saturday, Bao said. "These levels are actually very low," he said. Bao said the cyanide was yet to be detected in water samples.

Authorities were keeping residents, journalists and other people not involved in the disaster response outside a 3-kilometer radius around the site of the explosions in what media reports said was an operation to clean up the sodium cyanide.

Rescuers pulled out a survivor from a shipping container on Saturday, state media reported. Footage showed the 56-year -old man being carried out on a sketcher by a group of soldiers wearing gas masks. He remained in critical condition yesterday, local media reported. AP

**HONG KONG** 

## FT: Carson Yeung freed from jail

**TARSON** Yeung, the colorful tycoon and part owner of English football club Birmingham City, was freed from a high-security prison in Hong Kong and given the right to appeal his conviction for money laundering, the Financial Times reported on Friday.

According to the London-based newspaper, the former hairdresser was jailed for six years in March 2014 after being convicted of laundering HKD721m (USD94m) between 2001 and 2007 in a high-profile trial that hit the headlines from Hong Kong to Birmingham.

details how Hong Kong's highest court ruled on Friday that Yeung could launch an appeal, which will be heard next May, and freed him on bail of HK\$7m and cash sureties of HK\$6m.

He is not allowed to leave Hong Kong and must report to the police station near his luxury home on The Peak three times a week, according to Derek Chan, a lawyer at Plowman Chambers, which is acting for Yeung.

Mr Chan told the FT that the appeal would be based on a questioning of the "elements of the money laundering offence"

want to comment at this time. He added that Yeung would be released by Saturday.

At his trial last year, Yeung's barrister, Graham Harris, said that the tvcoon had "gone from rags to riches and he is likely to return to rags".

Furthermore, according to the newspaper, in his trial testimony, the 55-year-old described how he set up five hair salons, including one in the luxury Peninsula Hotel in Kowloon, after returning to Hong Kong following several years in London and Paris.

Yeung claimed that his

The article by Ben Bland and that Yeung did not wealth came from the hair salons as well as stock market investments and winnings at the casino tables in neighboring Macau.

While Yeung, who drove a Maybach car worth US\$750,000 and owned an 88ft yacht, will be free for now, Birmingham City remains mired in uncertainty about its future.

Yeung bought the club in 2009 when it was in the top-flight Premier League, but it was relegated in 2011 and remains in the second-tier of English football.

He resigned as chairman of Birmingham City before his conviction in



**Birmingham City owner Carson Yeung** 

2014 but he still owns 28 per cent of Birmingham International Holdings, the club's Hong Kong-listed parent company, according to the latest filing from the club.

Trading in the shares of BIH has been suspended since December and the company appointed EY as receivers in February to "protect the company and to preserve its assets", the FT detailed.

Yeung has contested the appointment of the receivers in a Hong Kong court, while the receivers have also launched legal action against Yeung.

In June, the receivers entered exclusive takeover talks with a group called Trillion Trophy Asia Limited, with the negotiations about a possible deal ongoing.

#### Niniek Karmini, Jakarta

N airliner carrying 54 people went missing yesterday during a short flight in bad weather in Indonesia's mountainous easternmost province of Papua, and rescuers were heading to an area where villagers reported seeing a plane crash into a mountain, officials said.

The Trigana Air Service plane was flying from Papua's provincial capital, Jayapura, to the Papua city of Oksibil when it lost contact with Oksibil's airport, said Transportation Ministry spokesman Julius Barata. There was no indication that the pilot had made a distress call, he said.

The ATR42-300 twin turboprop plane was carrying 49 passengers and five crew members on the scheduled 42-minute journey, Barata said. Five children, including two infants, were among the passengers.

Local media reports said all the passengers are Indonesians. The airline did not immediately release a passenger manifest.

Oksibil, which is about 280 kilometers south of Jayapura, was experiencing heavy rain, strong winds and fog when the plane lost contact with the airport minutes before it was scheduled to land, said Susanto, the head of Papua's search and rescue agency.

Residents of Okbape village in Papua's Bintang district told local police that they saw a plane flying low before crashing into a mountain, said Susanto, who

#### **INDONESIA**

## Airliner with 54 aboard goes missing in Papua



An airport official checks a map of Indonesia at the crisis center set up by the local authority for the missing AirAsia flight **QZ8501 last December** 

like many Indonesians goes by one name. He said about 150 rescuers were heading to the remote area, which is known for its dense forest and steep cliffs, and would begin searching for the plane early today.

Okbape is about 24 kilometers west of Oksibil.

A plane was sent yesterday to look for the missing airliner, but the air search was suspended due to darkness and limited visibility and will resume this morning, Susanto said.

Much of Papua is covered with impenetrable jungles and mountains. Some planes that have crashed there in the past have never been found.

Dudi Sudibyo, an aviation analyst, said that Papua is a particularly dangerous place to fly because of its mountainous terrain and rapidly changing weather patterns. "I can say that a pilot who is capable of flying there will be able to fly an aircraft in any part of the world," he said.

Indonesia has had its share of airline woes in recent years.

Last December, all 162 people aboard an AirAsia jet were killed when the plane plummeted into the Java Sea as it ran into stormy weather on its way from Surabaya, Indonesia's secondlargest city, to Singapore.

That disaster was one of five suffered by Asian carriers in a 12-month span, including Malaysia Airlines Flight 370, which went missing in March 2014 with 239 people aboard during a flight from Kuala Lumpur to Beijing. AP

#### **JAPAN**

# Emperor offers 'remorse' on WWII surrender anniversary

Mari Yamaguchi, Tokyo

Emperor Akihito expressed rare "deep remorse" over his country's wartime actions in an address Saturday marking the 70th anniversary of Japan's World War II surrender, a day after the prime minister fell short of apologizing in his own words to the victims of Japanese aggression.

Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, meanwhile, stayed away from the contentious Yasukuni shrine that honors war criminals among other war dead. He instead prayed and laid flowers at a nearby national cemetery for unnamed fallen soldiers ahead of the annual ceremony at Tokyo's Budokan hall.

That ceremony started with a moment of silence at noon to mark the radio announcement by Emperor Hirohito, Akihito's father, of Japan's surrender on Aug. 15, 1945.

"Reflecting on our past and bearing in mind the feelings of deep remorse over the last war, I earnestly hope that the ravages of war will never be repeated," Akihito said in his speech. Japanese media said it was the first time he had used the words "deep remorse" in reference to the war in his annual war-end anniversary speech.

Akihito also emphasized that Japan's peace and prosperity stand on "the people's tireless endeavors and their earnest desire for peace," and renewed his war-renouncing pledge.

Even though they are subtle and still rather neutral, remarks by the emperor on Japan's wartime past in recent years have caught attention, often portrayed in the media to contrast Abe's nationalist and hawkish image, especially as he pushes to give Japan's military an expanded role and change Japan's pacifist constitution.

Abe, who also spoke at the memorial service, avoided any reference to the damage caused by Japan's aggression for the third year in a row since he took office in December 2012.

Instead, as if talking to the spirits of the war dead, Abe thanked them for the sacrifice on which he said Japan's peace and prosperity are built.

Abe did promise, however, to "face the past" and "never to repeat the calamity of the war."

On Friday, Abe issued a closely monitored statement, acknowledging damage and suffering on innocent people but falling short of apologizing in his own words to the victims of Japan's aggression.

His statement had been widely anticipated because of his past remarks on historical issues that suggested a revisionist stance. He has repeatedly said there is no clear definition of aggression, and has denied that Japan's wartime government coerced foreign women to become military prostitutes, citing lack of documentary evidence.



An activist dressed as Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe poses with Japanese military flags reading "Japan must apologize" during an anti-Japan protest outside of the Japan trade office in Taipei

Friday's statement drew mixed reactions from overseas — including criticism from China and South Korea, and praise from the United States. South Korean President Park Geun-hye said the statement "left a lot to be desired," and China called it evasive.

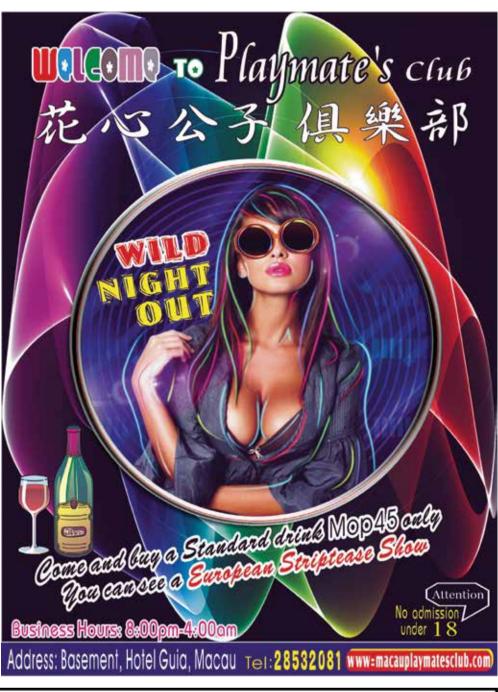
On Saturday, Abe donated Shinto-style religious ornaments for the shrine, as he has done since his last visit, in December 2013, which triggered

uproar from China and South Korea. However, two of his Cabinet ministers prayed at the shrine, and a group of about 60 national lawmakers also visited Yasukuni on Saturday.

The lawmakers say they merely wanted to pay respect to those who sacrificed their lives for their country. But because Yasukuni enshrines mostly soldiers, many see it as a symbol of Japan's past militarism. AP









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**ITALY** 

# At least 40 migrants dead at sea, 320 others rescued

Frances D'Emilio and Mike Corder, Rome

T least 40 migrants died Saturday in the hold of an overcrowded smuggling boat in the Mediterranean Sea north of Libya, apparently killed by fuel fumes, and some 320 others aboard were saved by the Italian navy, the rescue ship's commander said.

Migrants by the tens of thousands are braving the perilous journey across the Mediterranean this year, hoping to reach Europe and be granted asylum. They are fleeing war, persecution and poverty in the Middle East. Africa and Asia.

"The dead were found in the hold," said Cmdr. Massimo Tozzi, speaking from the navy ship Cigala Fulgosi while the rescue was still ongoing. Asked by Rai-News24 how the migrants died,



This image taken from video provided by the Italian Navy (Marina Militare) Saturday, shows an Italian Navy RIB rescuing migrants from a fishing boat, off the coast of Libya

Tozzi said "it appears to be from inhaling exhaust fumes."

When rescuers stepped aboard the boat, the bodies of migrants were "lying in water, fuel, human excrement" in

the hold, Tozzi said.

The death toll was not yet final. "They are still counting the victims," Interior Minister Angelino Alfano told reporters.

Tozzi said the survivors included three children and 45 women, some of whom "were crying for their husbands (and) their children who died in the crossing."

The navy said that the survivors were later transferred to a Norwegian ship with the Frontex mission, a European effort to save migrant lives in the Mediterranean. The survivors were being brought to a southern Italian port.

Elsewhere in the Mediterranean, migrants on a Turkish beach scuffled over places on one inflatable dinghy and frantically bailed out another to keep it from sinking during a dramatic night that highlighted their desperation to reach the Greek island of Kos — and the safety of Europe.

The scenes, captured early Saturday by Associated Press journalists on a moonless night, came as Turkish authorities reported that 2,791 migrants have been caught in the Aegean Sea in the past five days alone, most of them Syrians.

Kos is only 4 kilometers from Turkey at its closest point, its twinkling lights at night an irresistible beacon to those fleeing war or poverty. AP

#### **GOV'T SURVEILLANCE**

## Snowden documents reveal details behind AT&T-NSA partnership

**NDER** a decades-old program with the government, telecom giant AT&T in 2003 led the way on a new collection capability that the National Security Agency said amounted to a "live' presence on the global net" and would forward 400 billion Internet metadata records in one of its first months of operation, The New York Times reported.

The Fairview program was forwarding more than 1 million emails a day to the NSA's headquarters in Fort Meade, Maryland, the newspaper reported. Meanwhile, the separate Stormbrew program, linked to Verizon and the former company MCI, was still gearing up to use the new technology, which appeared to process foreign-to-foreign traffic.

In 2011, AT&T began handing over 1.1 billion domestic cellphone calling records a day to the NSA after "a push to get this flow operational prior to the 10th anniversary of 9/11," according to an in-



A sign stands outside the National Security Administration (NSA) campus on in Fort Meade, Md.

cited by the NY Times. Intelligence officials have told reporters in the past that, for technical reasons, the effort consisted mostly of landline phone records, the newspaper reported.

The NSA spent USD188.9 million on the Fairview program, twice the amount spent on Stormbrew, its second-largest corporate program, the newspaper reported.

Such details from the decades-long partnership between the government and AT&T emerged from NSA documents provided by former NSA systems analyst Edward Snowden, the Times reported

ternal agency newsletter in a story posted Saturday on its website. The Times and ProPublica jointly reviewed the documents, which date from 2003 to 2013.

While it has been long known that American telecommunications companies worked closely with the spy agency, the newspaper reported, the documents show that the government's relationship with AT&T has been considered unique and especially productive. One document described it as "highly collaborative," while another lauded the company's "extreme willingness to help," the newspaper reported. AP

#### **USA-CUBA**

## A festive flag-raising, then tough talk on human rights

Michael Weissenstein and **Bradley Klapper, Havana** 

A jubilant flag-raising at the reopened U.S. Embassy in Havana is giving way to serious talk about the road ahead in improving relations between the United States and Cuba.

Capping off a Friday (Saturday, Macau time) in Havana that began with the Stars and Stripes being hoisted outside the embassy, Secretary of State John Kerry met with Cuban dissidents in the evening and said the island will not see an end to the despised U.S. trade embargo if Cuba's single-party government does not make progress on human rights.

Cuban and U.S. negotiators are to meet in Havana in early September to begin talks on normalization of the relationship between the two countries, which includes topics ranging from maritime security to the embargo to human rights, Kerry told reporters.

He said negotiations will follow three tracks. The first will encompass areas in which rapid progress is expected, such as cooperation on naval matters. climate change and the environment. The second will tackle more complex topics like the establishment of direct airline flights and U.S. telecommunications deals with Cuba. The last will take on the toughest problems, including the embargo, human rights and each country's desire to have fugitives returned by the other.

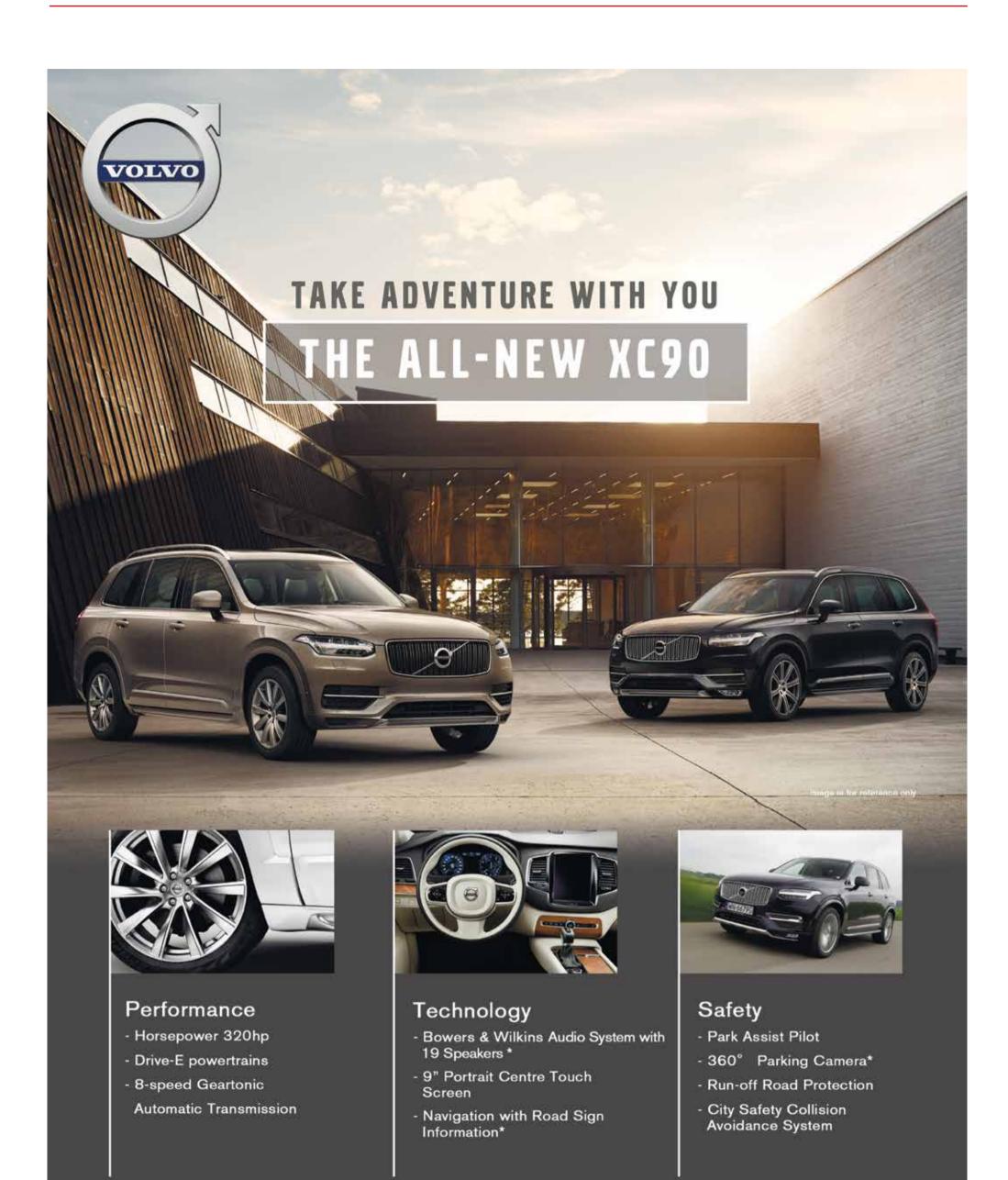


In this photo taken through a window, Cuban videographers film the U.S. flag from a crane after it was raised at the U.S. Embassy in Havana

While the three tracks will proceed simultaneously, Kerry said, Cuban leaders should not expect to see progress on the embargo without improvements in civil liberties in Cuba, which does not allow independent media, political parties other than the ruling communist party or direct election of anything but low-level municipal posts.

"There is no way Congress will lift the embargo if we are not making progress on issues of conscience," he said.

Kerry made a nationally broadcast call for democratic change on the island, saying that "we remain convinced the people of Cuba would be best served by a genuine democracy, where people are free to choose their leaders, express their ideas, practice their faith." **AP** 



\*Optional Features



#### what's ON





MACAU SCIENCE CENTRE

TIME: 10am-6pm daily (Except Thursdays) ADDRESS: Avenida Dr. Sun Yat-Sen ADMISSION: Exhibition Centre: MOP25 Planetarium (Dome/Sky Shows): MOP50 Planetarium (3D Dome/3D Sky Shows): MOP65

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2888 0822

FORMER HOME OF REVOLUTIONARY LEADER

YE TING

TIME: 10am-6pm daily

(Except Wednesdays, open on public holidays)

VENUE: 76, Rua Almirante Costa Cabral

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8399 6699

Macau Grand Prix Museum & Wine Museum

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

VENUE: Rua Luis Gonzaga Gomes, 431, basement

(Tourism Activities Centre-CAT)

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8798 4108 / 2833 3000

Installation 'Valkyrie Octopus' by Joana Vasconcelos

TIME: 24 hours

UNTIL: October 31, 2015

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

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8802 8888

EXHIBITION 'FOAM TIP BY ARLINDA FROTA AND TRANSMUTATION BY CAROL KWOK' TIME: 12pm-8pm (Closed on Tuesdays)

UNTIL: September 30, 2015

VENUE: SIGNUM Living Store, Rua do Almirante

Sérgio, no. 285, R/C, Macau

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2896 8925

"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

### **Offbeat**

#### GUINNESS: 26-YEAR-OLD CAT IN US IS WORLD'S OLDEST ALIVE

A 26-year-old cat named Corduroy has been named the oldest living cat by Guinness World Records.

The cat is owned by a family in the Oregon city of Sisters. His owner, Ashley Reed Okura, has had him since he was a kitten and she was 7.

Okura told The Oregonian (bit.ly/1JhCCrj ) that Corduroy is still active and in good health, except for some kidney problems. He still hunts on the family's 160-acre property.

For his birthday Aug. 1, Okura bought him a live white mouse and says he enjoyed it "right away."

#### **TV** canal macau

13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast

14:30 RTPi Live

18:50 The Presence of Anita (Repeated)

19:40 Soap Opera

20:30 Main News, Financial & Weather Report

**TDM Sports** 21:00

22:10 The Presence of Anita

23:00 **TDM News** 23:30 Miscellaneous

Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated) 00:05

RTPi Live 00:40



#### **CINETEATRO**

13 Aug- 19 Aug



**FANTASTIC FOUR** 

поом 1 2.15, 5.55, 7.45, <u>9</u>.45 рm **Director: Josh Trank** 

Starring: Miles Teller, Kate Mara, Michael B. Jordan

Language: English (Chinese)

**Duration: 100min** 

**DORAEMON THE MOVIE:** NOBITA AND THE SPACE HEROES\_

4.05 pm

**Director: Yoshihiro Osuai** 

Language: Cantonese (Chinese/English)
Duration: 100min

ATTACK ON TITAN\_

**гоом 2** 

2.15, 4.05, 5.55, 9.45 pm Director: shinji Higuchi

Starring: Haruma Miura, Kiko Mizuhara Language: Japonese (English and Chinese)

**Duration: 90min** 

**DORAEMON THE MOVIE:** NOBITA AND THE SPACE HEROES\_

ROOM 2 7.45 pm

**Director: Yoshihiro Osugi** 

Language: Cantonese (Chinese/English)

**Duration: 100min** 

**NOBITA AND THE SPACE HEROES** 

2.30 pm

**Director: Yoshihiro Osugi** 

Language: Cantonese (Chinese/English)
Duration: 100min

TO THE FORE

**коом 3** 4.30, 7.15, 9.30 pm **Director: Dante Lam** 

Starring: Eddie Peng, Siwon Choi

Language: English (Chinese)

**Duration: 117min** 

#### **MACAU TOWER**

30 Jul - 19 Aug

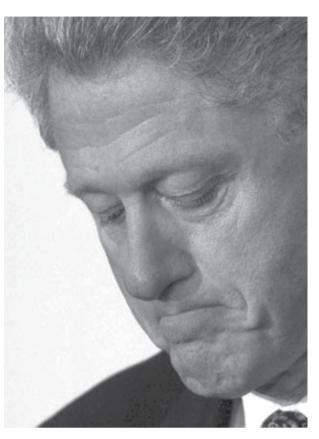
MISSION IMPOSSIBLE ROGUE NATION

2.30, 4.45, 7.15, 9.30 pm

**Director: Christopher McQuarrie** Starring: Tom Cruise, Jeremy Renner, Simon Pegg,

Rebecca Ferguson

Language: English (Chinese)



#### 1998 CLINTON ADMITS LEWINSKY **AFFAIR**

President of the United States Bill Clinton has admitted having an inappropriate relationship with former White House intern Monica Lewinsky.
In a televised address Mr Clinton told the American

people that he took full responsibility for his actions. He said: "Indeed I did have a relationship with Ms Lewinsky that was not appropriate. In fact, it was

Aides close to the president now hope the confession will bring an end to the investigation into Mr Clinton's affairs, brought by independent prosecutor Kenneth Starr.

Mr Starr's four-year inquiry began as an investigation into land deals by Hillary and Bill Clinton when he was governor of Arkansas.

It moved onto his personal life when Mr Starr began to investigate allegations that Mr Clinton had had sexual relations with Monica Lewinsky and then lied about it under oath in a sexual harassment case brought by Paula Jones in 1994.

The president's confession follows months of denial. On 26 January this year, Mr Clinton categorically denied having sexual relations with Miss Lewinsky.

Appearing serious and contrite, Mr Clinton told the American people: "I misled people, including my wife. I deeply regret that.

He concluded: "This matter is between me, the two people I love most - my wife and my daughter - and our God."

He said he had not come clean earlier because he was embarrassed but he denied he had asked anyone to lie about the relationship. He also criticised Mr Starr and the investigation,

which so far has cost £25m. On 6 August this year Ms Lewinsky told the jury that she had an 18-month sexual relationship with the President and that the pair had discussed

of concealing the relationship. She also presented one of her dresses as evidence, stating it had been stained with Mr Clinton's semen during one of their sexual encounters.

If it is proved that he lied he faces possible impeachment hearings on Capitol Hill.

**Courtesy BBC News** 

#### IN CONTEXT

On 21 September President Clinton's Grand Jury testimony was released to the public.

On 9 December 1998 the House Judiciary Committee proposed four articles of impeachment against the president. Ten days later - after a bitter debate between republicans and democrats - the House of Representatives voted to confirm the recommendation.

Bill Clinton became only the second president in American history to face such an indictment, but he refused to resign. His trial began on 7 January 1999 and ended on 12 February when senators voted to acquit him of the impeachment charges of perjury and obstruction of justice.

## MacauDaily menente • IMES

#### YOUR STARS



#### Aries

#### Mar. 21-Apr. 19

People are counting down the days, and you should be too. You're running out of spending room. Stay on target and don't be impulsive if you want to stretch your budget.



#### Gemini

#### May 21-Jun. 21

Money issues won't be as private as you'd like. If you want to contemplate your financial future, then do it in alone. The moment you let out a peep, be ready for some debating, light or otherwise.



#### Leo

### Jul. 23-Aug. 22

You've been doing great so far; don't fall off the wagon now. The temptations are stronger than ever. It takes sheer grit, determination and willpower, but staying within budget is an absolute must.



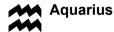
#### Libra

It's the thought that counts, not the details. Don't get stressed about what you can spend, even if you can't spend anything at all. Focus on your friends and get



#### Nov. 22-Dec. 21

Your bank account may increase, but then again, it may not. But that has nothing to do with your happiness today. For once vou're focused on more weighty matters, like old fashioned fun.



#### Jan. 20-Feb. 18

It's not a good time to be dealing with sudden changes in status, but unfortunately you have not much choice in the matter. Your first line of defense is to get rid of all fixed



#### **Taurus**

### April 20-May 20

It's the best time to be tolerant, to a point. Don't let anyone else dictate how much you should or shouldn't spend. Don't even get started. When the subject comes up, nip it in the



#### Cancer

#### Jun. 22-Jul. 22

You thought things would just keep getting bigger and better. In hindsight, you can see how outrageous that assumption was. Learn to have enjoy the season with what you can afford.



### Virgo

Aug. 23-Sept. 22 A warning not to count your chickens before they hatch is a bit harsh, but don't plan on how much money you have to spend. It's still up in the air, so be somewhat

Scorpio

Oct. 23 - Nov. 21



#### Sep.23-Oct. 22

Losing money is bad enough without having to lose face. Don't let your ego get all wrapped up with your finances. And if it's too late for that advice, start to



#### Capricorn

Dec. 22-Jan. 19 The time of year brings out the

best and the worst in those around you. But you're far from a neutral observer. When it comes to spending money, you weigh in on one side or the other.



#### **Pisces**

#### Feb.19-Mar. 20

It's the last thing you want to do. Even thinking about your diet would be more fun than thinking about your budget. But you might as well look it squarely in the eye and deal.



#### SUDOKU

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#### Easy+

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#### WEATHER

	MIN	MAX	CONDITION
CHINA -			
Beijing	23	31	cloudy/thundershower
Harbin	19	29	shower/thundershower
Tianjin	25	34	clear
Urumqi	14	26	clear
Xi'an	21	25	cloudy/shower
Lhasa	12	23	drizzle/shower
Chengdu	20	25	heavy rain
Chongqing	25	30	shower/heavy rain
Kunming	19	27	shower
Nanjing	23	31	cloudy
Shanghai	25	32	overcast/cloudy
Wuhan	24	33	cloudy
Hangzhou	24	31	cloudy
Taipei	29	32	cloudy/heavy rain
Guangzhou	25	34	cloudy
Hong Kong	28	32	cloudy

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Moscow	9	16	drizzle
Frankfurt	15	19	heavy rain/drizzle
Paris	13	22	overcast
London	10	18	overcast
New York	23	32	cloudy/clear

#### CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Nick and Nora's pooch: 5- Remaining out of sight: 10- Worshiped one: 14- Queens stadium; 15- Actor Delon; 16- Adopted son of Claudius; 17- Sweetheart; 19- Astronaut Shepard; 20- Some MIT grads; 21- Met highlight; 22- Ascending; 24- Tight swimsuit; 26- Portrayal by an actor; 27- Capital of Utah; 33- Entreaties; 36-Stomach woe; 37- Corp. honcho; 38- Westernmost of the Aleutians; 39- Habituate; 40- Actress Deborah; 41- Palm Pilot, e.g.; 42- Medicinal shrub; 43- Eagle's home; 44- Scientific study of the planets; 47- Israel's Barak; 48- Bearish; 52- Rarely; 55dancing is popular with cowboys!; 57- Dress (up); 58- Comics canine; 59- Disembowel; 62- Repudiate; 63- I swearl; 64- Some Ivy Leaguers; 65- Chip in; 66- Nincompoops; 67- Like a pillow:

DOWN: 1- Barbecue leftovers?; 2- Ovis aries; 3- Poke fun at; 4- Swiss river; 5- Security

round: 6- K-12: 7- avis: 8- God. in Italy: 9- Intact; 10- Momentarily; 11- Sandwich shop; 12- Algerian port; 13- Protracted; 18- Triumphant cries; 23- Robert of "The Sopranos"; 25- Jacob's brother; 26- Pertaining to skin color; 28- Rotated; 29- Grassy plain; 30- Champagne bucket; 31- Actress Garr; 32- Days of Hemingway sobriquet; 34-Former Fords; 35-Coup d'\_\_\_; 39- Covering; 40- Lock openers; 42- London district; 43- Be of one mind; 45-Night flight; 46- Weights; 49- Author Calvino; \_ I can help it!; 51- Discharge: 52- Pon: 53- Paradise lost; 54- Bits of thread; 55-Taylor of "Mystic Pizza"; 56- \_\_\_ soup yet?; 60- Pledge; 61- Hi-\_\_ monitor



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#### **ÚSEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS**

**Emergency calls 999** 

Fire department 28 572 222

PJ (Open line) 993

**PJ** (Picket) 28 557 775

PSP 28 573 333

**Customs** 28 559 944 S. J. Hospital 28 313 731

Kiang Wu Hospital 28 371 333

**Commission Against** 

**Corruption (CCAC)** 28326 300

IACM 28 387 333

**Tourism** 28 333 000

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Macau

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HKD 7,815sq ft

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Taxi 28 939 939 / 2828 3283

Water Supply - Report 1990 992 Telephone - Report 1000

Electricity - Report 28 339 922

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Car Park Included

Old Taipa Village Taipa Taipa

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Fountainside Studio Apartment Chun Fok Garden Apartment

1 Bedroom Apartment New development HKD 12,800 / 567 sq ft

Ref: 15070517

Taipa 3 Bedrooms Apartment A Lovely Community HKD 15,800 / 1,300 sq ft Ref: 15070520

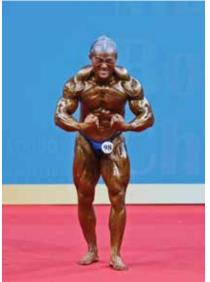




## Macau's Top Lean Mass By Renato Marques





















THE 2015 edition of the Macau Open Bodybuilding Championships, organized by the Macau Bodybuilding and Fitness Association, took place yesterday at the Tap Seac Multisport Pavilion and saw a good number of fans attending the event, cheering for their favorite athletes. Also appearing these Championships were numerous VIPs who came to show their support. Among them were the President of MBFA Mr. Che Kuong Hon and Ms. Ines Yeung Sai Ip, one of the most prominent figures of the Macau Bodybuilding scene and a Member of the Women's committee of the Asian Bodybuilding Federa-









In the end and once again, the Championships crowned probably the most popular Macau bodybuilder of all time, Joe lao, who took home four first prizes in different categories. On the women's side, the competition was even more fierce with the 1st prizes in several categories being split among contestants no.82 and

The upside of the event, besides dishing out the glory to the big winners, was to realize a clearly rising interest for this sport by many young athletes who, although still unable to beat the masters, gave the impression of a bright future for the sport in Macau.





#### opinion

#### **Sports Views**

Jim Litke, Sports Columnist, AP

## No Joke — A Samoan walks onto a golf course and...

**The** family business, at least on the athletic side of the Finau family, was pro football or basketball.

Tony Finau, all 6-foot-4 and 200 pounds of him, was determined to play golf.

So if nothing else, his play Saturday was further validation of a story that begins with two poor kids learning to play the game by banging balls against a mattress in their garage and one of them winding up with a shot at a major title on the final day of the PGA Championship.

"It was a tough finish, I've got to be sharper," Finau (FEEnow) said after bogeying the final two holes at Whistling Straits for a 69 that left him at 10 under, five strokes off the pace set by leader Jason Day. "But I also learned a lot.

"I learned I can play in this kind of environment, that I can control my emotions in contention at a major. ... I'm five shots back and a lot of really good guys ahead of me. But at least," he added, brightening, "I'm still in the conversation for tomorrow."

Growing up in Salt Lake City of mixed Tongan and American Samoan descent, Finau looked more like a candidate to follow second cousin Jabari Parker into hoops and maybe someday, the NBA. And he had more than one Division I suitor tossing scholarship offers his way.

The other option was to pack more pounds onto that lean frame and try to catch the same express train that another cousin, longtime Pro Bowler Haloti Ngata of the Detroit Lions, rode all the way to the NFL.

The story of how the 25-year-old wound up on PGA Tour instead is a beauty.

"We lived in a tough neighborhood and we didn't know a thing about golf," said his father, Kelepi, one of seven family members at the course this week. "The idea was to find something that would keep Tony and Gipper (11 months younger) out of trouble. They're the middle two of our seven kids and we already had a few others playing team sports. But they were passionate about it right away.

"And," he added, "they were both pretty good right away."

It was Kelepi, who worked in the cargo depot at the Salt Lake City airport, who went to the library and picked up a copy of Jack Nicklaus' book, "Golf My Way" and taped pictures of the Golden Bear's swing sequence to the walls of the garage. Because the family couldn't afford too many buckets of balls at the local driving range, he propped up mattresses against the door and put down strips of carpet to hit off so his sons could practice as long as they wanted.

"It was all they wanted to do," Kelepi laughed. "I don't think it was until Tony was 15 or 16, when he made it out of state qualifying in the junior PGA events, that I started to believe 'Hey, maybe he really does have the ability."

Along the way, there were stops at the "Ultimate Game," a \$50,000 ante-up-front competition in Las Vegas where Lee Trevino first saw both Finaus crash drives in the very exclusive neighborhood of 400 yards. And then a successful cameo on "The Big Break," Golf Channel's reality TV show, which Tony lost in the final with a PGA tournament invite at the end of the rainbow.

But there were tough times, too: Turning pro at 17 (Gipper did so at 16) in hopes of making some badly needed cash in quickly. A handful of tries and misses at the tour's Q-school. A car crash that took his mother's life and left Finau with an ulcer, but only deepened his resolve. Seven years of beating the bushes on a variety of minor-league golf circuits, with a growing family back home to feed.

Finau finally made it to the big leagues this year and he's made plenty of every opportunity: four top-10 finishes, highlighted by a pair of seventh-place ties and a tie for eighth at the Memorial. He was two shots off the lead heading into the weekend at the U.S. Open, his first-ever major, and wound up in a tie for 14th.

"I think that was the one that made the difference," recalled caddie Greg Bodine. "Tony told me then he already knew he could stack up on normal tour courses. Once he played Chambers Bay, he knew he could stack up on places like this, too."

Along putt away from the scoring trailer, Kelepi Finau leaned against a fence and waited for his son to emerge.

"For us to be out here is something else," he began, his voice softening. "It's unfortunate his mother never got to see this, but green was her favorite color and he'll be wearing it tomorrow."

He paused. "He once told me every time the wind blows, he feels his mom is with him."

Here's hoping the wind blows strong and steady the entire final day.

TENNIS | ROGERS CUP

# **Serena Williams falls in Toronto semifinals**

OP-RANKED Serena Williams stumbled in the Rogers Cup semifinals yesterday (Macau time), falling 6-3, 5-7, 4-6 to Swiss teenager Belinda Bencic.

The 18-year-old Bencic became the youngest player to beat Williams in a completed match since Maria Sharapova at 17 in the 2004 WTA Finals.

"I can't describe the feeling right now," said Bencic, the winner this year at Eastbourne for her first career title. "I was very overwhelmed from the situation on the court, but I'm just so happy the (winning) forehand landed in and she couldn't reach it anymore. It was an incredible feeling. I have no words."

The winner of the first three Grand Slam events of the season, the 33-year-old Williams lost for only the second time in 45 matches this season. She won titles in Toronto titles in 2001, 2011 and 2013.

"I think I played really crappy today," Williams said. "I'll try to be politically correct. And I don't think you would disagree."

In the other semifinal, secondranked Simona Halep of Romania beat Sara Errani of Italy 6-4, 6-4.

Williams had 16 aces to just one for Bencic, but the American double-faulted 12 times.

"I just really didn't play up to par today — what a professional tennis player should play like. I played like an amateur, to be honest. ... "Today was not my day and hopefully I can rectify that going into next week and then going into hopefully the (U.S.) Open," Williams said. "Hopefully, I can have a few more better days."

Bencic nearly let the third set slip away. She raced to a 5-1 lead, but Williams picked up two breaks —



**Serena Williams** 

sealing the second one on a double fault — to get back on serve.

"I was very nervous in that moment," Bencic said. "But I told myself today is my chance and I really have to stay focused and be mentally tough, even if I didn't do it on the first try."

In the final game, Bencic delivered a driving backhand that Williams couldn't return to get to match point and hit a stinging forehand winner to seal the victory.

"This is why I worked for 15 years," Bencic said. "I mean the practice is not always easy. It was hard, it was tough. Sometimes I didn't want to and sometimes you feel very motivated. And all this work paid off today I think and this feeling is indescribable."

Bencic, ranked 20th, has knocked off three seeded players en route to her first career appearance in a Premier-5 Level event. She opened with a victory over Canada's Eugenie Bouchard and followed with wins over fourth-

seeded Caroline Wozniacki, Sabine Lisicki and fifth-seeded Ana Ivanovic.

Halep has three victories this year.

"I've had a great week," Halep said. "And you know, when you come to the tournaments without expectations, you are more relaxed and you have to play without pressure, play (like) during the practices and just trying to play your best every match. So I did this and I don't know how I'm in the finals, to be honest. But it's nice and I have just enjoyed it."

In the doubles semifinals, four-th-seeded Caroline Garcia of France and Katarina Srebotnik of Slovenia beat top-seeded Martina Hingis of Switzerland and Sania Mirza of India, 6-3, 6-2; and third-seeded Bethanie Mattek-Sands of the United States and Lucie Safarova of the Czech Republic topped Kristina Mladenovic of France and Karolina Pliskova of the Czech Republic 6-4, 7-6 (5). **AP** 

#### FOOTBALL

## Casillas keeps clean sheet in debut win for Porto

**FORMER** Real Madrid goalkeeper Iker Casillas kept a clean sheet in his Portuguese league debut on Saturday, when FC Porto beat Guimaraes 3-0 to start its season.

Cameroon striker Vincent Aboubakar struck his first of two goals from Alex Sandro's deflected pass in the eighth minute. Maxi Pereira set him up in the 61st for a second goal.

Silvestre Varela netted in the 84th to secure the first three points of the campaign for Julen Lopetegui's side.

Casillas left Madrid last month after 16 seasons, three Champions League trophies and five Spanish league titles, following a dip in

form during the past two seasons.

The Spain captain had a placid night in front of his new fans at Porto's Dragon Stadium, responding well withthe few saves he had to

Elsewhere, defender Goncalo Brandao scored for both his Belenenses side and netted an own goal in a 3-3 draw with Rio Ave.

On Friday, former Benfica coach Jorge Jesus began his stint at rival club Sporting Lisbon with a 2-1 win over promoted Tondela thanks to Adrien Silva's penalty deep in injury time.

Benfica begins its league title defense at home against Estoril early today (Macau time). **AP** 



### opinion

#### **World Views**

**Financial Times** 

## ASIA SHOULD FOCUS MORE ON THE FUTURE THAN THE PAST

In Europe, the more time that passes from the terrible events of the second world war, the more the rancour diminishes between the warring nations. In north-east Asia, sadly, the opposite appears true. The more the events of 70 years ago recede, the more enmity there is.

Partly, this is because of genuine feelings among Chinese and South Koreans that Japan has never fully repented for the horrors it inflicted. Partly, it is because of a cynical exercise to keep the flames of hatred alive. That is particularly true of China's Communist party, which uses anti-Japanese sentiment to bolster its own legitimacy. Its constant demands that Japan square up to the past would be more convincing if it were not so wantonly dishonest about its own bloodstained history.

In recent decades, Japan has become locked into an unedifying spectacle of "apology diplomacy". Its leaders make statements of contrition, which are parsed for evidence of genuine remorse. That is the background against which Shinzo Abe, prime minister, gave a speech to mark the 70th anniversary of the end of the war.

For months, there had been speculation that Mr Abe, known for his revisionist views, would redraw some of the central tenets of previous apologies. In the end, however, he stuck mostly to the script. He used all the key words, including "aggression", "deep remorse" and "apology". He explicitly endorsed previous statements in which Japanese prime ministers spelt out Japan's crimes. True, he did not add his own apology. Moreover, some phrases were couched in overly careful language. He was particularly coy about the "comfort women" forced to become sex slaves by the Imperial Army.

Emperor Akihito, by contrast, issued a more straightforward statement of remorse that Mr Abe would have done well to emulate. The question is what comes next.

Almost inevitably, Beijing and Seoul expressed dissatisfaction. Xinhua, mouthpiece of China's Communist party, said Mr Abe's speech was insincere and filled with "linguistic tricks". Park Geun-hye, South Korea's president, said it did not live up to her expectations. By previous standards, such criticism was mild. For now both Beijing and Seoul want calmer relations with Tokyo. The danger is that, when it suits their domestic agenda, they will pick again at history's scab. That is not the way to proceed, particularly when the region faces so many divisive issues, including territorial disputes. Instead, China and South Korea should look to other Asian nations, such as the Philippines, Singapore and Indonesia. They were also victims of Japanese aggression, but they have moved on.

Certainly, Japan has not apologised as unequivocally as Germany. Inexcusably, some of its leaders, including Mr Abe, have visited Yasukuni shrine. Home to the "souls" of some Class-A war criminals, as well as millions of ordinary soldiers, it is an inappropriate place for Japan's leaders to commemorate their war dead.

Still, Japan should be judged by the country's actions. Its armed forces have not fired a single bullet at an enemy in 70 years. Pacifism is deeply ingrained.

Mr Abe had some words about the future too. Young generations of Japanese, he said, born decades after the war, should not have to keep apologising for the sins of their forefathers. History, he said, "should be engraved in our hearts", but should not be continually evoked to browbeat the young who bear no responsibility for those events. Though history's lessons must never be forgotten, there is a time to draw a line under the past. For the prospects of peace in Asia, that time is now

MDT/Financial Times exclusive

## CRISTIANO RONALDO'S SISTER MAKES BID TO BE EUROVISION SINGER

Cristiano Ronaldo's sister, Katia Aveiro, has launched a Twitter campaign asking fans to back her bid to represent Portugal in the Eurovision Song Contest.

The soccer star's 38-year-old sibling began her musical career in 2005 under the stage name Ronalda. She became known in Portugal after taking part in the 2014 edition of the "Survivors" television series. Aveiro now wants to sing in the international music contest to be hosted by Sweden in May 2016. Her Twitter account says "Eurofans, I would like you to back me to represent Portugal — A dream!"

Ronaldo, the youngest of four children from Funchal, Madeira, plays for Real Madrid, captains Portugal's national soccer team and has won FIFA World Player of the Year three times.

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# Facebook page offering to overseas Filipino workers denounced as online scam



Background image of the Facebook scam page OWWA Loan

A Philippine government agency, the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA), has warned Filipino employees in Hong Kong and Macau of an online scam using the agency's name to solicit money in exchange for loans.

The loan scam, under the guise of a new OWWA scheme, requires an applicant to deposit HKD1,000 into a bank account order to release the cash. As a result, the Philippine Overseas Labor Office (POLO) in Hong Kong and Macau has been receiving inquiries from Filipino migrant workers asking whether they could avail of the loans after paying the deposit.

The agency's Administrator

Rebecca Calzado stated that OWWA was not responsible for the scam and said the agency had launched an investigation accordingly.

Upon its investigation, OWWA said it was able to trace the source of the reports to a Facebook account named OWWA Loan, which used the OWWA agency logo as its profile picture without the necessary authorization.

A similar report was received from Labor Attaché Vivian Tornea of POLO-Macau, as a Facebook page called OWWA Loan used the agency's logo as its profile picture to make similar offers to overseas Filipino workers on social media.

According to a statement

issued by OWWA on Friday, the Facebook page has already been deactivated, and OWWA has already reported the fake account to Facebook management.

The OWWA Administrator further reminded the public to refrain from giving any information to unidentified persons and restrict transactions to government offices in order to protect themselves from scams.

"OWWA is reminding all overseas Filipino workers and the public to be vigilant of scams used by swindlers to deceive people, and not to give any information, especially financial [information], to unidentified persons," she stressed. **BY** 

#### **WORLD BRIEFS**



PAKISTAN Hamid Gul (pictured), who led Pakistan's powerful Inter-Services Intelligence spy agency as it funneled U.S. and Saudi cash and weapons to Afghan jihadis fighting against the Soviets and later publicly supported Islamic militants, died late Saturday of a brain hemorrhage. He was 78.

**PAKISTAN** A Cabinet minister resigned from his post on Saturday after claiming in an interview that the country's former spy master Gen. Zaheerul Islam wanted to overthrow Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif through violent rallies in Islamabad last year. The government received the letter of resignation from Mushahidullah Khan, a senior leader of the ruling Pakistan Muslim League-N party. Information Minister Pervez Rashid said, but it was not clear if Sharif would accept it.



IRAQ Islamic State militants launched an attack against government troops yesterday outside the militant-held city of Fallujah, killing at least 17 troops, officials said.

years ago, activists said.



USA Democratic presidentia front-runner Hillary Rodham Clinton reiterated Saturday that she did not send or receive emails marked classified from her homebased email server while secretary of state, an issue that continues to overshadow her campaign. Clinton told reporters at the Iowa State Fair that she would let the inquiry into her email use continue, while she blamed her Republican challengers and House Republican members for turning the issue into a partisan affair.

