



### CENTRALIZED REGISTRATION NEXT YEAR

Local kindergartens will no longer experience long queues of parents waiting outside to obtain and submit application forms

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## WORLD BRIEFS

AP PHOTO



**CHINA** Chinese veteran Sun Yibai (pictured) doesn't have much time for the Communist Party's claim to have led China to victory against Japan in World War II. "The Communist Party didn't fight Japan," said the sprightly 97-year-old, who once served as a translator with the storied Flying Tigers aviation brigade. "They made up a whole bunch of stories afterward, but it was all fabricated." [More on p11](#)

**MALAYSIA**'s prime minister vows he will not quit over a USD700 million financial scandal, and accuses protesters of showing "poor national spirit" by holding a massive rally to demand his resignation on the eve of the country's National Day. [More on p12](#)

AP PHOTO

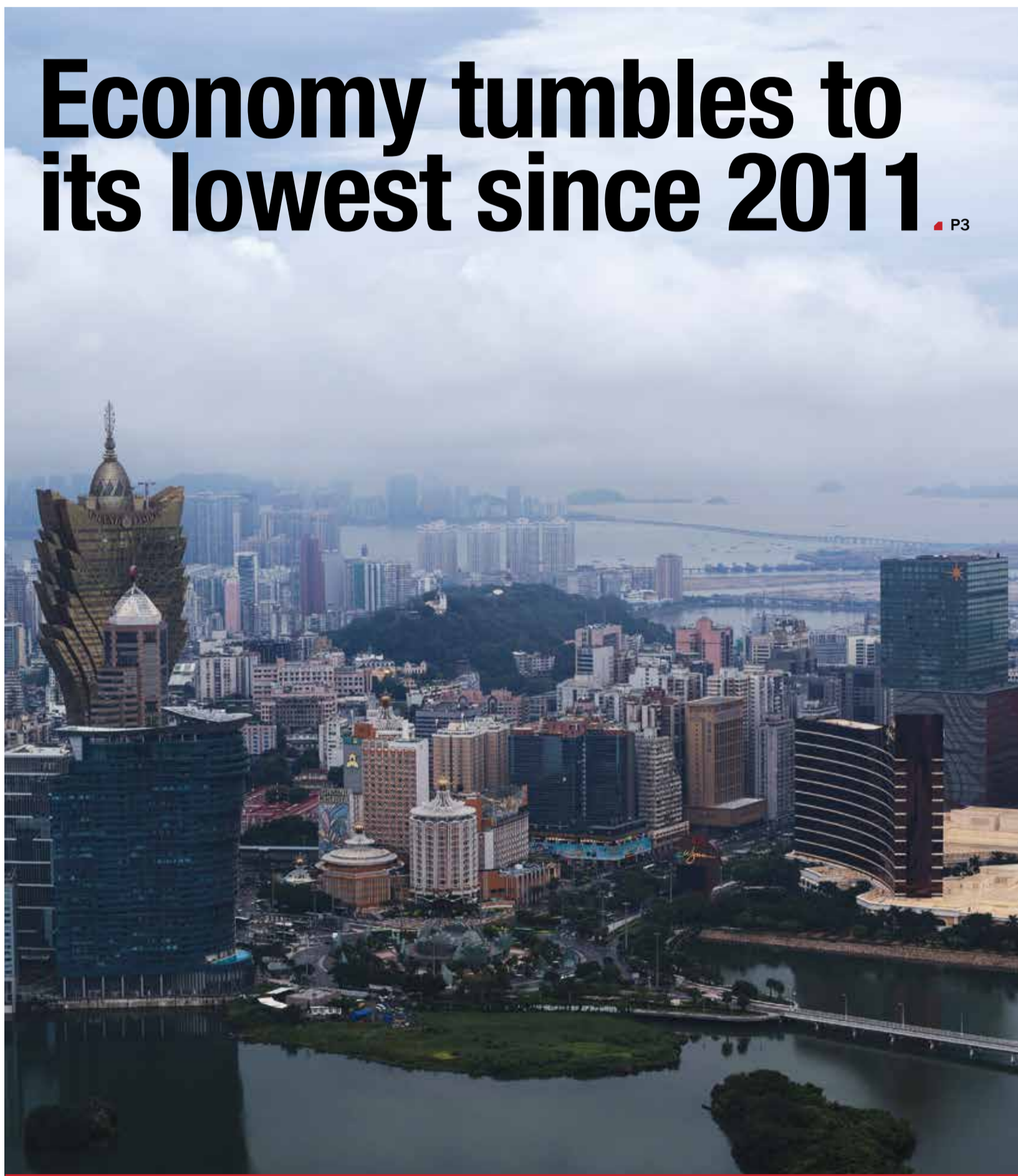


**PHILIPPINES** Ligaya Fernando Amilbangsa, 71, was one of the winners yesterday of the Ramon Magsaysay award, regarded as Asia's version of the Nobel Prize, for "her single-minded crusade in preserving the endangered artistic heritage of the southern Philippines."

**PHILIPPINES** Thousands of members of a politically influential Christian sect end five days of street protests that set off huge traffic jams in the Philippine capital and sparked outrage from motorists.

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BLOOMBERG



# Economy tumbles to its lowest since 2011

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# Referendum organizers to issue report slamming government

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# Centralized online system for kindergarten next year

Brook Yang

**L**ocal kindergartens will no longer experience long queues of parents waiting outside to obtain and submit application forms next year, as the Education and Youth Affairs Bureau (DSEJ) has announced its decision to launch a centralized, online registration system in January.

The bureau made the announcement yesterday when informing the public of the current enrolment situation and education reform arrangements for the new academic year. Officials explained that the centralized system is aimed to discourage parents from applying to too many schools and thereby to alleviate pressures felt by



Officials of the Education and Youth Affairs Bureau introduce the new academic year plan during a press conference

children when attending too many screening interviews. It is also expected to streamline the admission procedures for schools, as well as their respective workloads.

The acting head of DSEJ's Department of Education, Kong Chi Meng, said that the new measure will initially set the limit of each child's applications to six schools maximum, as the results from the previous year shows that the number of bids placed by parents range from three to eight schools, with five being the average. He added that all registrations will be lodged online, and parents who do not use the Internet can seek help from staff at the bureau's headquarters.

While the numbers of pupils and kindergarten students con-

tinued to climb, local secondary schools have received considerably fewer students over recent years.

Statistics for the new semester show that a total of 16,908 students are enrolled in kindergartens, denoting a 15.5 percent surge. Around 26,645 students are enrolled in primary schools, up by 9.3 percent, whereas 30,686 students are at junior high schools, down by 5.3 percent year-on-year.

According to the DSEJ, a total of 74,871 students will be given a non-tertiary education this coming semester, 3.9 percent more than the enrolment a year earlier. The bureau has also recorded 345 school-aged children that are not attending school; it has promised a follow-up consultation and coun-

selling for all those cases.

Meanwhile, the size of teaching staff grew by 3.7 percent from last year, to 7,129 teachers at the beginning of the semester. Among these, preschool education saw a 14.5 percent increase in teachers, as did the special education sector which witnessed a growth of 22.2 percent. As a result, each regular class has an average of

28.3 students, where the teacher-student ratio is 1:10.7 and the class-teacher ratio is 1:2.6. However, teacher-student ratio for special education dropped sharply by 17.46 percent.

Educational funding for the 2015/2016 academic year has also increased. It amounted to a budget of MOP1.971 billion allocated to the free education allowances and MOP223 million for tuition subsidies; the sums respectively rose by 12 and 7.2 percent year-on-year.

In addition, the bureau announced that next year, Macau would join the Progress In International Reading Literacy Study (PIRLS), an initiative organized by the International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement (IEA). Expected to be one of the key indicators guiding the city's educational reform, the assessment will test a sample of 4,000 pupils at fourth grade for their reading ability.

Emphasizing holistic development in non-tertiary education, the DSEJ also announced that they are extending the implementation of its Arts education scheme from secondary school students to the sixth graders, providing them with guided tours to theater performances and art galleries.

## MORE SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHERS NEEDED

**I**N THE new academic year, 38 out of the total 77 schools in Macau will implement inclusive education schemes. As for special education, a total of 165 teachers will take on 632 students. Although the number of available teaching staff has increased, each class – remaining a similar size of eight students – will be guided by fewer teachers on average.

## NUMBER OF STUDENTS ENROLLED IN 2015/2016

Preschool Education	16,908
Primary Education	26,645
Secondary Education	30,686
Special Education	632
Overall	74,871
	72,041 (14/15)

**D**ESPITE the launch of a raid into five pawn shops by police stores are still allowing punters to make fake purchases to circumvent restrictions to mainland China's currency, Reuters reported.

Authorities believe that the scam facilitated by pawn shops in town is also being used by corrupt officials and businesspeople to transfer ill-gotten money out of the mainland.

According to a report issued by Reuters, three Chinese men gathered on Thursday at a small pawn store near Grand Lisboa. One was able to

REPORT

# Pawn shops still helping flout currency rules



get HKD300,000 after signing two bank card receipts. He then pulled out another card and asked the cashier in Mandarin to give him a further HKD200,000.

In less than 10 minutes, the Chinese gambler used credit cards to skirt China's currency rules, which limit withdrawals to RMB20,000.

Mainland tourists bypassing currency controls helped fuel a de-

cade-long boom in Macau. Chinese and Macau authorities further restricted the use of China UnionPay Co.'s debit cards at casinos last year, since some gamblers had been illegally using UnionPay cards to obtain cash through the false purchase of goods in Macau, thus avoiding China's strict currency-export controls.

There is no precise figure on how much Chinese

money is being channeled illegally into Macau. Tam Chi Keong, an assistant professor at the Macau University of Science and Technology (MUST), says the total could amount to HKD1.57 trillion a year through various channels. UnionPay and Macau police authorities did not respond to Reuters' enquiries for comment on the improper use of card machines and cards by local pawn shops.

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DIRECTOR AND EDITOR-IN-CHIEF Paulo Coutinho paulocoutinho@macaudailytimes.com  
MANAGING EDITOR Paulo Barbosa paulo.barbosa@macaudailytimes.com  
CONTRIBUTING EDITORS Eric Sautedé, Leanda Lee, Severo Portela  
CHINA & FOREIGN EDITOR Vanessa Moore vanessa@macaudailytimes.com

DESIGN EDITOR João Jorge Magalhães magalhaes@macaudailytimes.com | NEWSROOM AND CONTRIBUTORS Albano Martins, António Espadinha Soares, Brook Yang, Catarina Pinto, Cyril Law, Emille Tran, Grace Yu, Irene Sam, Jacky I.F. Cheong, Jenny Philips, Joseph Cheung, Juliet Riscion, Keith Ip, Renato Marques (photographer), Richard Whitfield, Robert Carroll (Hong Kong correspondent), Rodrigo de Matos (cartoonist), Ruan Du Toit Bester, Sandra Norte (designer), Sum Choi, Viviana Segui | ASSOCIATE CONTRIBUTORS JML Property, MacauHR, MdME Lawyers, PokerStars | NEWS AGENCIES Associated Press, Bloomberg, Lusa News Agency, MacauHub, MacauNews, Xinhua | SECRETARY\_Yang Dongxiao amy@macaudailytimes.com

SEND NEWSWORTHY INFORMATION AND PRESS RELEASES TO: NEWSROOM@MACAUDAILYTIMES.COM WEBSITE: WWW.MACAUDAILYTIMES.COM.MO

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ADMINISTRATOR AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Kowie Geldenhuys kowie@macaudailytimes.com

SECRETARY Juliana Cheang juliana@macaudailytimes.com

ADDRESS Av. da Praia Grande, 599, Edif. Comercial Rodrigues, 12 Floor C, MACAU SAR Telephone: +853 287 160 81/2 Fax: +853 287 160 84

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# GDP contracts 26.4 pct as casino slump threatens surplus

**M**ACAU'S economy dipped to its lowest since 2011 as high-end gamblers avoided the world's largest casino market amid a widening crackdown on graft in China. The region where gambling accounts for four-fifths of economic output saw GDP tumble 26.4 percent in the last quarter, according to government data released yesterday. The drop worsened from 24.5 percent in the first quarter.

The decline would take Macau's GDP to about MOP77.5 billion (USD9.7 billion) at constant prices, making it the weakest since early 2011. Macau has seen gross gaming revenue plunge 14 straight months due to the central government's corruption crackdown that kept high-stakes bettors at bay. China's slowing economy has further curbed visits by mass market gamblers and tourists.

"As long as the downward trend in gaming revenue is not reversed, the decrease in GDP would continue," said Ricardo Siu, an associate professor of business economics at the University of Macau.

The government is due as early as today to report that the gaming slump deepened in August to a 37.8 percent drop, according to the median estimate of seven analysts surveyed by Bloomberg. That would reverse a gradual easing since February that had given hopes the industry was recovering.



## The decline would take Macau's GDP to about MOP77.5 billion

Macau's unemployment rate has held steady below 2 percent and its government maintained a surplus. Still, the fiscal surplus of 8.63 billion patacas (USD1.1

billion) in the second quarter has almost halved from a quarter earlier amid falling gaming taxes. Beijing-backed Chief Executive Chui Sai On had said he would cut some government spending if the casino downturn worsens.

The government should spend more to improve tourism infrastructure after building up its surplus over the years when the gaming industry boomed, said Aaron Fischer, an analyst at CLSA Ltd.

"One can argue that the government has under-invested because infrastructure has

been pretty moderate," said Fischer, adding that the region could draw more visitors including by completing the construction of its light rail system, expand the capacity of its airport, and improving the roads.

Macau's casino operators have been trying to spark a revival with a series of new resorts aimed at drawing mainland Chinese tourists, heeding Beijing's call for the city to reduce its dependence on gambling. Those numbers haven't yet been forthcoming.

MDT/Bloomberg

## Seminar for bilingual professionals to be held this month

The Forum Macau and the Macau Polytechnic Institute (IPM) have joined forces to organize a seminar in Chinese-Portuguese language training and its importance to the development of cooperation between China and the Portuguese-speaking countries. The course will be held at IPM between September 7 and 8. The seminar will look at Macau's role in training bilingual professionals. Several Portuguese and Chinese language teachers have been invited to attend, in addition to representatives of Macau's industrial and commercial sectors. Organizers said in a statement that the seminar is intended to provide a platform for dialogue between the academic and commercial sectors.

## Labor cooperation service opens

Macau's Labor Affairs Bureau and the Association of Chinese-Funded Employment Agencies launched a management campaign in order to train workers about legal rights and obligations before they come to work in the region. The two organizations inaugurated a Mainland-Macau Labor Cooperation Service Base in Zhuhai yesterday, where the first training class began. The training is aimed to help migrant workers understand the relevant legal frameworks and approaches when defending their rights, as well as avoid unnecessary disputes with employers caused by misunderstanding the legal content. The service base is located in a downtown venue rented by the association, while the Labor Affairs Bureau arranges the class lecturers. According to the bureau, the first group of participants is predominantly construction workers from the mainland, although the training will be extended to other professions in the future.

## Deaf Association promotes inclusive education

In light of the limited use of sign language in the region, the Macau Deaf Association is hoping to encourage local families with young children to use sign language in order to explore the idea of developing a bilingual inclusive education. The association has invited experts from the Centre for Sign Linguistics and Deaf Studies at the Chinese University of Hong Kong to give promotional lectures and workshops, which have been organized until December for local families to learn about sign and spoken bilingualism. Director of the Macau Deaf Association, Ms Lau Sut Man, pointed out that although the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities came into force in Macau in 2008, the use of sign language is still very limited especially in the fields of education, accessibility and information sharing. The activist noted Macau as a tourism city is lacking in sign language services such as in airlines, museums and in the government's public consultations; she suggested for the authorities to take the deaf community into consideration when publishing official information.

# Tourism master plan awarded for MOP18m

**T**HE local tourism development master plan has been awarded to AECOM Asia Company Limited for over MOP18.3 million, according to a notice published yesterday in the government's Official Gazette (BO).

The director of the Macau Government Tourist Office (MGTO), Helena de Sena Fernandes, stated last May that once the project was awarded to a company, it would take approximately one and a half years to complete the entire master plan.

The plan is intended to outline strategies, which will allow Macau to become "accessible to the world," and to diversify its tourism products.

Between 2015 and 2017, the consultancy company will be paid over MOP18 million - an amount of money that will be made available through Macau's Tou-

rism Fund.

Announced in 2013, the master plan aims to help the region in its efforts to open itself to the world and to diversify its tourism products.

Last year, Ms Fernandes clarified that the master plan's long completion deadline was set due to the project's complexity.

The plan will outline policies for Macau's tourism industry for the short, medium and long terms. It will provide policies for the next five, ten and fifteen years.

The master plan report to be drafted by the company will feature an analysis of Macau's tourism sector development over recent years, while setting up future strategies and goals. Furthermore, the study will look at the MSAR's exist-



ing and future tourism products and promotions. The master plan will also feature suggestions for Macau to boost attractions beyond gaming.

Finally, mobility for tourists and other forms of transportation will also be addressed in the master plan.

ONE YEAR AFTER THE CE REELECTION

## Gaming downturn is Chui's greatest challenge

**C**HUI Sai On was reelected as Macau's Chief Executive one year ago, with 380 votes cast by a small Electoral College. The election may have been seamless, but the region's top leader encountered some opposition and is now dealing with the economic consequences of a sharp decline in gaming revenue.

"The greatest challenge at the moment is dealing with the casino revenue fall and, at the same time, diversifying the economy to include other sectors beyond gaming while dealing with the decreasing growth of the Chinese economy and with the turbulence in the stock markets," scholar Sonny Lo, who studies Macau politics at the Hong Kong Institute of Education, explained to Lusa.

"I think that Macau is facing a phase where it needs to adjust itself to the regional and global economic circumstances," he added.

When Chui Sai On was reelected, the gaming revenue had



Chui Sai On

started its downward spiral, but it was hard to predict that the decline would continue for fifteen straight months, leading the sector to regress to the values registered in 2011.

Many protests and marches were organized during 2014. The biggest of these happened in May, when 20,000 people protested Mr Chui's attempt to legislate a lavish retirement package for top officials and legal immunity for the Chief Executive for any misdeeds committed while in office.

One year after the election day

(31 August), there is hesitation regarding the renewal of the gaming licenses. "It seems that the government established a set of requirements," Sonny Lo noted, adding that the labor relations management may change, as well as the development of the non-gaming sector.

According to Sonny Lo, the government faces a new phase of social and financial challenges. "Public finances [health] and the sustainable economic development of Macau will indicate whether the government was successful or not." **MDT/Lusa**

CRIME

## Locals fall prey to mainland Internet scams

**A**woman lost RMB130,000 to mainland scammers posing as judiciary authorities last Friday after she followed their instructions to remit the money to an unknown account at a local cyber café, according to the Judiciary Police.

The 40-year-old victim, whose occupation was not disclosed, contacted police on the same day after she received a call in the morning allegedly from staff of an express firm across the border. The victim was later transferred to a public security officer in the same call for being accused of involvement in money laundering with her outbound parcel containing counterfeit identity cards seized by overseas authorities.

Afterwards, the victim was then forwarded to another official from the mainland prosecutions department, who asked her about the balance on her mainland bank account before ordering her to proceed to an Internet café to finish "certain procedures" as part of the investigation.

The victim, who disclosed all her personal information to the authorities by outlining the details of a site provided by them, eventually found there was only RMB17 left in her account and immediately contacted the police on the same day.

In a separate case, another local man in his 40s gave RMB6000 to an unknown group after he received a text claiming that he was a prize receiver from the well-known Chinese reality talent show, The Voice of China.

The man, said to be entitled to RMB108,000 and an apple laptop, clicked on the link in the message directing him to a site where he entered all of his personal information. He subsequently received a call from a staff member purportedly from a TV station, who requested him to remit the amount he lost in the scam to a mainland bank account as a cash pledge. The victim finally realized it was a hoax after being asked for another sum of money for taxation. **Staff reporter**

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**T**HE organizers of a controversial civil referendum which was held one year ago covering universal suffrage and the performance of the Chief Executive are going to issue a report accusing the government of “power abuse without precedents.” According to one of the referendum’s leaders, Jason Chao, the report could be issued within the week.

Launched by the Open Macau Society, Macau Youth Dynamics and Macau Conscience, the unofficial referendum has faced a series of setbacks after the Office for Personal Data Protection (GPDP) claimed that its organizers had violated the Personal Data Protection Act as they were collecting personal data for “illegitimate purposes.” GPDP claimed that the regulations state that personal data should be processed for legitimate purposes and that the Basic Law does not address the civil referendum, and therefore such polls are neither protected nor recognized by law. Several top officials, including the Chief Executive, also claimed that the referendum was illegal and that its organizers could face prosecution.

Chui Sai On was reelected on August 31, 2014, with 380 votes cast by an Electoral College comprising of 400 members. On the same day, the organizers of the referendum announced that

# Referendum organizers to issue report slamming gov’t



Jason Chao (center) and other organizers of the civil referendum

7,762 people, or 89.3 percent of the total, had opposed Chui’s reelection.

The civil referendum case has been marked by controversy since the launch of the voting on the streets initiative, when 24 activists were temporarily detained by the Judiciary Police, on August 24.

One year later Jason Chao received a letter from GPDP inquiring about the “illegal transfer of data to foreign territories.” The civil referendum organi-

zers could face a fine between MOP8,000 and MOP80,000. “I was expecting the government’s suppression [of the referendum], but the extent of the abuse of power by the authorities surpassed my imagination,” Jason Chao said.

Mr Chao criticized the role played by Sonia Chan, as she was responsible for heading GPDP at the time and is now the Secretary for Administration and Justice, and also by the former Judiciary Police director

Wong Sio Chak. Wong is now the Secretary for Security.

In September 2014, Jason Chao presented a complaint to the Public Prosecutions Office, claiming that authorities abused their legal powers in order to intervene in the referendum. After waiting for one year, the activist demands an investigation to the case and a pecuniary compensation.

“We want to see if the judicial system can maintain its impartiality and independence. (...) I want to be compensated by the Macau government but I do not want to make any profit from it.

It’s a matter of justice,” Jason Chao alleged.

The political activist also claims that the volunteers who contributed to the civil referendum and the journalists of satirical magazine Macau Concealers “are technically under investigation,” claiming that all should have a reply ready as soon as possible.

“I didn’t anticipate this,” he recognized, acknowledging that he disobeyed local authorities by refusing to deliver personal information (namely the ID number) voluntarily issued by the residents that took part in the referendum.”

Held between August 24 and 31, the referendum comprised of two questions, including one about the introduction of the universal suffrage and the other about the confidence of the residents in a sole candidate to assume the top position in the MSAR.

“Ultimately, we assured the public that over eight thousand persons were able to express their opposition to Chui Sai On,” Jason Chao concluded. **MDT/Lusa**

**The extent of the abuse of power by the authorities surpassed my imagination**

JASON CHAO

# Labor union urges for halt to Vietnamese worker import

**A** labor union called on the government yesterday to restrict the flow of foreign laborers from Vietnam into the region following the gang rape and deadly domestic violence committed allegedly earlier this month by Vietnamese nationals.

The civil group, commonly known as

“Macau Workers’ Self-Help Association,” wished to make an example of the Vietnamese suspects, asserting that the move would be “intimidating enough” for other potential criminals from that country.

Iam Weng Hong, the union’s president, expressed his belief that “the nature of

Vietnamese was not good” given that they were involved in other wrongdoings previously. “This is our personal view, and I believe there are a certain portion of citizens hoping to bring out a deterrent message through our demands,” said Iam. However, the association provided no statistics over their claim.

Asked if his intention was racist, the group’s head failed to answer the question, yet claimed that workers from other nations would “behave well” in the territory upon enforcement of such a policy.

“We would also protest against the Mainland Chinese if they committed similar crimes here, like rape,” one aged member explained. Last Friday, the Judiciary Police arrested an unemployed mainland man for raping his debtor in a Cotai hotel room.

“Whether or not it’s legitimate, it’s up to our government and lawmakers to decide,” Iam concluded. **Staff reporter**

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**T**HE number of tourists travelling on package tours totaled 820,000 in July 2015, up by 16.3 percent month-to-month and yet down by 22.3 pct year-on-year, according to data released by the Statistics and Census Service (DSEC).

The statistical data most recently released indicates that package tour visitors from mainland China (687,000) decreased by 19.1 pct year-on-year, while those from Taiwan (55,000), Hong Kong (16,000) and the Republic of Korea (12,000) dropped by 24 pct, 44.8 pct and 61.7 pct respectively.

The number of visitors arriving on package tours decreased by 18.5 pct year-on-year to 717,000; meanwhile, the number of visitors joining local tours totaled 102,000, down by 41.5 pct. In the first seven months of 2015, the number of visitors on package tours totaled 5,762,000, down by 2.9 pct year-on-year; the number of those arriving on package tours decreased by 2.3 pct to 4,746,000.

Other data released by DSEC indicates that outbound residents who make use of services of travel agencies totaled 137,000 in July 2015, down by 6.8 pct year-on-year. The number of those travelling on package tours increased by 12.7 pct to 62,000, and the main destinations were mainland China (80.3 pct of total), Taiwan (6.7 pct) and Japan (4 pct).

**TOURISM | STATISTICS**

# Package tour tourists drop 22 percent y-o-y



In the first seven months of 2015, outbound residents using services of travel agencies totaled 872,000, up by 1.9 pct year-on-year.

There were 102 hotels and guesthouses operating at the end of July, providing 30,000 guest rooms, up by 7.2 pct year-on-year. The number of guest rooms in

5-star hotels totaled 20,000, accounting for 66.6 pct of the total supply.

The average length of stay for guests was 1.4 nights, signaling an increase of 0.1 nights year-on-year. The average occupancy rate of hotels and guesthouses decreased by 6.0 percentage points year-on-year to 80.6 pct, but

still higher than the monthly occupancy rate in the first half of the year. Meanwhile, 5-star hotels had the highest occupancy rate of 82.3 pct, down by 5.4 percentage points year-on-year. In the first seven months of 2015, the number of hotel guests totaled 5,859,000 and the average occupancy rate stood at 78.5 pct.

## A-Ma Temple zone identified as illegal immigration spot

**T**HE embankment situated opposite the A-Ma Temple has been identified as a possible new spot for illegal immigration, as reported by the Macao Daily News. The newspaper received complaints from readers which highlighted a limited amount of lighting at the recreation areas along the coast, where people are seen boarding and disembarking the boats which dock around a construction site. It said the lighting system installed in the parking lot next to the Escola de Pilotagem located in Rua do Almirante Sérgio – as well as at a traffic project's construction site along the Avenida Panorâmica do Lago Sai Van – has stopped functioning.

“With the cover of the scaffolding around the construction site and the dark environment, it is enough for the area to become a new location for stowaways to come ashore,” suggested a number of readers. The report further pointed out that the lighting conditions are also dangerous for pedestrians, as they could accidentally trip over and even fall into the sea. Accordingly, the readers urged the authorities to resolve the issue of poor lighting and to increase police and custom staff's patrolling, so as to prevent the location from being used for illegal entries.

**RETAIL**

# Sands China organizes Local Supplier Open Day

**T**HE Sands China Local Supplier Open Day took place yesterday at The Venetian Macao. According to a press release issued by the gaming operator, the event “was met with the keen interest of local businesses, drawing over 230 registered attendees.” Jointly organized by Sands China and the Macau Chamber of Commerce, the open day focused on three types of local businesses: small and micro enterprises; “made in Macau” companies; and young local entrepreneurs.

Commenting on the event, Norbert Riezler, senior vice-president and chief procurement and sustainability offi-

cer for Las Vegas Sands, said: “Throughout our company's growth, we have driven positive, game-changing economic results in the regions we serve, creating jobs and opportunity. As part of our corporate values, we continually strive to patron local and diverse businesses whenever possible to meet our business and procurement needs.”

During the open day, Sands China's procurement team gave the local suppliers an overview of procurement, explaining processes such as purchasing and supplier registration, and shared information such as the company's available purchase categories and its code of con-

duct. They also provided them with information on nearly 200 purchase items specially picked for the three categories of local companies listed above. In addition, a business matching session connected the prospective suppliers with Sands China procurement representatives, via six booths: food and beverage; operating supplies; technology and gaming; marketing, outside services and logistics; facilities; and furniture and lighting.

The Sands China local supplier support program and the Sands China Local Supplier Open Day are the latest initiatives in the company's supplier relationship management strategy.



Paul Wiseman  
Economics Writer, Washington

**T**HE fear that gripped financial markets this month is a stark one: That China's economy might be slipping into a decline that could persist for years.

But the world's second-largest economy isn't collapsing — certainly not yet, anyway. What's really in freefall is confidence in its leaders, once seen as wielding near-mythic power to keep their economy growing at a propulsive pace.

Global stock markets have sunk — and gyrated — as investors have wrestled with their doubts. The Dow Jones industrial average has lost nearly 1,000 points since China's surprise move to devalue its currency Aug. 11. That step, in part an effort to align the yuan with market forces, was also seen by investors as a desperate bid to fuel exports in a faltering economy.

"The incredible faith in the Chinese policymakers has been shaken," says Ruchir Sharma, head of Morgan Stanley's emerging markets equity team.

For all its woes, China still outruns every other major economy. For 2015, while the nearly healthy U.S. economy will expand perhaps 2.5 percent, even most pessimistic analysts predict that China's will grow at least 5 percent. Yet its growth

## The incredible faith in the Chinese policymakers has been shaken

RUCHIR SHARMA  
HEAD,  
EMERGING MARKETS EQUITY TEAM,  
MORGAN STANLEY

# Doubts about China's economic leadership sap confidence



Chinese investors monitor stock prices at a brokerage house in Beijing

has decelerated for four straight years.

And a series of bungled decisions have escalated doubts about Beijing's economic stewardship. The skepticism is rising just as China is pursuing one of the most daunting transitions in modern economic history — from overheated growth, driven by exports and often -wasteful investment, toward slower and sturdier growth fueled by spending from an emerging middle class.

The leadership's miscues have multiplied, starting with its handling of the stock market. To try to cushion the pain from a slower economy, the government deployed state-run media to promote stocks for inexperienced individual investors. The hope was that Chinese companies could issue shares

into a rising market and use the proceeds to finance growth and shrink their heavy debt levels.

Untethered from economic reality, Chinese stocks took wing. The Shanghai Composite Index rocketed 150 percent in the year through mid-June, propelled in part by individuals who poured money in, often on borrowed funds, confident that their government wouldn't steer them wrong.

On June 12, the bubble burst: Shanghai stocks have since tumbled 37 percent, though they remain 47 percent above where they were a year ago.

Beijing, abandoning a pledge to let market forces play a bigger role in the economy, tried futilely to stop the freefall. It suspended trading in many companies, restricted the use of borrowed money for some tra-

des and banned big investors from selling their stakes for six months.

"The bubble pops, and they intervene and it doesn't work," says Derek Scissors, resident scholar at the conservative American Enterprise Institute.

Beijing suddenly looked like something less than omnipotent.

Then, on Aug. 11, China devalued the yuan. The government said the move was a nod to reality: Investors were signaling that the currency was overvalued. And the United States and the International Monetary Fund had long urged China to let market forces play a bigger role in the yuan's exchange rate.

Yet the decision surprised investors and aroused suspicions that it was a bid to drive up exports, which tumbled more than 8 percent in July from a year

earlier. (A lower-valued yuan gives Chinese goods a competitive edge overseas.) And Beijing has since sent confusing signals, sometimes intervening to keep the yuan from falling too fast.

The episode led investors to take a more skeptical look at the Chinese economy. China's economic statistics have always been dubious. Premier Li Ke-qiang once acknowledged that its growth figures were "man-made" and unreliable.

The official unemployment rate is laughable: It's remained between 4 percent and 4.25 percent — and almost always precisely 4.1 percent — every quarter for the past five years, according to Trading Economics.

Some analysts have sought alternative ways to gauge China's economic performance — electricity consumption and freight shipments, for example. The London firm Consensus Economics asked several economists to provide alternative forecasts based on unconventional measures.

They predicted that China's economy would grow 5.3 percent in the year ending in the fourth quarter of 2015, well below conventional forecasts near 7 percent. Morgan Stanley's Sharma suggests that the economy is growing 5 percent "at best" this year.

The only good thing about the recent financial market tumult, Sharma says, is that it leaves the world with a more realistic view of Chinese leaders.

"The blind faith that they could achieve whatever growth rate they wanted to — it's amazing so many smart people thought that," he says. **AP**

## corporate bits

### MGM CHINA SUPPORTS PLÁCIDO DOMINGO'S DEBUT MACAU PERFORMANCE



MGM China supported "Domingo and Macao Orchestra," co-organized by the Cultural Affairs Bureau of Macau (IC) and the Macau Government Tourist Office (MGTO), which was held at the Macao Cultural Centre Grand Auditorium on August 29. The musical endeavor was Plácido Domingo's first performance in Macau.

A private after-concert cocktail was hosted for the acclaimed tenor at MGM Macau. Over 100 VIPs attended the event, and distinguished guests include Mr. Ung Vai Meng, President of the Cultural Affairs Bureau; Ms. Maria Helena de Senna Fernandes, Director of the Macau Government Tourist Office; Mr. Leung Hio Ming, Vice President of the Cultural Affairs Bureau; Ms. Cecilia Tse, Deputy Director of the Macau Government Tourist Office; Mr. Kent leong, Chief of the Cultural Affairs Bureau's Cultural Activities Department and Ms. Zhong Yi, Director of the Macao Foundation. Ms. Pansy Ho, Co-Chairperson and Executive Director of MGM China and Domingo greeted and mingled with guests, sharing their thoughts on the development of arts and culture in Macau.

### AGEAS GETS USD1.38B FROM HONG KONG SALE TO JD CAPITAL

Ageas SA will sell its Hong Kong life insurance unit to China's JD Capital in its largest divestiture since the collapse of predecessor Fortis in 2008 as it seeks to boost shareholder returns and expand elsewhere. The shares surged.

JD Capital, also known as Beijing Tongchuang Jiuding Investment Management Co., will pay HKD10.7 billion (\$1.38 billion) for the local life insurance business, Brussels-based Ageas said in a statement Sunday. That's about 1.27 times book value and will generate a gain of about 450 million euros (\$500

million) upon closing, based on figures at the end of June, the company said.

The sale of the Hong Kong business, its only fully owned unit in Asia, will allow Ageas to expand faster-growing partnerships in the region and generates additional cash for acquisitions or increased distributions to shareholders. Ageas owns 24.9 percent of China's Taiping Life Insurance Co. and holds minority stakes in partnerships in Thailand and Malaysia. The insurer is also about to start operations in Vietnam and the Philippines through joint ventures with local banks.

### KAY TSE TO CELEBRATE 10TH ANNIVERSARY IN THE MUSIC BUSINESS WITH LATEST SHOW

To celebrate being in the music business for a decade, Kay Tse will mark the milestone by celebrating with all of her Macau fans with a concert that will take them on a walk down memory lane as she performs her greatest hits from the last 10 years.

Organized by Chessman Production and Maya Entertainment Limited, co-organized by Sun Entertainment Culture Limited, Hong Kong Marketing and Artist Group Entertainment Limited, presented by Jonnie Walker and co-sponsored by New Loyal Group, Missing Kay 2015 World Tour Macao is being held on Saturday Oct. 10 at The Venetian Macao's Cotai Arena. Tickets go on sale today.





MOZAMBIQUE

# Area 1 oil bloc requires investment of USD24 billion

**T**HE oil groups involved in exploiting the Area 1 bloc of northern Mozambique's Rovuma Basin plan to invest nearly USD24 billion to begin extracting natural gas, the Press Trust of India (PTI) news agency reports.

The following Indian state-controlled groups have stakes in the bloc: Oil and Natural Gas Corp (ONGC) via ONGC Videsh – 16 percent; Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) – 10 percent; and Oil India Ltd (OIL) – 4 percent. This means that the Indian state holds more than the main partner and operator, the US group Anadarko Petroleum, which has a 26.5 percent stake.

An ONGC Videsh official cited by PTI indicated that the Area 1 bloc partners will have



to invest USD23-24 billion to begin extracting, processing and liquefying natural

gas for subsequent export to consumer markets, among them India and Japan.

The aim is to begin processing natural gas in the first quarter of 2020 at a facility to be built on land, said the source cited by the agency, who referred to initial production of 12 million tons.

This Area 1 bloc has capacity to annually produce 20 million tons of liquefied natural gas, thereby becoming the second biggest natural gas project after Ras Laffan in Qatar, operated by the US group Exxon-Mobil.

Besides the three Indian state-controlled groups, partners in the bloc operated by the Anadarko Petroleum group include Japan's Mitsui group (20 percent), Mozambique's state-owned Empresa Nacional de Hidrocarbonetos (15 percent) and the Thai group PTTEP (8.5 percent). **MDT/Macauhub**

BRAZIL | ANGOLA

## New ambassador defends direct maritime link

**T**HE establishment of a maritime link between Brazil and Angola is vital for enhancing bilateral trade, Brazil's new ambassador in Angola, Norton Rapesta, recently said.

If that connection becomes a reality then Angola could become a springboard for exporting Brazilian products to other African countries and also a new "agricultural border" for Brazil, Rapesta said in comments to Angop news agency.

"We are not concerned about the trade balance, because there are other more important matters to deal with, such as logistics, direct maritime transport links between Angola and Brazil, incentive for more knowledge about Angola and attracting tourists, as those things generate business," the ambassador underscored when explaining his mission's priorities.

Angola is a country of opportunities which needs technology, knowledge and training, he said, adding that Brazil can provide them, because "our conditions are very similar in terms of culture, history, climate and land."

Rapesta also announced a new approach to granting visas meant to speed up the process. He explained that his embassy's consular services currently issue a daily average of 90 visas. **MDT/Macauhub**

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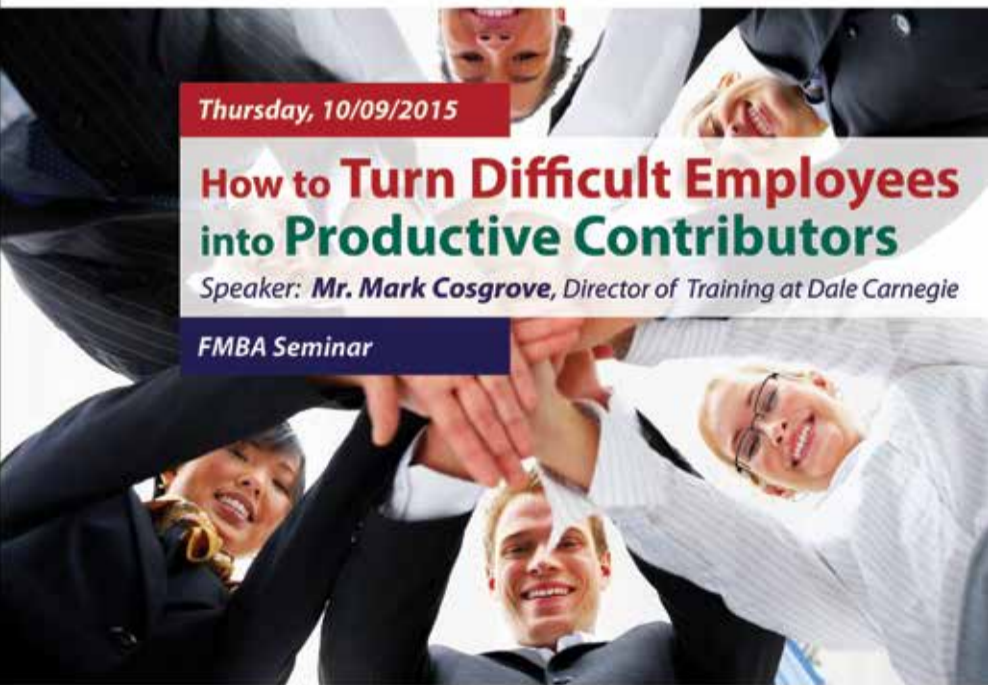


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# 197 punished in crackdown on online rumors

AP PHOTO

**PEOPLE** recently punished in China's campaign against online rumors include those who circulated an inflated death toll in the Tianjin blasts and who alleged a man committed suicide because of the country's stock market woes, state media reported yesterday.

The official Xinhua News Agency said 197 people have been punished in a special campaign, citing the Public Security Ministry, but did not say over what period.

Authorities over the past two years have waged a campaign to purge rumormongering from the Chinese Internet, saying that unethical and unbecoming behavior online needs to be wiped out. Critics say the campaign also is aimed at suppressing criticism of the

ruling Communist Party.

Xinhua cited the ministry as saying that 165 online accounts were closed in the campaign's latest phase.

Among the rumors circulated were that a "man jumped to his death in Beijing due to the stock market slump," and that "at least 1,300 people were killed in the Tianjin blasts." The death toll in the Aug. 12 explosions at warehouses for hazardous chemicals in the port city so far is 150.

The ministry also said some of the people were punished for spreading seditious rumors about upcoming commemorations of the 70th anniversary of the end of World War II, which China marks on Thursday with a big military parade through Beijing. **AP**



A man takes photo for another near charred remains of new cars at a parking lot near the site of a warehouse explosion in northeastern China's Tianjin municipality **AP**

## Man Group hedge fund chief said to assist police in market probe

**CHINESE** authorities took Li Yifei, chairwoman of hedge fund Man Group Plc's China unit, into custody to assist with a police probe into market volatility, according to a person familiar with the matter.

Li assisting with the investigation doesn't mean she is facing charges or did anything wrong. She has led the China business of Man Group, the world's largest publicly traded hedge fund, since November 2011, according to her profile on LinkedIn. The person asked not to be identified because the probe isn't public.

Li's mobile phone was turned off when called yesterday. Chaoyong Wang, Li's husband, said in a telephone interview that she is in a meeting with "relevant industry authorities" and he doesn't know who they are. He said he spoke to her by telephone Sunday and yesterday, expects her back home soon but does not know when.

A call to China's Mi-



Li Yifei

nistry of Public Security rang unanswered. Rosanna Konarzewski, head of communications for Man Group, declined to comment.

Chinese authorities have imposed limits on wagering against stocks, known as short selling, amid a rout in equity markets. The campaign against market manipulation has snared senior executives at Citic Securities Co., China's largest brokerage, as well as a journalist at business magazine *Caijing*.

As the Shanghai Composite Index has slumped about 38 percent since a selloff

began in June, authorities in China have repeatedly blamed market manipulators and foreign forces for the rout. In July, the Ministry of Public Security said it would help the China Securities Regulatory Commission investigate evidence of "malicious" short selling of stocks and indexes.

"They're sending out even stronger signal that people in China cannot short sell the market, or even long sell the market," said Steven Leung, an executive director at UOB Kay Hian Ltd. in Hong Kong. "The signal is not good for the future development

of China's securities market."

A resident of Beijing, Li was previously a managing director at the China unit of hedge fund GLG Partners, according to a biography posted on the Rockefeller Foundation's website, where she is a trustee. GLG was acquired by Man Group in 2010. Before that, Li was managing director of MTV Networks in China, and also worked as chief representative at Viacom Inc.'s China arm, according to her LinkedIn profile.

In May 2001, Li was selected as one of 25 Rising Stars-Global Leaders for the Next Generation by *Fortune*, and for four consecutive years she was one of *Fortune's* 50 Most Powerful Women. Li was also a national champion in Chinese Martial Arts, according to her Rockefeller Foundation biography.

Man Group managed USD78.8 billion as of June 30, according to an earnings report in July. **Bloomberg**

## Death toll rises to 158 in blasts at Tianjin port

**THE** death toll rose yesterday to 158 from massive explosions of chemical warehouses in the Chinese port of Tianjin, where cleanup crews were grappling with cyanide contamination caused by the blasts. About 15 people remain missing, authorities said.

The Tianjin government's official microblog said the confirmed toll rose from 150 last week, but it wasn't clear how the tally increased. Calls to the city's information center rang unanswered. Among the dead were 94 firefighters, 11 policemen and 53 civilians, and the missing included 10 firefighters, the Tianjin government said.

The Aug. 12 series of blasts at Ruihai International Logistics warehouses storing hazardous chemicals was one of China's worst industrial accidents in years, and has exposed lax enforcement of safety regulations. The warehouses were closer to homes than is allowed under safety regulations, and they were storing too much hazardous material.

Authorities are investigating wrongdoing in permit approvals and regulation of the company, and have detained 12 company employees and executives, including the primary owner who was on the board of a state-owned company and kept his ownership of Ruihai hidden as a silent partner.

Authorities also have detained 11 government officials in the investigation.

Among the dangerous chemicals at the warehouses was 700 tons of sodium cyanide, and authorities say they have sealed all waterways leading out of the blast zone to curb cyanide contamination as teams in hazmat suits clean up hazardous debris.

The Tianjin Environmental Protection Bureau said yesterday that water samples inside the disaster zone have shown levels of cyanide just over the safety level to 20 times the safety level. No cyanide has been detected in nearby seawater, the agency said. **AP**



Chinese officials, left, try to convince residents of apartments damaged by the Tianjin blasts to stop demonstrating, last Tuesday, Aug. 18

Christopher Bodeen and Peng Peng, Beijing

HISTORY REWRITTEN

# Gov't gives little credit, or help, to Nationalist WWII vets

**C**HINESE veteran Sun Yibai doesn't have much time for the Communist Party's claim to have led China to victory against Japan in World War II.

"The Communist Party didn't fight Japan," said the sprightly 97-year-old, who once served as a translator with the storied Flying Tigers aviation brigade. "They made up a whole bunch of stories afterward, but it was all fabricated."

That view challenges a basic premise underpinning this week's lavish celebrations in Beijing of the 70th anniversary of Japan's defeat: That Mao Zedong's Communists were the saviors of the nation, battling against Japanese forces that began occupying parts of China in 1931 before launching a full-blown invasion in 1937.

Veterans such as Sun have long found themselves on the wrong side of that narrative. Their service with the Nationalists led to imprisonment, persecution and often death in the years after the 1949 Communist revolution. Now mostly in their 90s, they're living out their remaining years shunned and forgotten by all but a few who care to hear their stories.

"Nobody cares about veterans like me. Nobody cares. People just forget what happened in the past," said Sun in an interview in his Beijing apartment stuffed with books and old photos.

In a Beijing suburb, Lu Chunshan, 91, held up fingers gnarled and deformed from two decades of hard labor, his sentence for having signed on as a military cadet with the Nationalists in 1942. Following the war, Lu found temporary employment but was dragged before baying crowds during political campaigns in the 1950s and 1960s and denounced as an enemy of the Communist cause.

"If you tangled with the Communists, then it was as if you made no contribution at all to speak of," Lu said. "If you did just what the party said, you'd have a good life."

Despite having faded documentation confirming his national service, Lu receives no pension, surviving mainly on 2,400 yuan (USD380) per month provided by a former employer, a state oil company. He and his female companion of the last decade buy their market produce late in the afternoon, when the prices are lowest.

Most independent historians agree that it was the forces of the Nationalist Party, or Kuomintang, led by Mao's archrival Chiang Kai-shek, that led the anti-Japanese struggle and suffered the vast majority of casualties.

Following the war's end, the exhausted and divided Natio-



Chinese veteran Sun Yibai, 97, looks at materials from his youth at his home in Beijing

nalists were defeated by the Communists in a renewed civil war and fled to Taiwan, cementing Mao's claim to having defeated imperialism, unified the country and overthrown the old feudal order.

## ■ It was the forces of the Nationalist Party, or Kuomintang, led by Mao's archrival Chiang Kai-shek, that led the anti-Japanese struggle

"This joint victory over the external enemy and the internal one, including the landlord class, is a fundamental component of (the party's) founding myth," said Harvard University China scholar Anthony Saich.

While the Nationalists' contribution to the war effort is no longer denied outright, it is heavily minimized, and veterans such as Sun and Lu are largely ignored.

"The mainstay role of the

Communist Party was the linchpin in the victory of the entire nation in the war of resistance," top party historian Gao Yongzhong recently told reporters in a reiteration of the party's basic line. "This conclusion has been long established," Gao said.

Formal 70th anniversary commemorations begin tomorrow with a ceremony at the Great Hall of the People to honor veterans — at least those whose service has been officially recognized. Thursday will see a massive military parade through Beijing showcasing the growing might of the People's Liberation Army, which has unnerved many neighboring countries.

China marks the victory over the Japanese on Sept. 3, the day after Tokyo's formal surrender, though the festivities gloss over the fact that Japan surrendered to the Allies aboard a U.S. naval ship and that Chiang Kai-shek was the Allied commander for mainland China at the time.

The Communist claim to have led China to victory against Japan is rooted in a hazy assertion that the party was the first to call for fighting against Japan, at a time when the Nationalists were biding their time to build up China's strength for the coming conflict with Tokyo. That Mao spent the war well behind the lines in remote Shaanxi province is little mentioned.

Gao, the party historian, puts the Communists' wartime losses at 450,000 dead

and injured.

Independent historians put the Nationalists' losses at around 3.2 million troops suffered in more than 1,000 engagements with Japanese forces ranging from the cities of the east coast to the southwestern province of Yunnan. The Nationalists also worked closely with U.S. and Britain, contributing forces to the fight in Burma and hosting air bases in the interior of China used in bombing missions against targets as far away as the Japanese home islands.

Beyond the victory in 1945, Communist propaganda also seeks to portray Mao's Communists as a critical force in founding the post-war global order.

A movie by the military's film studio even shows Mao as a key mover behind the 1943 Cairo Conference, an event he didn't attend and had no apparent influence over. The congress, which Chiang attended alongside British Prime Minister Winston Churchill and U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt, resulted in a commitment to return to China territories seized by Japan, including Taiwan and Manchuria. The film has been widely mocked online, with spoof posters that replaced Mao's image with those of various world leaders, movie characters and others.

The Communist Party clings to its unique take on history because of its need to shore up the legitimacy of its rule through nationalism following the

abandonment of Marxist orthodoxy. Though its grip appears firm, the party faces a host of challenges from rising social inequality, a slowing economy and its continuing refusal to share power or allow any degree of democratic opening.

Lacking a popular mandate from free elections, the party must "mutilate facts, censor the truth and manipulate history," said Hong Kong University historian Frank Dikotter, author most recently of "The Tragedy of Liberation" about the first decade of communist rule.

For veterans like Sun, Communist claims of leadership in the war are little more than fairy tales.

"These are facts: The Communist Party was weak and had no power to oppose the Japanese," Sun said.

The 1966-76 Cultural Revolution was especially tough for Sun, who was labeled a spy. Sun endured beatings by young Red Guards at the Beijing middle school where he was teaching and considers himself fortunate to have survived. Two fellow veterans at the school died from their persecution.

Sun said his service has never been recognized by the current government and he receives no pension or other assistance, although the government has promised priority placement in a nursing home.

Such treatment contrasts starkly with Nationalist veterans in Taiwan, where the party has largely held on to political power despite a transition to Western-style democracy over the past two decades. Veterans there were front-and-center at the island's own commemorative military parade in July and feted with new awards for their service.

"The war of resistance was led by the Republic of China and Chairman Chiang Kai-shek was the force behind it," Taiwan President Ma Ying-jeou said in a speech after the parade. "No one is allowed to distort that."

Professor Zhou Yongsheng of Beijing's China Foreign Affairs University is one of a handful of mainland Chinese scholars advocating a shift in the party's approach to the Nationalists' wartime record.

Denying the Nationalists' role in fighting Japan and discriminating against their veterans is unfair, he said: "We really should look at this veteran issue with a fair, objective and historical perspective." AP

## MALAYSIA

# Najib vows not to quit as country marks National Day

Eileen Ng, Kuala Lumpur

**M**ALAYSIA'S prime minister vowed he would not quit over a USD700-million financial scandal, and accused protesters of showing "poor national spirit" by holding a massive rally to demand his resignation on the eve of the country's National Day yesterday.

After a weekend of demonstrations, the government took back the streets of Kuala Lumpur, with Prime Minister Najib Razak and his Cabinet ministers attending a gala parade involving 13,000 people. They watched jets whizz by above the landmark Independence Square, which over the weekend was surrounded by tens of thousands of protesters.

In his National Day speech late Sunday, Najib slammed protesters for showing a "shallow mind and poor national spirit." He said the protests can disrupt



Malaysian protesters gather in the rain during a rally in Kuala Lumpur

public order and were not the right way to show unhappiness in a democratic country.

Najib said Malaysia was not a failed state and slammed protesters for tarnishing the country's image. He vowed not to bow to pressure.

"Once the sails have been set, once the anchor has been raised, the captain and his crew would never change course," he said.

Police sealed off the square over the weekend. Large crowds of protesters in yellow shirts of

the Bersih movement — a coalition for clean and fair elections — camped overnight around the square, even after authorities blocked the organizer's website and banned yellow attire and the group's logo.

The rally ended peacefully after protesters ushered in the country's 58th National Day at midnight Sunday amid tight security.

Police estimated the crowd size at 35,000, but Bersih says it swelled to 300,000 on Sunday from 200,000 on Saturday.

"What is 20,000?" Najib said, downplaying even the police number. "We can gather hundreds of thousands," he said in a speech in a rural area in a northern state earlier Sunday. "The rest of the Malaysian population is with the government," he was quoted as saying by the local media.

Former Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad, who has been

spearheading calls for Najib's resignation, added momentum to the rally when he turned up with his wife on both days.

Mahathir, who clamped down on dissent during his 22-year rule, said people power was needed to remove Najib and return the rule of law. He stepped down in 2003 but remained influential.

Najib has been fighting for political survival after leaked documents in July showed he received some \$700 million in his private accounts from entities linked to indebted state fund 1MDB. He later said the money was a donation from the Middle East and fired his critical deputy, four other Cabinet members and the attorney general investigating him.

Many of the protesters, such as Azrul Khalib, slept on the street.

"This is a watershed moment. Malaysians are united in their anger at the mismanagement of this country. We are saying loudly that there should be a change in the leadership," said Azrul.

He said he was aware that the rally will not bring change overnight, but he still participated because he wanted to be "part of efforts to build a new Malaysia." AP

AD

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Jocelyn Gecker, Bangkok

THAILAND

# Police seek 2 new suspects in Bangkok bombing probe

**T**HAI police issued arrest warrants yesterday for two more suspects, a Thai woman and a foreign man of unknown nationality, and released their images in the widening investigation into Bangkok's deadly bombing two weeks ago that yielded its first arrest over the weekend.

National police spokesman Prawuth Thavornsiri said he was certain the two were part of a group police say was responsible for the Aug. 17 blast at the Erawan Shrine in central Bangkok that killed 20 people, more than half of them foreigners.

During a televised statement yesterday, Prawuth displayed a photograph of the woman's Thai identification card showing a young woman in a black headscarf and a sketch of the man. He later said police were asking for additional arrest warrants.

The development came after police arrested a man from an apartment in Bangkok's outskirts on Saturday and seized bomb-making equipment that included detonators, ball bearings and a metal pipe believed to be a bomb casing.

Thai police, meanwhile, awarded themselves a 3 million baht, or USD84,000, reward yesterday for tips leading to the arrest of bombing suspects.

National police chief Somyot



In this image taken from video, National police chief Somyot Poompanmoung holds a cash reward at a press conference in Bangkok

Poompanmoung said he was taking the unusual step of giving the reward to the police force both to motivate his officers and to show that Thailand's police are good at their job.

"This money should be given to officials who did their job," he said at a news conference as aides brought out stacks of 1,000 baht notes. It wasn't immediately clear how the money would be distributed to police officers.

More bomb-making materials were discovered in a second apartment during a raid Sunday in a nearby neighborhood, said Prawuth. He said the second apartment, in a neighborhood known as Min Buri, was rented by the Thai woman identified as 26-year-old Wanna Suansun. He said the woman has a house registration in the southern Thai province of Phang Nga, and is also known by the name Mai Saloh.

Prawuth described what police found in the second apartment as "important bomb-making materials such as gunpowder, urea-based fertilizer which can be used as

explosive powder when mixed with other substances, a remote-controlled car with its controller which can be used as a detonator, nuts and bolts, small light bulbs and digital watches," among other things.

The arrest warrants for them say they are wanted on a charge of conspiracy to possess unauthorized war material, a reference to the gunpowder.

The wanted man, whose face is shown in a police sketch with short brown hair and a light beard and mustache, is believed to have lived in the apartment, said Prawuth, adding that his nationality was not known. He told The Associated Press the man's name is Jusuf, but did not explain how he learned that or give a precise spelling.

Much remains unknown about the man arrested Saturday, including his nationality and his motive. On Sunday, Prawuth said police were working with "a number of embassies" and interpreters to try to establish the man's nationality, adding that he did not speak Thai but spoke some English. AP

JAPAN

# Mothers, students join protests over security bills

Mari Yamaguchi, Tokyo

**M**OTHERS holding their children's hands stood in the sprinkling rain, some carrying anti-war placards, while students chanted slogans to the beat of a drum against Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and his defense policies.

Japan is seeing new faces join the ranks of protesters typically made up of labor union members and graying leftist activists. Tens of thousands filled the streets outside Tokyo's parliament on Sunday to rally against security legislation expected to pass in September.

"No to war legislation!" "Scrap the bills now!" and "Abe, quit!" they chanted in one of the biggest protests in recent memory. The bills would expand Japan's military role under a reinterpretation of the country's war-renouncing constitution.

In Japan, where people generally don't express political views in public, such rallies have largely diminished since often violent university student protests in the 1960s.

The 2011 Fukushima nuclear plant disaster, however, prompted a spurt of anti-nuclear protests that brought mothers out of their homes. Now at least some seem to be shifting their focus to the security debate.

The demonstrations started earlier this year and grew sharply after July, when Abe's ruling coalition pushed the legislation through the more powerful lower house despite polls showing a majority of Japanese opposed.

Whether the protests signal wider social change remains to be seen. The anti-nuclear protests have faded somewhat, and these could too, once the summer holiday is

over and the legislation passes, as expected.

But grass-roots movements among typically apolitical groups such as mothers and students — aided by social media — appear to be growing.

A group called Mothers Against War started in July and gained supporters rapidly via Facebook. It collected nearly 20,000 signatures of people opposed to the legislation, which representatives tried unsuccessfully to submit to Abe's office last Friday.

Etsuko Matsuda, a member of the group, said she has seen too many things going in the wrong direction, including the recent return to nuclear power in post-Fukushima Japan.

"I think there are a growing number of people like me who realized our lives have only turned worse under Abe's government," said the 40-year-



A father carries his son on his shoulders during a rally in front of the parliament building in Tokyo

old mother of two from Sendai city in northern Japan. "I hope more people would be interested in politics and speak up."

The security bills would permit the Self Defense Force to engage in combat for the first time since

World War II in cases of "collective defense," when Japan's allies such as the U.S. are attacked, but Japan itself is not.

Abe's government argues that the changes are needed for Japan to respond to a harsher security

environment, including a more assertive China and growing terrorist threats, and to fulfill expectations that it will contribute more to global peacekeeping.

The topic has become almost a regular item in women's magazines, traditionally known more for covering entertainment, beauty, health, food and the Imperial family.

Takashi Watanabe, a deputy editor-in-chief of Shukan Josei (Ladies Weekly), said there has been a growing appetite for social issues among readers, especially since Fukushima.

"Our readers seem to be particularly worried about a possibility that their children or grandchildren might be embroiled in war in one way or the other because of the legislation," he said. "As mothers, women perhaps have a stronger sense of crisis than men." AP

## AUSTRIA

# Gov't inspects trucks for migrants, creates 18-mile backup

Pablo Gorondi, Budapest

AUSTRIA stepped up truck inspections yesterday at its Hungarian border after 71 migrants apparently suffocated in one, creating a massive, 30-kilometer traffic jam on the main Budapest-Vienna highway.

In addition to the backup at the Hegyeshalom border crossing, traffic was slower than usual at other Hungary-Austria border crossings, the traffic watch firm Utinform reported.

And in Germany, the state government in Bavaria, which has all of Germany's border crossings with Austria, said yesterday it also had launched special traffic checks on highways near the border.

All three countries are part of the EU's Schengen zone of pass-



Austrian police officers inspect a truck at the Austrian-Hungarian border in Nickelsdorf

port-free travel, where under normal circumstances vehicles are rarely inspected at the border anymore.

Austria's increased controls "prove that no European country is going to allow illegal migrants, including refugees, to reach its territory without control," the Hungarian government said in a statement yesterday.

About 160,000 migrants have been detained already this year in Hungary, more than triple the figure recorded in all of 2014. Many apply for asylum but quickly leave the financially strapped European Union nation for richer EU countries like Ger-

many and Austria before their requests are decided.

In Vienna, senior police official Konrad Kogler told reporters that since Austria began the increased checks Sunday they have resulted in the arrests of five human traffickers and the interception of 200 migrants.

Hungary is building a 4-meter high fence on its southern border with Serbia to try to stem the flow of migrants coming across the Balkans. Hungarian lawmakers this week plan to discuss proposals allowing the government to deploy troops to the border and measures increasing penalties for illegal migran-

## MERKEL PRESSES FOR EU TO SHARE REFUGEE BURDEN

### GERMAN CHANCELLOR

Angela Merkel is pressing other European Union nations to do more to share the burden of this year's influx of migrants, but she says there's no sense in countries trading insults. Merkel said yesterday that "Europe as a whole must move and its states must share the responsibility for refugees seeking asylum." She said "if Europe fails on the question of refugees, (its) close connection with universal civil rights will be destroyed." Germany has taken more asylum-seekers than any other EU country. Merkel pressed anew for quotas to spread the migrants out among more countries in the 28-nation bloc. She said: "There's no point in publicly calling each other names, but we must simply say that the current situation is not satisfactory."

## EU GIVES FRANCE 5 MILLION EUROS FOR NEW CALAIS CAMP

### EUROPEAN AUTHORITIES

are giving France an extra 5 million euros (USD5.6 million) to aid migrants who have clustered in a filthy camp in the port city of Calais in hopes of sneaking across the English Channel to Britain. European Commission Vice President Frans Timmermans announced the funding yesterday during a visit to Calais with French and EU officials. He said it's aimed at creating

a new camp to offer aid to 1,500 migrants. A few thousand migrants from Sudan, Eritrea and elsewhere are living in unsanitary makeshift conditions at the camp. French Prime Minister Manuel Valls said Europe's migrant problem can't be solved with "barbed wire" alone, and urged more help for migrants with legitimate asylum claims. However, he insisted that economic migrants must be sent home.

## USA

# Alaska-bound, Obama makes waves by renaming Mount McKinley

Josh Lederman, Washington

SHRINKING glaciers, Arctic temperatures and a mix of messy energy politics await President Barack Obama on his trip to Alaska. Even before he departed, Obama was making waves with a decision to rename Alaska's famed Mount McKinley despite a backlash.

Obama departed yesterday morning (local time) for a three-day tour of the largest U.S. state, aiming to call attention to the ways Obama says climate change is already damaging Alaska's stunning scenery. By showcasing thawing permafrost, mel-

ting sea ice and eroding shorelines, Obama hopes to raise a sense of urgency to slow climate change in the U.S. and overseas.

His excursion north of the Arctic Circle will make Obama the first sitting president to step foot in the Alaska Arctic, home to Alaska Natives who have received less attention amid Obama's recent efforts to improve conditions for Native Americans in the mainland U.S.

In a major show of solidarity, Obama just announced that his administration is changing the name of North America's tallest peak,

the 6,193-meter Mount McKinley, to Denali, its traditional Athabascan name.

Obama's move to strip the mountain of its name honoring former President William McKinley drew loud condemnations from lawmakers in his native state of Ohio.

Obama was to hold a listening session with Alaska Natives before speaking at a climate-focused Arctic summit, which involves leaders from Arctic and non-Arctic nations.

Obama and Secretary of State John Kerry are intensely focused on a global climate treaty that

nations hope to finalize in December, as the president works to secure his environmental legacy before leaving office.

Obama has pledged a U.S. cut in greenhouse gas emissions of up to 28 percent by 2030, compared to 2005 levels, and planned to use the Alaska visit to press other nations to commit to similarly ambitious measures.

Kerry told reporters in Alaska on Sunday that climate change skeptics won't be remembered kindly.

"I think the people who are slow to come to this table will be written up by historians as having been



Mount McKinley in Denali National Park, Alaska

some of the folks most irresponsible in understanding and reacting to scientific analysis," Kerry said.

Obama will also go on a boat tour today of Kenai Fjords National Park and to hike to Exit Glacier, a sprawling expanse of ice that is retreating, in what environmentalists say is a dramatic sign of warming temperatures.

In Dillingham, in sou-

ts and human traffickers.

Austrian police say the 71 migrants likely suffocated to death in a truck with Hungarian license plates that was abandoned last week in Austria on the Budapest-Vienna highway. Five suspected traffickers have been detained in the case and Hungary is stepping up its arrests of smugglers. AP

thwest Alaska, Obama will meet tomorrow with fishermen locked in a conflict with miners over plans to build a massive gold and copper mine in Bristol Bay, home to the world's largest salmon fishery. Then he'll fly north to Kotzebue in the Alaska Arctic to focus on the plight of rural, Native villages where livelihoods are threatened by climate change. AP

SYRIA

# IS damages ancient temple in Palmyra

Sarah El Deeb, Beirut

**I**SLAMIC State militants in Syria severely damaged the Bel Temple, considered one of the greatest sites of the ancient world, in a massive explosion Sunday, activists said.

The 2,000-year-old temple was part of the remains of the ancient caravan city of Palmyra in central Syria, seized by IS in May.

The news of the latest destruction at Palmyra came just days after IS released propaganda images purportedly showing militants blowing up another Palmyra temple, the 2,000-year-old Baalshamin dedicated to the Phoenician god of storms and fertilizing rains.

The U.N. cultural agency UNESCO, which has designated Palmyra as a world heritage site, called the destruction of the Baalshamin temple a war crime.

Earlier this month, relatives and witnesses said that IS militants had beheaded Khaled



The ancient Roman city of Palmyra, northeast of Damascus

al-Asaad, an 81-year-old antiquities scholar who devoted his life to understanding Palmyra.

The Islamic State group, which has imposed a violent interpretation of Islamic law across its self-declared "caliphate" straddling Syria and Iraq, says such ancient relics promote idolatry.

It already has blown up several sites in neighboring Iraq, and it is also believed to be selling looted antiquities.

A Palmyra resident, who goes by the name of Nasser al-Thaer, said IS militants set off a huge blast at 1:45 p.m. Sunday.

"It is total destruction," he said of the scene of the explo-

sion. "The bricks and columns are on the ground."

"It was an explosion the deaf would hear," he added.

The resident said only the outer wall surrounding the temple remains.

A Syrian official in charge of antiquities said yesterday his government has not been able to determine how much damage the explosion caused the ancient structure.

The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, which has a network of activists in Syria, said the temple was damaged. It did not provide details.

Maamoun Abdulkarim, the head of the Antiquities and Museums Department in Damascus, said that "undoubtedly" a large explosion took place near the temple. But he said the extent of the damage remains unclear.

An Islamic State operative told The Associated Press over Skype yesterday that the temple had been destroyed, without elaborating. He spoke on con-

dition of anonymity because members of the group are not allowed to speak to journalists.

Amr al-Azm, a former Syrian government antiquities official who now is a professor at Shawnee State University in Ohio, said he believed a very large amount of explosives was used and the damage to the Temple of Bel was likely extensive. However, he cautioned that information remains scarce.

"This is the most devastating act yet in my opinion. It truly demonstrates ISIS's ability to act with impunity and the impotence of the international community to stop them," al-Azm said, using an alternative acronym for the group.

The temple, consecrated to the Semitic god Bel, had been well-preserved and was a source of much pride for Syrians. It was consecrated in 32 A.D.

It stood out among the ruins not far from the colonnades of Palmyra, which is affectionately known by Syrians as the "Bride of the Desert." AP

AD

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## what's ON



## CONCERT

TIME: 8pm

VENUE: Macau Cultural Centre,  
Avenida Xian Xing Hai, s/m, NAPE

ADMISSION: MOP80, MOP120

ORGANIZER: Macau Cultural Centre

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2825 7840

HABITUAL WORLD - KOREAN DRAWING EXHIBITION  
OF CHA YOUNG SEOK

TIME: 10am-6pm

UNTIL: September 6, 2015

VENUE: Temporary Exhibitions Gallery,  
Taipa Houses Museum, Avenida da Praia, TaipaADMISSION: MOP5 (Adult); MOP2 (Student or  
Group); Free (Under 12 or above 65)

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8988 4100 / 2882 7103

HISTORICAL PAINTINGS OF MACAU  
IN THE 19TH CENTURY

TIME: 10am-7pm

(Closed on Mondays, No admission after 6:30 pm)

UNTIL: December 31, 2015

VENUE: Macau Museum of Art,  
Av. Xian Xing Hai, s/n, NAPE

ADMISSION: MOP5

(Free on Sundays and public holidays)

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8791 9814

## PHOTOGRAPHS OF OLD TEMPLES IN MACAU

TIME: 10am-7pm

(Closed on Mondays, no admission after 6:30 pm)

UNTIL: December 31, 2015

VENUE: Macau Museum of Art,  
Av. Xian Xing Hai, s/n, NAPE

ADMISSION: MOP5

(Free on Sundays and public holidays)

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8791 9814

2015 ART TROUPE-IN-RESIDENCE PROGRAMME  
- INGENUITY EXHIBITION

TIME: 10:30am-6:30pm (Closed on Mondays)

UNTIL: October 31, 2015

ADMISSION: Free

VENUE: 10 Fantasia - A Creative Industries Incubator,  
10, Calçada da Igreja de S.Lázaro, Macau

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2835 4582

## TRAVERSE: VIDEO INSTALLATION BY ROBERT CAHEN

TIME: 10am-7pm

(Closed on Mondays, no admission after 6:30 pm)

UNTIL: September 20, 2015

VENUE: Macau Museum of Art,  
Av. Xian Xing Hai, s/n, NAPE

ADMISSION: MOP5

(Free on Sundays and public holidays)

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8791 9814

## Offbeat

MORE PRECISE DATA MAKES TINY  
ESTONIA GROW BY 834 ISLANDS

Tiny Estonia just got a little bit bigger. Modern technology has made Estonia grow by 112 square kilometers by including 834 islands that were not accounted for in earlier surveys. Hanno Kuus of Estonia's state mapping agency says the current number of islands and islets in the Baltic Sea and in bigger Estonian lakes grew to 2,355 from 1,521 — mainly ones at sea.

Kuus said Friday that "in reality, Estonia gained no extra land," but technology including aerial photography and laser scanning has given the Estonian Land Board figures that "correspond now more to the reality." Earlier paper maps gave Estonia's size as 45,227 square kilometers. It has now been corrected to 45,339 square kilometers.

## TV canal macau

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

## cinema

## CINETEATRO

27 AUG - 2 SEPT



## HITMAN: AGENT 47

ROOM 1

4.05, 9.45 pm

Director: Aleksander Bach

Starring: Rupert Friend, Hannah Ware, Zachary Quinto

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 96min

## WILD CITY

ROOM 1

2.15, 5.55, 7.45 pm

Director: Ringo Lam

Starring: Louis Koo, Shawn Yue, Tong Liya

Language: Cantonese/Mandarin (Chinese/English)

Duration: 105min



## PIXELS

ROOM 2

(2D) 2.30, 4.30, 9.30 pm

(3D) 7.30 pm

Director: Chris Columbus

Starring: Adam Sandler, Kevin James,

Michelle Monaghan

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 106min

## HERO 2015

ROOM 3

2.30, 4.45, 9.30 pm

Director: Nikhil Advani

Starring: Haruma Miura, Kiko Mizuhara

Language: Japanese (English and Chinese)

Duration: 90min

## ATTACK ON TITAN

ROOM 3

7.30 pm

Director: Shinji Higuchi

Starring: Takuya Kimura, Keiko Kitagawa,

Takako Matsu

Language: Japanese (English and Chinese)

Duration: 119min

## MACAU TOWER

20 AUG - 9 SEPT

## PIXELS

2.30, 4.45, 7.15, 9.30 pm

Director: Chris Columbus

Starring: Adam Sandler, Kevin James,

Michelle Monaghan

Language: English (Chinese)

## this day in history



King Idris of Libya

## 1969 BLOODLESS COUP IN LIBYA

King Idris of Libya has been deposed in what appears to have been a bloodless coup. A group of military officers have seized power and declared the country a republic. But the king, who is in Turkey, has dismissed the coup as "unimportant".

According to reports from the capital, Tripoli, troops and tanks converged on the city in the early hours of the morning. Within two hours they had taken key positions and the royal palace, military and security headquarters were surrounded by 0500. All communications with the outside world were cut and a curfew was imposed.

In Libya the king's heir, Crown Prince Hassan, has announced his support for the new regime, which the military junta has renamed the Libyan Arab Republic. News of the coup came as a surprise to the British Government but officials said it would not harm Britain's good relations with Libya. Egypt and Iraq have announced recognition of the new regime.

The Revolutionary Command Council which has now taken over running the country, has issued a statement declaring the aim of the revolution is "unity, freedom and socialism".

However, it also gave a warning that any attempt to overthrow the revolutionaries would be "crushed ruthlessly and decisively". The coup appears to have been led by an Army officer called Colonel Saad ed-din Bushweir.

But it is not clear whether he has any political backing. King Idris has conducted recent purges against Palestinians, Jordanians, Lebanese and Syrians. He has also tried to purge the country of Baathists for conspiring against the state.

Britain is involved in extensive engineering projects in Libya and is also the country's biggest supplier of arms. The United States also has a large airbase in Libya.

Courtesy BBC News

## IN CONTEXT

The coup passed off with only a handful of shots being fired. The military junta's first action was to arrest the army chief of staff and the head of security.

King Idris, who had been suffering poor health, went to Greece. Thousands took to the streets to demonstrate their support for the revolution. At the time, the coup was widely welcomed as an Arab nationalist reaction to the humiliating defeat of the Arab armies in the Six Day War with Israel in 1967 and to what were seen as the pro-Western policies and corruption of the monarchy.

On 8 September the new cabinet was announced. The commander in chief of the armed forces was named as Colonel Muammar Gaddafi, 27.

Colonel Gaddafi took the title of prime minister in January 1970. Initially he pursued a policy of Arab unity - proposing a series of mergers and federations with neighbouring countries.

But Libya's involvement in terrorism, notably the Lockerbie disaster, led to the breaking-off of diplomatic relations with the US and UK, only partly restored in late 2003 when Gaddafi announced Libya was abandoning its weapons of mass destruction program. In May 2006 the US restored full diplomatic relations with Libya.



**YOUR STARS**

**Aries**  
Mar. 21-Apr. 19  
You finally get to a start fresh. Do as little as possible that could carry over to the future. Consider it bad karma to squeeze pennies out of any bad investments.

**Taurus**  
April 20-May 20  
Making money the old fashioned way will never go out of style. Thank goodness making it the modern way will. Start this new chapter with hope for a solid financial future.

**Gemini**  
May 21-Jun. 21  
You've been dreaming about change, and you'll get to experience it, if only symbolically. Say goodbye to the worst time in your financial history, even if your financial future is still blurry.

**Cancer**  
Jun. 22-Jul. 22  
You don't need to be told what to do, because you already have the right ideas. Being relieved it's finally over and crossing debts off your list are good ways to spend the day.

**Leo**  
Jul. 23-Aug. 22  
If your financial past can be summed up no other way for you, it's that all that glitter is not gold. You're not alone in feeling foolish at not realizing it sooner, but for now, focus on bringing that knowledge into the future.

**Virgo**  
Aug. 23-Sept. 22  
If you're expecting some money to change hands, it should go without saying that not a lot will get done today. Spend time on more profitable activities, like self reflection.

**Libra**  
Sep.23-Oct. 22  
Your financial past was not all bad. If nothing else, you learned to appreciate the smaller things in life. And if you did it with grace and flexibility, then pour yourself a glass of champagne.

**Scorpio**  
Oct. 23 - Nov. 21  
You can make a list of resolutions or you can wish really, really hard. Or you can find a more practical way to make fantasy turn into reality. It's right under your nose.

**Sagittarius**  
Nov. 22-Dec. 21  
You can't seem to get revved up about the day. That's understandable, given all you've lost lately. Think of it all as lessons learned, and try to drum up some excitement for a more profitable future.

**Capricorn**  
Dec. 22-Jan. 19  
If not having a good day is some kind of omen about the future, then be in charge. Connect with others, take in some art, do some creative writing - anything short of a witch dance to ensure future money.

**Aquarius**  
Jan. 20-Feb. 18  
You spent your past days reevaluating your values, and wow, was it painful. But surprise, surprise, you're a better person for it. Enjoy your new skills, like choosing to be compassionate or giving for the fun of it.

**Pisces**  
Feb.19-Mar. 20  
Go ahead, throw the baby out with the bathwater and anything else remotely connected to your financial past, and do it with your usual enthusiasm and high energy. Then sit back and wait for the future.

**THE BORN LOSER** by Chip Sansom



**SUDOKU**

**Easy**

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

**Easy+**

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

**Medium**

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

**Hard**

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

**WEATHER**

	MIN	MAX	CONDITION
<b>CHINA</b>			
Beijing	18	25	drizzle/moderate rain
Harbin	17	26	cloudy/clear
Tianjin	19	23	rainstorm/moderate rain
Urumqi	15	23	cloudy
Xi'an	20	31	cloudy
Lhasa	10	23	shower/cloudy
Chengdu	21	29	overcast
Chongqing	25	33	cloudy
Kunming	17	23	shower
Nanjing	22	31	cloudy/thundershower
Shanghai	24	30	cloudy
Wuhan	22	33	cloudy
Hangzhou	22	32	cloudy
Taipei	25	29	heavy rain
Guangzhou	24	30	thundershower/heavy rain
Hong Kong	26	30	shower
<b>WORLD</b>			
Moscow	10	18	drizzle
Frankfurt	16	31	clear/moderate rain
Paris	14	29	drizzle
London	11	16	drizzle
New York	21	31	overcast/clear

**CROSSWORDS**

**ACROSS:** 1- Egyptian cobra; 4- \_\_\_ of Two Cities; 9- Lovers' lane?; 14- Lilly of pharmaceuticals; 15- Fax forerunner; 16- Short letters; 17- Action of a siphon; 19- Sign up; 20- Concert hall; 21- Rate; 23- Chipper; 24- Chairs; 27- Architectural pier; 30- Letter opener; 32- French possessive; 33- Faint reddish star; 37- Port-au-Prince is its capital; 39- Unity; 40- Interruption; 42- Bristlelike parts; 43- Terran; 44- Funnyman Philips; 45- Tend; 48- Harmony; 50- Iota preceder; 51- Sat on the back of a horse; 55- Old French expression meaning "goodbye"; 57- Femme fatale; 58- Back in; 60- Schedule; 64- Crazy as \_\_\_; 65- Mimicry; 66- Comparative suffix; 67- Standards; 68- \_\_\_ Dame; 69- General on Chinese menus;

**DOWN:** 1- Author of fables; 2- Slip; 3- Scottish musician; 4- Energy source; 5- X; 6- Menu words; 7- Lower limb; 8- Puts forth; 9- Work without \_\_\_; 10- Ancient Greek colony; 11- Metallic element; 12- Composer Delibes; 13- Night school subj.; 18- Simple shelter; 22- \_\_\_ see it...; 24- Oceans; 25- "à/countrymen, lend me your \_\_\_"; 26- Comics bark; 28- Aquarium fish; 29- Continental identity of a Chinese person; 30- Nerd; 31- Role for Clark; 33- Thorny flowers; 34- Foe; 35- Device for triggering explosion; 36- Kind of fingerprint; 38- Bat wood; 40- Dramatic troupe; 41- Oratorio highlight; 43- Organ of sight; 46- Broke bread; 47- Kingdom in the Himalayas; 49- PC storage medium; 51- Narrow inlet; 52- Planet's path; 53- Strikes out; 54- Diciembre follower; 56- Charged particles; 57- Eye sore; 58- Managed; 59- "Hold On Tight" band; 61- Wall St. debut; 62- Assembled; 63- Make a boo-boo



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PSP 28 573 333	Macau Daily Times 28 716 081
Customs 28 559 944	
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**Hellene Gardens**  
Coloane  
1,663 sq ft / HKD 8.8M  
HKD 5,292sq ft  
Car Park Included  
Ref: 15055437

**Vila Bela**  
Macau  
1,978 sq ft / HKD 15.688M  
HKD 7,931sq ft  
An Exclusive Property  
Ref: 15055442

**Designer Apartment**  
Macau  
849 sq ft / HKD 5.033M  
HKD 5,929sq ft  
Overlooking St Pauls  
Ref: 14105421

**Pacifica**  
Taipa  
3 Bedrooms Apartment  
In The Heart of Taipa  
HKD 18,000 / 1,300 sq ft  
Ref: 15080525

**Ginx Plaza**  
Macau  
Center Of Macau  
Good Location  
HKD 22,000 / 403 sq ft  
Ref: 15010461

**Fountainside Studio Apartment**  
Macau  
1 Bedroom Apartment  
New development  
HKD 12,800 / 567 sq ft  
Ref: 15070517

**Lakeview**  
Macau  
3 Bedrooms Apartment  
Fully Furnished  
HKD 38,800 / 3,430 sq ft  
Ref: 15080524

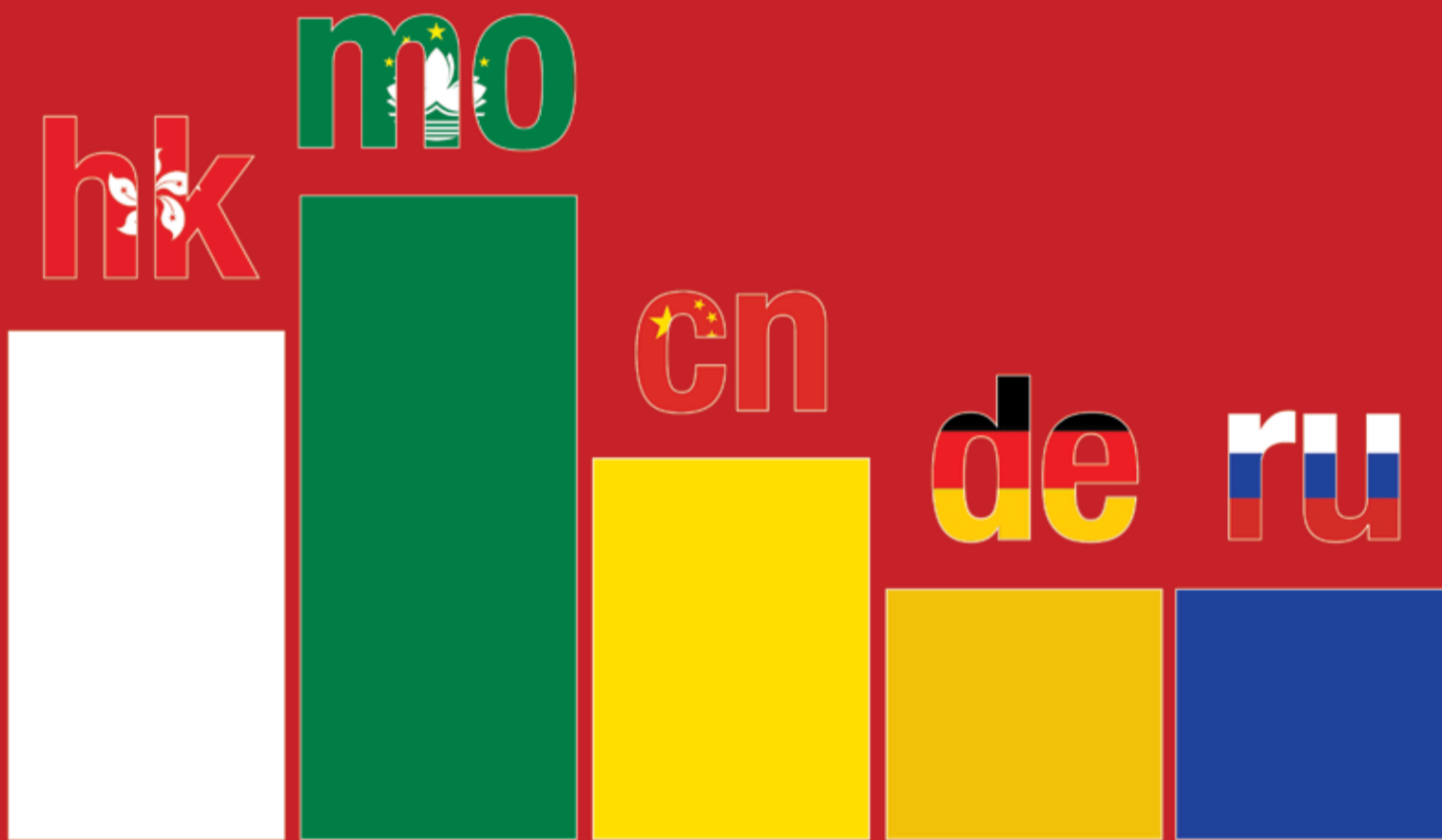
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### COUNTRY RANKINGS

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**Doug Ferguson**  
Golf Writer, Edison, N.J.

GOLF

# With a 4th win, Jason Day creates a temporary Big 3

**J**ORDAN Spieth was gone, but not forgotten, certainly not by Jason Day.

In his debut as the No. 1 player in the world, Spieth had back-to-back rounds over par for the first time all year and missed the cut. He already was assured of losing the No. 1 ranking back to Rory McIlroy when Day put together a weekend at The Barclays that was even better when put into recent context.

He shot 63-62 on the weekend — the 62 was the lowest closing round by a PGA Tour winner all year — and finished at 19-under 261 for a six-shot win over Henrik Stenson. This was Day's first tournament since he became the first player in a major to reach 20-under par in beating Spieth by three shots at the PGA Championship.

Throw in the Canadian Open and Day has won three of his last four tournaments.

So it seemed to be a natural question who would get his vote as PGA Tour player of the year, which until last week was not really a question at all.

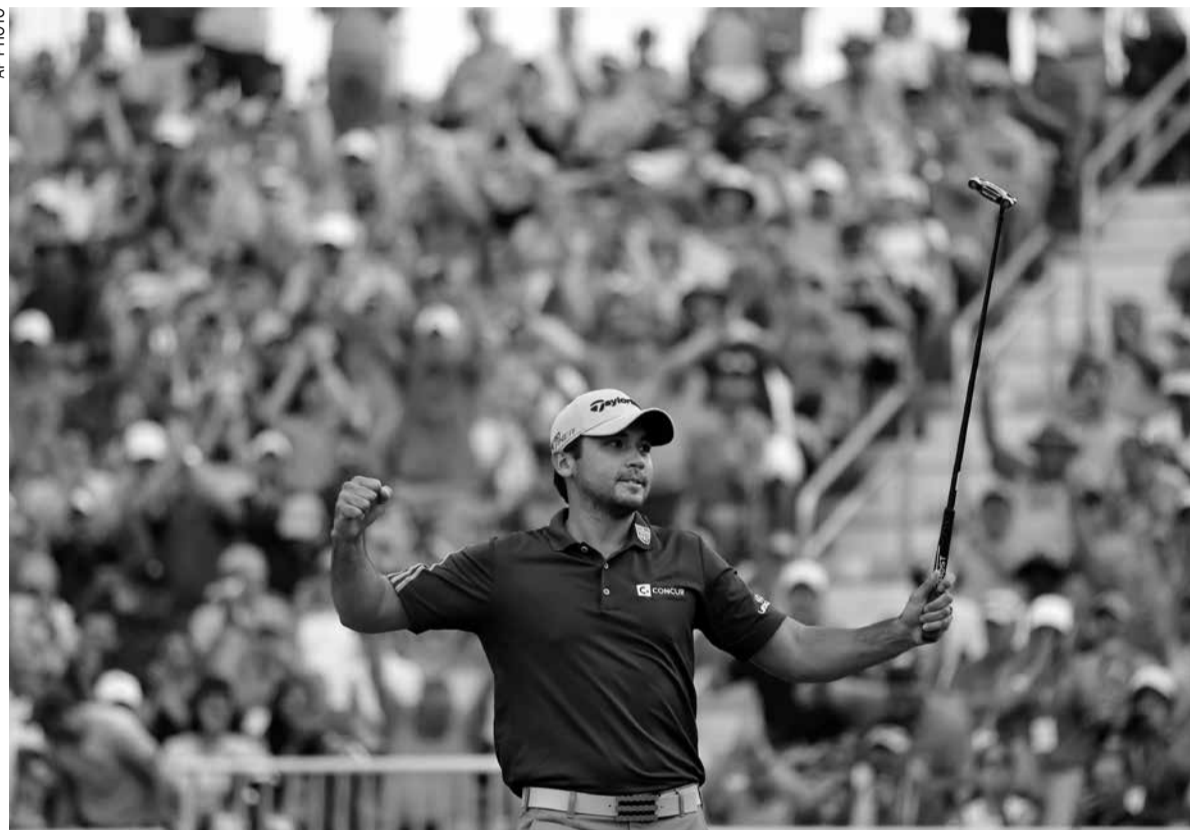
And it still isn't to Day — not yet, anyway.

"Right now, Jordan Spieth gets my vote," Day said. "Winning two major championships at such a young age is big. Winning four tournaments overall is great."

Then again, there are still three FedEx Cup playoff events remaining, including the Tour Championship that determines the \$10 million bonus. It's already been a banner summer for the 27-year-old Australian, and he's not done yet.

"I think winning the FedEx Cup and maybe one or two more tournaments, that could put my name in the mix for player of the year," Day said. "I'm not sure. I'm going to leave

AP PHOTO



Jason Day

that to the peers, to the people. That will definitely throw my name in the mix."

Spieth already has locked up the points-based award from the PGA of America because of a bonus awarded to multiple major champions, and that's not something to take lightly. The 22-year-old Texan is only the 19th player in 120 years to do that. As only the fourth player to get halfway to the Grand Slam, he handled the pressure by finishing one shot out of a playoff at St. Andrews. And with a runner-up at the PGA Championship, Spieth joined

Tiger Woods and Jack Nicklaus as the only players to finish in the top four at all four majors.

He also was runner-up three other times (Houston Open, Texas Open, Colonial), still is nearly \$3 million ahead of Day on the money list and is leading the Vardon Trophy for the lowest adjusted scoring average on the PGA Tour.

That's why Day was quick not to dismiss Spieth.

If the Australian were to win the Tour Championship, that makes it interesting, but still probably not enough. The Tour Championship and one other

FedEx Cup playoff event? That would be six wins — only Woods and Vijay Singh have done that over the last 20 years — and then it moves the vote closer to a coin flip.

"I'm by far playing the best golf of my life," Day said. "Just the synergy between my golf swing right now and what I've done with my body is working. I'm hitting it a long, long way. I feel like the accuracy has pulled in. ... I feel like Jordan Spieth with how I'm putting. It's a good feeling."

Another race is shaping up that could prove to be more

compelling.

A year ago, when McIlroy won the final two majors with a World Golf Championship in between, he was so clearly No. 1 in the world that the only discussion was who could challenge him. Spieth and Day provided the answer, with four wins apiece on the PGA Tour, and three of the four majors.

Day will have a mathematical chance to reach No. 1 if he were to win the Deutsche Bank Championship. There was chatter about a modern Big Three after Day won the PGA Championship, and this victory in the Barclays, along with his realistic chance of getting to No. 1, only confirms it.

McIlroy didn't play The Barclays to give his left ankle one more week of rest as a precaution. He tied for 17th in the PGA Championship, his first time competing in nearly two months, and he has won on the TPC Boston.

Spieth has a knack for bouncing back quickly. The last time he missed a cut was at The Players, and over his next eight starts he had two wins (including the U.S. Open), two runner-up finishes and two third-place finishes. The TPC Boston is where his stock really began to rise two years ago when he closed with a 62.

Yes, the majors are over.

Golf still has the potential to be plenty compelling over the next four weeks. That's what the PGA Tour wanted.

Only it has nothing to do with \$10 million. **AP**

VOLLEYBALL

# USA moves top at women's World Cup after Russia loses

**U**SA capitalized on a rare Russia defeat to move to the top of the rankings at the women's volleyball World Cup yesterday, beating Argentina 25-16, 25-19, 25-14 in Okayama.

That win — in which Kimberly Hill top-scored with 13 points — improved the U.S. to 19 points, one ahead of Russia which lost for the first time at the competition to Serbia.

"We approach every day like a gold-medal match day," USA captain Christa Dietzen said. "We're engaged, we're focused and we don't take days off."

Russia took the first two sets against Serbia in Sendai, but Zoran Terzic's side battled back to claim the final three sets, triumphing 22-25, 22-25, 25-14, 25-23, 15-12.

Tijana Boskovic was in sensational form for

Serbia — which also dealt USA its only loss of the tournament so far, back on August 23 — plundering 27 points as her team picked up its sixth straight win to improve to 16 points.

Japan and China remained two points ahead of Serbia after picking up straight sets wins.

Host Japan beat South Korea 25-17, 26-24, 25-17 in Sendai to move second in the

rankings — ahead of Russia on points ratio — while China sits fourth — behind Russia on sets ratio — after beating Kenya 25-7, 25-15, 25-14 in Okayama.

Elsewhere, Dominican Republic downed Peru 25-18, 25-19, 22-25, 25-17, and Cuba picked up its second victory of the competition, overcoming winless Algeria 25-17, 25-16, 25-14. **AP**

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RACING

## Irish racehorse Hurricane Fly retired

Irish racehorse Hurricane Fly has been retired after winning a world-record 22 Group One races. Willie Mullins, Hurricane Fly's trainer, announced the retirement yesterday, saying the 11-year-old gelding is a "horse of a lifetime and a privilege to train." Hurricane Fly won 24 of his 32 races over hurdles, including the Champion Hurdle at the prestigious Cheltenham Festival in 2011 and 2013, and earned his owners nearly 1.9 million pounds (USD2.9 million). Mullins says "he's a horse who has everything — speed and stamina and an incredible bravery and aggressiveness."

opinion

**Extra Time**

Samuel Petrequin, AP Sports Writer

**MONACO PUTS MONEY FIRST WITH MARTIAL EXPECTED SALE**

Not so long ago, Monaco was splashing cash to lure football's biggest stars. In a complete change of commercial strategy, it is now getting rid of Anthony Martial, one of the brightest young players in French football.

Hailed as Thierry Henry's successor, the 19-year-old Martial was granted permission to leave France's national squad to sign a contract with Manchester United on the final day of France's winter transfer window, which closes today (Macau time).

Gifted with huge physical qualities and technical skills, the highly-praised Martial was at the heart of Monaco's rebuilding project, the lethal weapon in front of the defensive fortress erected by coach Leonardo Jardim. He is set to become the latest high-profile player to leave a club that made headlines two years ago when it recruited Radamel Falcao, James Rodriguez and Joao Moutinho for a combined fee of 130 million euros (USD145.8 million).

At the time, the Principality side looked determined to fight toe to toe with big spenders Paris Saint-Germain for the domestic supremacy.

But facing a UEFA probe for overspending on player transfers and wages as part of the Financial Fair Play, Monaco allowed Falcao and Rodriguez to leave a year later. Their departure marked the beginning of a new era, as owner Dmitry Rybolovlev — the Russian billionaire who invested millions of euros to bring Monaco back to the topflight in 2013 — made clear the club would focus on the development of young talents instead.

With its highly-praised team of scouts, Jardim brilliantly coped with the club's change of development strategy, rebuilding a balanced squad mixing seasoned veterans and talented youngsters like Martial. That is why the teenager's expected sale to United does not make any sense, at least from a sporting point of view.

It comes just after the departures of four other key players (Yannick Ferreira Carrasco to Atletico Madrid, Geoffrey Kondogbia to Inter Milan, Layvin Kurzawa to PSG, Aymen Abdennour to Valencia) which have not been compensated. The club signed Italy forward Stephan El Shaarawy from AC Milan among the dozen of players recruited this summer, including Portuguese winger Ivan Cavaleiro, Malian winger Adama Traore and Croatian midfielder Mario Pasalic, but the new-look Monaco team has been struggling so far.

The club failed to reach the group stage of the Champions League after losing to Valencia in a play-off and is already lagging seven points behind PSG in the French league standings after a 3-0 home loss to the defending champions on Sunday.

But does it really matter to Rybolovlev? During the summer transfer window, Monaco reportedly spent 67 million euros (\$75.2 million), recouping 124 million (\$139 million) in sales. And Martial, who joined from Lyon at a cut-price of 5 million euros (\$5.61 million), is expected to bring an extra 36 million pounds (\$55.5 million) in the club's vaults. A lucrative business.

**THE BUZZ MONK RELAXING ATOP WIND TURBINE SPOTTED BY DRONE**

A Benedictine monk who works at a Rhode Island school has discovered that finding solitude is no easy feat, even 53 meters in the air. Brother Joseph Byron was recently relaxing atop the school's wind turbine — as he often does — when a drone zoomed in. Video taken by the drone, owned by a Californian on vacation, shows Byron sprawled across the turbine's

surface, with views of Narragansett Bay in the background. The footage was posted online this week. Byron said Friday that alumni he hadn't heard from in years are contacting him after seeing it. He says he found the drone interesting at first but was annoyed after it zoomed by again. Byron says he climbs the turbine because he enjoys the view.

Station	Air quality	
Roadside	20-40 Good	😊
High Density Residential Area	20-40 Good	😊
Ambient	15-35 Good	😊

SOURCE: DSI/MG

**Xinhua: Journalist 'confesses' to causing China market crash**

A leading journalist at one of China's top financial publications has admitted to causing "panic and disorder" in the stock market, in a public confession carried on CCTV, the state television.

The detention of Wang Xiaolu, a reporter for Caijing magazine, comes amid a broad crackdown on the role of the media in the slump in China's stock market, which is down about 40 per cent from its June 12 peak. Nearly 200 people have been punished for online rumour-mongering, state news agency Xinhua reported at the weekend.

"I acquired the news from private conversations, which is an abnormal way, and added my personal judgment and subjective views to finish this story," said Mr Wang in a confession aired on China Central Television. "I shouldn't have released a report with a major negative impact on the market at such a sensitive time. I shouldn't do that just to catch attention which has caused the country and its investors such a big loss. I regret... [it and am] willing to confess my crime."



An elderly woman stands near the Citic Securities in Beijing

Mr Wang's confession came after he was detained for allegedly fabricating and spreading false information about the stock market, according to Xinhua.

State TV channels in China frequently broadcast public confessions in high-profile cases. CCTV yesterday also aired a confession by Liu Shufan, an official of market watchdog the China Securities Regulatory Commission, and reported that four senior executives of investment bank Citic Securities had confessed to insider trading.

"Xu Gang, Liu Wei, Fang Qingli and Chen Rongjie, senior executives of the Citic Securities, China's

leading securities dealer, have been put under 'criminal compulsory measures' for suspected insider trading. They have also confessed to their violations," the state-run news agency wrote in a dispatch published yesterday.

Reporting on the case, the Financial Times said yesterday that the journalist's arrest last Tuesday was condemned by the Committee to Protect Journalists, a US-based campaign group. "Chinese authorities' hypersensitivity to fluctuations in the financial markets is no reason to intimidate and jail a journalist for covering the news," it said.

David Bandurski of the China Media Project at the University of Hong Kong said he was deeply concerned by the detention.

"This isn't about the factual nature of his reporting, it's about the political impact. This looks like a vendetta," Mr Bandurski said, quoted by FT, noting that it was much more worrying than previous cases of journalist detentions that have involved allegations of revealing state secrets or media corruption. **MDT/Agencies**

**THE DECISIVE MOMENT**

AP Photo/Arun Sankar K.



Tiger dance. An Indian artist with his body painted with the likeness of a tiger dances before a tableau with a picture of tiger during the 'Pulikali' or Tiger Dance procession in Thrissur, Kerala state, yesterday.

**WORLD BRIEFS**

**SINGAPORE** says it has lifted a two-decade ban on HIV-infected people from entering the country, but will limit their stay to a maximum of three months. The Health Ministry said the ban was lifted on April 1, "given the current context with more than 5,000 Singapore residents living with HIV and the availability of effective treatment for the disease."

**INDIA** Following a knock at his front door, an Indian scholar greeted two unidentified visitors and was shot in the head and the chest, becoming the third critic of religious superstition to be killed in the country in three years.

**AUSTRIA** stepped up inspections at its Hungarian border after 71 migrants apparently suffocated in one. The inspections created a massive, 30-kilometer traffic jam on the main Budapest-Vienna highway. In neighboring Germany, the state government in Bavaria said it also had launched special traffic checks on highways near the border with Austria. **More on p14**



**UKRAINE** A grenade exploded outside Ukraine's parliament during a nationalist protest against a vote to give greater powers to separatist regions in the east, killing one police officer and injuring more than 100, the interior ministry said. The clashes marked the worst outburst of violence in the capital since the new government took power in February 2014.

**JAPAN** The Hotel Okura, a favored Tokyo lodging for U.S. presidents, movie stars and other celebrities, is closing the doors of its landmark half-century-old main building to make way for a pair of glass towers ahead of the 2020 Olympics. The redo raised an outcry from those who love the Okura's unique mélange of modernism and traditional Japanese aesthetics. But social media campaigns, a petition and other efforts to "Save the Okura" just underscored the futility of resisting Tokyo's flood-tide of pre-Olympics urban renewal.