

TAIPA LIBRARY OFFICIALLY OPENS



P4



GAMBLING REVENUE PLUNGES 35.5 PCT

Revenue fell 35.5 percent to MOP18.6 billion, widening from July's 34.5 percent drop

P7



SINGAPORE'S RULING PARTY CHALLENGED

For the 1st time in the island-nation's history, the ruling People's Action Party faces contests in all available seats

P12

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REVENUE FALLS BELOW 'RED LINE'

Government adopts austerity measures

P2

WORLD BRIEFS

CHINA has established a USD10 billion fund to support the country's industrial cooperation with Latin America, the central bank announced yesterday. Initiated by the People's Bank of China (PBOC), the central bank, the State Administration of Foreign Exchange, and the China Development Bank (CDB), the fund will provide medium- and long-term financing to major projects, the PBOC said in a statement.

AP PHOTO



TIBET The exiled Tibetan government says there is no cause for celebrating 50 years since China formed the Tibetan Autonomous Region, and insisted yesterday instead marks a half-century of occupation and control over the once-independent Himalayan nation.

INDIA Rioters rampage in the northeast Indian state of Manipur, setting fire to the homes of seven lawmakers to protest new legislation defining who can claim to be from the state. One person died while trapped in a burning house and two died when police fired to disperse the arsonists.

More on backpage



Uniform business thrives as school year begins

P3 MDT REPORT

Gov't imposes austerity in public departments to save MOP1.4 billion

THE Macau government announced yesterday that it has imposed austerity measures in all of its public departments in order to tighten fiscal spending. As a result, spending cuts totaling MOP1.4 billion will be made in daily operations and unnecessary purchases. However, budgets allocated for livelihood, social welfare and Public Investment Plan (PIDDA) projects will not be affected.

The Office of the Secretary for Economy and Finance, Lionel Leong, explained in the announcement yesterday that the preplan was launched because monthly gaming revenue has not lived up to estimates.

According to the Gaming Inspection and Coordination Bureau, gross gaming revenue in August plunged 35.5 percent year-on-year to MOP18.6 billion, bringing the total revenue of the first eight months to MOP158.88 billion. This means that the monthly average has fallen below the "red line" of MOP20 billion, hence not achieving the minimum estimate stipulated in the Budget Amendment Law for the 2015 fiscal year.

In anticipation of the possibility that annual income might fail to meet budget estimates, the administrator had prepared an austerity plan beforehand, which could save up to MOP1.4 billion within the public sector.

As instructed by the Chief Executive, each governmental department, along with certain organizations, are required to freeze 5 percent of their budget expenditure in assets and services purchasement —



The Public Administration and Civil Service Bureau headquarters

which is mainly for the purchase of supplies or consumables in daily operations. They will also be required to reduce non-PIDDA investment expenditure by 10 percent.

The Office further stated that, even prior to the CE's austerity order, public departments had been requested to review and reduce their spending, as well as to manage their budgets cautiously, "especially expenses in business trips, unnecessary renovation and decoration, research services, publicity, celebration activities, and souvenirs."

The Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture, Alexis Tam, told media at a city library's opening yesterday that the government "would definitely not [reduce its] input into education, healthcare, culture and social welfare." On the contrary, Tam guaranteed that investment in those areas "could be increased." However, he revealed that expenditure involved in hosting large-scale celebrative events and shows is "likely to be reduced."

The government has cut nearly one-third off its expenditure for

hosting the annual Chinese National Day performance this year. As more sizable city events approach in the fall, the secretary emphasized that "organizers need to reflect on the celebrative activities' cost-effectiveness to see whether they have generated satisfying results." When asked whether the government had spent extravagantly before, he said, "I think we could do better."

The official further admitted that his Secretariat had been more aware of public spending and pledged to carry forward the attitude of frugality, not only this year, but also in the coming years. He commented, "The saving goal of MOP1.4 billion is not difficult to achieve, as it is shared by all five secretariats."

Meanwhile, authorities continue to assure the public that "the SAR's fiscal situation remains very stable and that its sound fiscal reserve system is adequate to cope with any emergencies or economic fluctuations." However, the gross gaming revenues recorded so far this year are 36.5 percent lower than a year ago. **BY**

EXHIBITION

Local resistance efforts against Japanese invasion remembered

Brook Yang

THE MSAR government and the Chinese Liaison Office inaugurated a special exhibition yesterday to commemorate the 70th anniversary of Japan's defeat in World War II.

The exhibition, taking place in the Handover Gifts Museum of Macau until October 4, features a collection of 210 historical photographs and about 80 cultural relics, including literary documents and calligraphy works. It recalls the decade-long history of Chinese people's suffering and their resistance against the Japanese invasion, as well as Macau people's efforts and vital support of their compatriots despite the city's hardships during wartime.

The exhibition organizers stress that although Macau was declared neutral in the war by the Portuguese administration and was immune to the flames of conflict, the Chinese communities of Macau didn't stay aloof.

Officiating the opening ceremony, the Chief Executive Chui Sai On stated that the exhibits reflected the tough days that Macau people went through in wartime as well as their concerted efforts in supporting the country.

He noted, "While the Chinese nation was fighting the battle in blood, Macau compatriots never stayed out of it; at the nation's critical moment, many Macau people went to the battlefield without hesitation. Many patriotic anti-Japanese groups also emerged in Macau to join the national salvation. They took advantage of the city's unique position and environment to unite patriotic forces from different social classes, while also lending a helping hand to the many refugees who fled the war to Macau."

The CE said that the exhibition pays tribute to the Chinese nation's unyielding spirit, its people's solidarity, and their contribution to the world's victory against fascist aggression. He expressed wishes that Macau's youth would "remember history, cherish the memory of martyrs, cherish peace, and unswervingly keep to the path of peaceful development into the future."

"As Macau is currently [in a period of] economic adjustment, we should carry forward the unity, self-confidence and the indomitable spirit demonstrated during the war of resistance; we should cope with it proactively and properly with a prudent, cautious attitude, and seize the opportunity to accelerate economic diversification," said Chui.

GAMING

Galaxy appoints Kevin Kelley as CEO

GALAXY Entertainment Group has announced the appointment of Kevin Kelley as Chief Operating Officer, Macau, effective since yesterday. According to a press release issued by the gaming operator, Mr Kelley has 40 years of gaming, hospitality and entertainment experience. He will oversee functions such as Business Development, International Premium and Mass Market Development, Galaxy Macau, StarWorld Hotel, Broadway Macau and City Clubs Operations, as well as advancing the development plans for Galaxy Macau's phases 3 and 4. The new CEO previously held senior executive positions

at various well-known casinos and hotels in Las Vegas and Macau.

Mr Francis Lui, Vice Chairman of GEG, commented on the appointment: "It gives me great pleasure to have such an experienced executive as Mr Kevin Kelley joining GEG. We look forward to working with Mr Kelley in advancing our development plans for Phases 3 and 4, and leading GEG to new heights in becoming Asia's leading gaming and entertainment corporation."

"I am exceptionally honored to be given the opportunity to be a part of Galaxy Entertainment Group, especially at an exciting time such as this," Mr Kelley said.



Chui Sai On (center) and other guests tour the anniversary exhibition

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Catarina Pinto

NEW SCHOOL YEAR

School uniform business unlikely to wear out

THESSE are hectic and bustling days at the Pan Pan Uniform Specialist shop, near Lou Lim Ieoc Garden, as yet another school year begins. Parents and their eager, boisterous children surround the counter while vendors sort out school uniform sizes for each customer.

For many Macau children and teenagers, the school year kicked off yesterday. That means a great deal of work for Tony Kuok, the shop's assistant manager, whose father founded the business back in the 1970s.

The shop is rather crowded these days, he says, as most parents buy their kids' uniforms just a few days before school begins.

With the shop manufacturing and selling uniforms for about 10 to 15 schools, shelves are overflowing with t-shirts, shorts, skirts and pants for The International School, Costa Nunes Kindergarten, the Portuguese School (EPM), and many more.

"Usually schools like to design their own uniforms, choosing colors, forms, representations. Some schools just have very simple uniforms, while others are more detailed," Mr Kuok recalled in an interview with the Times yesterday.

Girls' uniforms are the most detailed, he acknowledged. "They are more distinctive than the male uniforms. Most girls nowadays don't like to wear skirts, actually. They prefer to wear pants. That's a trend that has been changing over recent years," he said, concluding that most schools go for a simple white dress as their uniform.

The distinctiveness of uniforms depends greatly on schools. "The Portuguese School likes [students] to wear polo shirts. It's a form of representation. [The design of uniforms] is really school-dependent. Usually it's just shirts [and pants] or dresses. So far, EPM is the most specialized one," he conceded.

Having helped to run the business for the past eight years, Mr Kuok explains how the shop relies almost entirely on their factory located in mainland China, which employs about 30 workers.



"We own a factory there, and have full control of it. But we do outsource to bigger factories at times, when they are not able to do everything by themselves. Most shops have their own factory or have some kind of system that they can control," he revealed.

School uniforms are always in business

TONY KUOK

Mr Kuok said that most school uniform businesses choose to set up their own factories, as relying on outsourcing might be trickier.

The price varies depending on fabric quality, or how it's been produced, but parents can expect a 5- to 10-percent price increase each year. Depending on the school, a kindergarten uniform set can cost about MOP100.

At his shop, they aren't the only party having a say in the uniforms' pricing. The school receives a copy of the prices and then submits it to the Education and Youth Affairs Bureau, he said.

China's economy has slowed down recently and Macau's gaming revenue has continued to decline over the past 15 months.

The economic turmoil has not gone unnoticed by uniform business owners. Mr Kuok said that if parents bought more than one uniform set last year, this year they have chosen to buy just one set and buy more later on, if needed.

Nevertheless, he acknowledged, "School uniforms are always in business as long as people are still having to use them." The fabric business, however, sees more fluctuation, according to Mr Kuok.

CASINO DEMAND DEPRESSED BY DOWNTURN

THE UNIFORM business for local casinos has been impacted by the economic downturn, says Tony Kuok, assistant manager at Pan Pan Uniform Specialist shop. He recalled that they had sold a higher volume of uniforms for casino VIP rooms' employees in previous years. But now that the gaming revenue has continued to decline for the fifteenth straight month in August, business is not what it used to be. Nevertheless, Mr Kuok said that, even if the local economy does not experience signs of improvement, there's still a next wave of Cotai resorts being shaped. "They will still need uniforms," he said.

They resort to the Hong Kong market to buy fabrics, given that quality-control standards are higher there, although fabrics still come from mainland China. "To be safe, we buy fabrics in Hong Kong even though it's a little bit more expensive," he added.

The business has changed greatly since his father first opened the store. Back then, the shop specialized in all different sorts of uniforms, selling for restaurants, hotels and for customers in mainland China. Back then, many business owners would actually produce uniforms here. "We even had a mini-factory here in Macau. But, right now, we do everything in my factory in China," he said.

The shop also sells other types of uniforms, but currently focuses mostly on school uniforms. Although the store is open all year round, business volume is higher between July and August when they sell summer uniforms, and in November when parents buy winter ones.



No decision on Fisherman's Wharf height limit

The Chief Executive has responded to public concerns over plans to build a high-rise tower at Fisherman's Wharf, saying that the decision hasn't yet been made regarding the building's height limit. In light of the controversy, he said that the developer is entitled to propose their requests in compliance with the law. However, the Urban Planning Committee is yet to further discuss the matter, and will not do so until after the government's research report comes out.



New library expected to open by 2020

Brook Yang

THE new Central Library, which will be built inside the old courthouse and the former Judiciary Police headquarters at Praia Grande, is expected to open to the public in 2020. The president of the Cultural Affairs Bureau, Ung Vai Meng, assured heritage conservationists that the original building would not be undermined by the new tower soaring above it.

Asked about when the new facility would be open to citizens, Ung apologized to the public and pleaded for understanding. "This is the largest project we've ever taken on, the design and construction are very complicated. Previously we considered several locations for the site, but they didn't work out; so we thought, why don't we make good use of the existing properties we possess?" he explained, revealing that the building will comprise 11 or 12 stories, including the basement. All up, the bureau's president indicated that the new library would be "far bigger than the capacity of the Sir Robert Ho Tung Library."



Aspect of the new Taipa Library

The bureau held an opening ceremony for the Taipa Library yesterday, officially inaugurating what is currently the largest public library in Macau, after it passed trial operations that began on April 15.

Situated underground, beneath the Taipa Central Park, the library is about 2,200 square meters in total area, with an estimated storage capacity of up to 150,000 volumes and approximately 400 seats for reading.

One of its highlights is the Children's section. With a specially designated theme for parents and kids, it offers over 30,000 children's volumes, offering the most significant collection of all the branch libraries.

"Other features such as a nursery room, a baby-trolley parking area and a children's theatre are also available. Besides, the library has organized several activities for parents and children, which were highly appreciated by the public," the IC indicated.

The Taipa Library also has the largest multimedia room out of all Macau's public libraries, offering over 7,000 multimedia materials. Aside from providing various types of movies in the film room, the library also plans to organize regular workshops, seminars and art education activities.

Taking into consideration the characteristics of the residential population distribution in Taipa, the authorities have also increased the number of foreign reading materials and the corresponding multimedia equipment in the library.

"This makes the library parti-

cularly rich in foreign-language materials," it stated, adding that it is also the first library affiliated with the IC that operates a self-check system to allow self-service for book loans and returns.

Officiating the library, the Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture, Alexis Tam, told media that the government will continue increasing investment in public libraries in order to "facilitate civil education, cultivate citizens' reading habits, and promote a culture of reading in society." Moreover, he said that the service hours of libraries are expected to be extended to operating around the clock.

With earlier statistics showing that residents are borrowing fewer books from public libraries, the Director of the Macao Central Library, Tang Mei Lin, explained that people's reading habits have changed in recent years along with their busy lifestyles, the popularity of electronic books, and their desire to spend spare time in the library. In order to better develop Macau's public libraries, the IC has scheduled a survey on library services to be conducted within the year.

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Sands introduces gastronomic journey through festive week



SANDS Resorts Cotai Strip Macao and Sands Macao rolled out their selected menus yesterday, created to mark the festive week of Mid-Autumn Festival and National Day at the end of the month.

The four Chinese-cuisine restaurants belonging to the groups will have their own limited editions of offerings available in different periods, catering to a wide spectrum of foodies. The northern Chinese-

style restaurant, North, which is situated on the Venetian Macao's premises, will surprise its guests with its selection of authentic "Dong Bei" dishes from September 25 to October 11; prices will start at MOP128. Guests dining there between Sept 25 and 27 will receive an additional festive treat in the form of northern-style moon cake, served with green tea and mixed nuts.

Another restaurant, also un-

der the same roof of the resort, is Canton, which was recently granted the Best of Award of Excellence for its wine list for the third consecutive year by Wine Spectator magazine. The Cantonese-style eatery will tickle its diners' palates with two limited-edition menus consisting of six courses each, priced at MOP880 and MOP1000 per person, from September 25 to October 11.

Conrad Macao's Dynasty 8, the home of classic and high-end Chinese cuisine and featured on the list of Hong Kong Tatler's Best Restaurants of 2015, has a seasonal Chinese menu priced at MOP880 per person, which will be available exclusively on the day of Mid-Autumn Festival.

Delicacy seekers can also sample Sands Macao's Golden Court, with 10 traditional dishes on its selected menu available from September 19 to 27. This has been priced at MOP 1,980 per table of six.

Staff reporter

Macau Cable TV drops EPL games

MACAU Cable Television (MCTV) may not be airing any more English Premier League (EPL) matches in the years to come unless Super Sports Media Group, the nation's exclusive broadcast rights holder of the games, relaxes its prices, says John Chiang, chief commercial officer of the subscription television network.

Earlier this month, MCTV's chief executive officer, Angela Lam In Nie, said that the two parties were locked in a standoff over the cost of the rights. Chiang told the Times yesterday that the cable television supplier missed not only last year's matches, but also this year's, as the two companies were "divided on the terms in the agreement."

Chiang added that the two companies have yet to go through the details. However, the price asked for the EPL television rights, which is roughly fivefold the price charged in 2013, was the major reason behind the failed partnership. In fact,



AP PHOTO
Arsenal's Mesut Ozil, right, challenges for the ball with Liverpool's Lucas Leiva during the EPL match between Arsenal and Liverpool at Emirates stadium in London, Monday, Aug. 24

the Beijing-based broadcaster has granted even fewer games to MCTV at the increased price. Chiang refused to disclose more details, but stressed that the company may not be broadcasting the Barclays Premier League in the near future unless these charges are reduced. **Staff reporter**

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For application details, please visit <http://www.ift.edu.mo/JobVacancies>.

For enquiries, please send to Job Vacancies On-line enquiry <http://www.ift.edu.mo/JobEnquiry>.

Gambling revenue plunges 35.5 pct as new casinos fail to spark visits

Catherine Chen

MACAU'S casino malaise deepened in August, with gaming revenue falling a 15th straight month as the recent opening of new gambling resorts failed to rouse a return of mainland Chinese visitors over the popular school holiday season.

Gross gaming revenue fell 35.5 percent to MOP18.6 billion (USD2.3 billion), widening from July's 34.5 percent drop, data from Macau's Gaming Inspection and Coordination Bureau showed. That compared with the median estimate of a 37.8 percent fall from seven analysts surveyed by Bloomberg.

The casino downturn has dragged Macau's GDP to its lowest since 2011 as an economic slowdown in China curbed visits by mass market gamblers and high-rollers avoided the city amid Beijing's crackdown on graft.



An employee directs passengers to board a shuttle bus for Galaxy Macau casino resort

While operators hoped new projects including Galaxy Entertainment Group Ltd.'s two casinos opened in May would revive demand, travel to Macau fell in July with visitors from China - the biggest group - down 6.1 percent.

"After the opening of Galaxy phase two in May, the downward trend of gaming revenue has been remaining steady, which means incremental revenue brought by the new opening is basically zero," said Richard

Huang, an analyst at Nomura Holdings Inc. "The tougher call is when the mass market can really offset the destruction of high-end demand."

Galaxy's table-only market share fell to 21.4 percent over the Aug. 1 to 23 period, from 23 percent in July, while rival Sands China Ltd.'s grew to 24.6 percent from 23.4 percent, according to data from Barclays Plc.

Macau casino shares closed lower, with Galaxy falling 3.6 percent and Sands China down

2.4 percent by the end of trading in Hong Kong. The benchmark Hang Seng Index dipped 2.2 percent.

Gross gaming revenue has fallen 36.5 percent year-to-date. August's deeper decline reversed an easing in the industry since February when monthly revenue plunged by a record 48.6 percent.

In response to the casino industry downturn, Macau will cut public spending by about MOP1.4 billion in the fiscal year of 2015, reducing costs in areas such as the purchase of daily supplies and third-party services, according to a government statement posted yesterday.

As Macau's casino revenue dipped, the government may have been motivated to boost gaming revenue by allowing Chinese passport holders to visit more frequently and stay longer starting from July, while being "lenient" on the execution of a proposed smoking ban, Nomura's Huang said.

Macau lawmakers are reviewing a bill to ban smoking on all the gambling floors, a discussion that could take a year to complete. Galaxy is "pleased" the government has "indicated some flexibility and are open-minded to consider the retention of smoking lounges" as the move would be positive for the industry, the company had said in August.

China's devaluation of yuan may hinder Macau's hoped-for recovery as the weakening currency alone will have an 8 to 10 percent downward impact on mass gross gaming revenue in 2016, Daiwa Securities Co. analysts led by Jamie Soo wrote in a research note last month.

As the yuan weakened against the U.S. dollar in the past month, converting the Chinese currency to the greenback-pegged Hong Kong dollars will cost gamblers more, the Daiwa analysts wrote. Local casinos mainly accept Hong Kong dollars. **Bloomberg**

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- Capacity to handle pressure.

Responsible for:

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2. Coordinate the architectural and theming consultants
3. Oversee the design management process to ensure the design quality
4. Perform a key role in project planning, budgeting, and identification of resources needed.
5. Create the teams, develop the objectives/goals of each and assign individual responsibilities.
6. Ensure that construction activities move according to predetermined schedule.
7. Devise the project work plans and make revisions as and when need arises.
8. Communicate effectively with the contractors responsible for completing various phases of the project.
9. Co-ordinate the efforts of all parties involved in the project, which include the architectural consultants, contractors, sub-contractors.
10. Monitor the progress of the construction activities on a regular basis and hold regular status meetings with all the sub-contractors.
11. Maintain strict adherence to the budgetary guidelines, quality and safety standards.
12. Regular inspection of construction sites.
13. Ensure project documents are complete.
14. Identify the elements of project design and construction likely to give rise to disputes and claims.

Interested parties please inquire within at ricardo@legend-tec.com

China factory indexes ebb in new sign of economic weakness

Kelvin Chan
Business Writer, Hong Kong

CHINESE manufacturing showed further signs of weakness in August, adding to evidence of an inexorable slowdown in the world's No. 2 economy despite recent government efforts to support growth.

Two factory activity indexes released yesterday were at multi-year lows.

An official manufacturing index based on a survey of factory purchasing managers fell last month to 49.7, the lowest level since August 2012, from 50.0 in July.

The index, compiled by the Chinese Federation for Logistics and Purchasing, is based on a 100-point scale on which numbers above 50 indicate expansion.

A separate survey, the Caixin purchasing managers' index, fell to a six-year low of 47.3 from 47.8 in July, although the number was slightly better than a preliminary reading released last month.

Caixin's survey focuses on smaller, private enterprises while the federation's survey is weighted toward larger, state-owned companies in China's manufacturing industry, which employs tens of millions. Taken together, the surveys provide a bleak picture of stubborn weakness in the overall economy.

With the official index falling below the "critical" 50-point mark, "manufacturing has insufficient growth momentum," National Bureau of Statistics economist Zhao Qinghe wrote in an analysis of the data.

Some analysts said the weakness



A sign with the words "Trading area" hangs near a brokerage in Beijing

may not be as bad as headline numbers suggest because it stems from temporary factory shutdowns in Beijing and nearby Tianjin in August. Authorities have been trying to reduce air pollution ahead of a massive military parade in the capital tomorrow to mark the end of the 70th anniversary of Japan's World War II surrender.

China's economic growth held steady at 7 percent in the latest quarter ending in June, which was the weakest performance since the 2008 global crisis. Officials hope to maintain the growth rate for the rest of the year but many economists doubt the target will be met.

In the latest attempt to shore up flagging economic growth, China's communist leaders cut interest rates last week, the fifth time they have done so in nine months.

The rate cut had been expected after a slew of disappointing recent economic indicators, including a

larger-than-expected 8.3 percent decline in July exports, weak retail sales growth and slowing industrial production and investment.

Last month's business sentiment was also weighed down by sharp declines in China's stock market and a surprise currency devaluation that roiled markets worldwide and a devastating explosion in the busy port of Tianjin.

"Recent volatilities in global financial markets could weigh down on the real economy, and a pessimistic outlook may become self-fulfilling," said He Fan, Caixin Insight Group's chief economist.

"Macroeconomic regulations and controls must continue and fresh reform measures must be introduced. Fine-tuning should go hand in hand with speedier implementation of structural reform in order to release the full potential of growth and lead the market to confidence." AP

India's antitrust probe into Google moves into next phase

A lengthy investigation into whether Google has been abusing its dominance of Internet search to stifle competition in India is moving into its next phase.

The preliminary findings of the three-year-old probe have been submitted to the Competition Commission of India and to Google.

The inquiry revolved around complaints filed by several websites contending that Google has been unfairly highlighting its own services in its influential search results at the expense of its rivals.

The allegations are similar to other accusations of illegal self-promotion in the U.S., Europe and other parts of the world.

Google has until Sept. 10 to respond to the preliminary findings in India, although that deadline could be extended.

Google says it is confident it will be cleared of wrongdoing in India.

The Mountain View, California, company is already facing allegations in Europe that it rigged its shopping results to thwart rivals. European regulators are still examining whether Google manipulated other types of search results to keep traffic away from sites that could diminish its advertising sales.

Google has denied the allegations in Europe. If it loses the case in Europe, Google could be fined more than USD6 billion.

Antitrust regulators in the U.S. wrapped up a probe into Google's practices in 2013 without requiring that the company make any major changes to how it ranks websites. AP



Sundar Pichai, senior vice president of Android, Chrome and Apps, waves after speaking during the Google I/O 2015 keynote presentation in San Francisco

corporate bits

MELCO REINFORCES RESPONSIBLE GAMING CULTURE



To reinforce and promote responsible gaming, Melco Crown Entertainment Limited launched a company-wide online quiz and set up game booths in its Heart of House employee facilities to strengthen its employees' knowledge of responsible gaming. A total of 9,600 Melco Crown Entertainment employees participated in the quiz.

The guests of honor who atten-

ded the final stage of the quiz and presented the prizes included Ms. Serene Chan, Head of the Research and Investigation Department of the Gaming Inspection and Coordination Bureau; Ms. Bonnie Wu, Coordinator of the Social Welfare Bureau's Resilience Centre-Problem Gambling Counseling Service; Dr. Davis Fong, Director of the University of Macau's Institute for the

Study of Commercial Gaming; Mr. Austin Vong, President of the Macau Juvenile Volunteer Association, and Mr. Lee Kwok Hoo, Service Director of the Sheng Kung Hui Macau Social Services Coordination Office.

Ms. Serene Chan Ioc Sut, Head of the Gaming Inspection and Coordination Bureau's Research and Investigation Department said, "I am glad to see that Melco Crown Entertainment has launched such a meaningful activity. The event has drawn much attention from the majority of their employees. The promotion of responsible gaming is a long-term commitment for Macau society. Gaming practitioners are at the forefront to identify problem gaming and we are very supportive to gaming operators on strengthening their employees' knowledge in responsible gaming."

MGM CHINA RECEIVES 2015 ASHRAE TECHNOLOGY AWARD



MGM China has been recognized by the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) for achievements in energy efficiency by being awarded the Regional Technology Award for the Asia Pacific Region for innovative energy

conservation projects completed at MGM Macau.

The Award recognizes the achievements by members who have successfully applied innovative building design in the areas of indoor environmental quality and energy conservation. Performance is measured

through one year's verified operating data following the design implementation. The ASHRAE Technology Awards presentation ceremony took place in Manila, The Philippines, on August 22.

"The success of these projects was driven by the thoughtful planning and execution by our two local managers at MGM Macau, Mr. Kevin Pong and Mr. Adam Vong. We are particularly proud to win this year's ASHRAE Technology award as it is a reflection not only of the successful implementation of our efficiency strategies, but also the execution and energy savings measured following the initiative," said Mr. Peter Chan, Director of Facilities Management.

PORTUGAL

Economy grows 1.5 percent in 2nd quarter



Pedestrians walk and browse in stores along the Rua do Bonjardim, in the center of Porto, Portugal

PORTUGAL'S economy grew 1.5 percent year-on-year in the second quarter of the year and 0.4 percent over the previous quarter, indicate figures released on Monday in Lisbon by the National Statistics Institute (INE).

The figures are in line with the flash estimate of quarterly national accounts released by the INE on 14 August, whereby gross domestic product (GDP) was up 1.5 percent year-on-year in the second quarter of this year, a change rate "the same as in the first quarter."

The INE notes the positive contribution of domestic demand, "mainly due to the growth of private consumption", while "the net external demand contribution was negative," with imports up 12.3 percent and ex-

All domestic demand components were positive

ports up 7.8 percent.

Domestic demand increased by 3.4 percent, up 1.6 percentage points over the first quarter figure.

All domestic demand components were positive, with private consumption up 3.3 percent (2.5 percent in the previous quarter), public consumption up 0.5 percent (after shrinking 0.4 percent) and investment up 7 percent over the same period last year. **MDT/Macauhub**

East-Timor president begins first official visit to China

THE President of East-Timor, Taur Matan Ruak, yesterday began his first official visit to China, during which various meetings and ceremonies will take place, indicates a statement released on Monday in Dili.

Taur Matan Ruak will remain in China until 5 September. He is accompanied by Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Minister Hernâni Coelho and other high-ranking officials.

The statement released by the president's office explained that the visit aims to "thank China for having been the first country to recognise the declaration of independence of East Timor on 28 November 1975 and to establish diplomatic relations with East Timor when independence was restored on 20 May 2002."



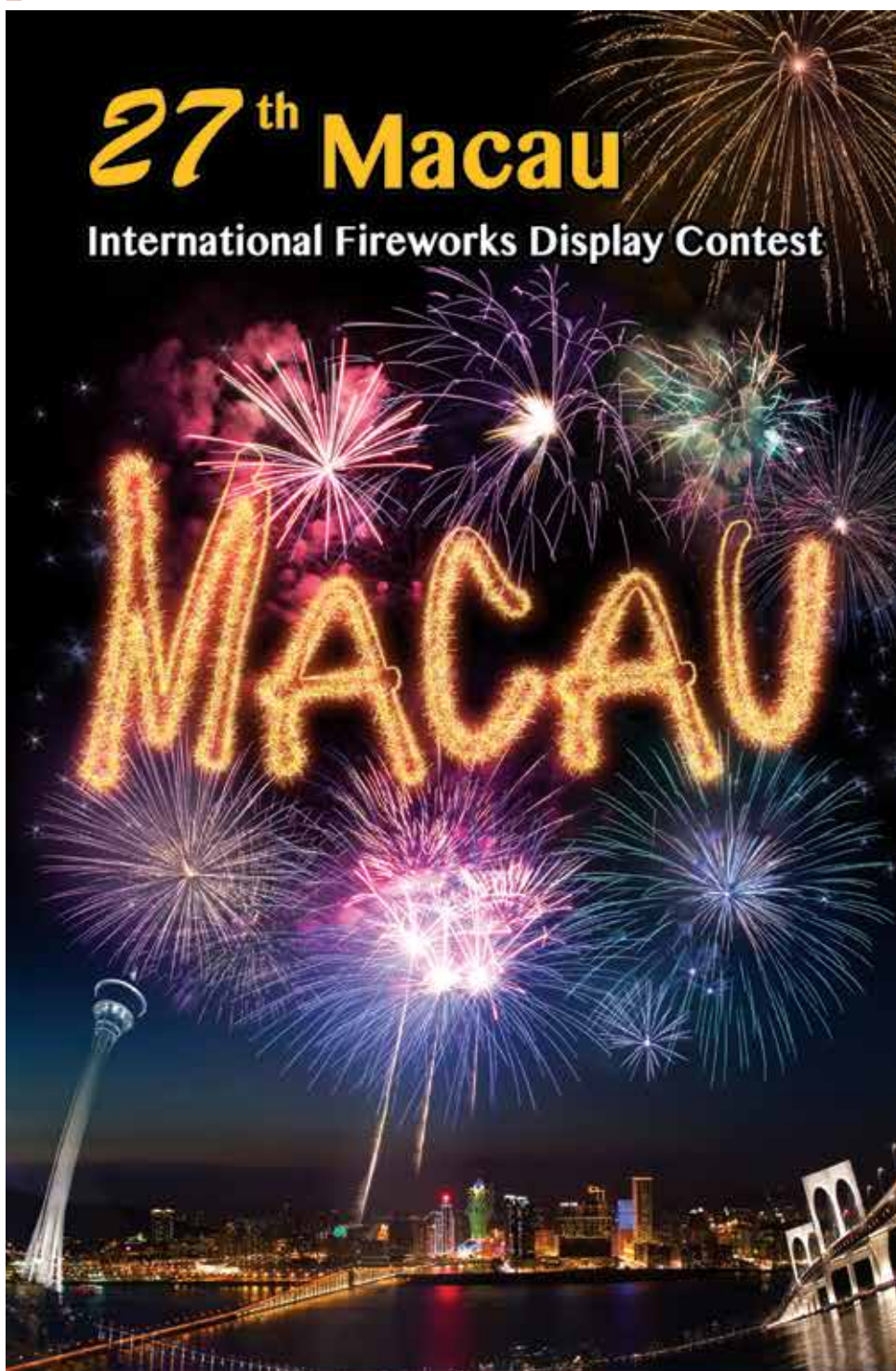
The President of East-Timor, Taur Matan Ruak

During the visit the president also aims to thank China for its "contribution to the development of East Timor and to enhance cooperation between the two countries." That cooperation can be augmented "in the scope of the New Silk Route, given East Timor's strategic geo-

graphic location in the Asia/Pacific region."

Taur Matan Ruak also plans to invite Chinese leaders to take part this coming 28 November in commemorations of the 40th anniversary of East Timor's declaration of independence, to be held in the Oecusse enclave. **MDT/Macauhub**

AD



5, 12, 19, 27 / 9, 1 / 10 / 2015

21:00 & 21:40

Sea Area in front of the Macau Tower

PROGRAM

5/9 (Saturday)	12/9 (Saturday)	19/9 (Saturday)
21:00 Malaysia Red Flame Special Effects Sdn. Bhd	21:00 Finland Suomen Ilotallitus Oy	21:00 Korea Daehan Fireworks Co
21:40 Portugal Grupo Luso Pirotecnia	21:40 Chinese Taiwan Yung-feng Firecrackers & Fireworks Co, Ltd	21:40 Italy PARENTE FIREWORKS GROUP S.R.L.
27/9 (Sunday)	1/10 (Thursday)	
21:00 France artEventia	21:00 Australia Howard & Sons Pyrotechnics (Displays) Pty Limited	
21:40 Austria FIREevent, Die Feuerwerker	21:40 China Dancing Fireworks Group, Co Ltd	



International Fireworks Display Contest



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Authorities urged to free reporter detained for stock market story

THE Committee to Protect Journalists is urging Chinese authorities to release a reporter accused of spreading false information on the country's stock market meltdown, calling it the latest act of media intimidation by President Xi Jinping's administration.

On Monday, a state broadcaster showed Wang Xiaolu, a reporter for privately owned financial magazine *Caijing*, confessing that he wrote a false report that "caused such a great damage to the country and stock investors."

Press freedom groups say

AP PHOTO



An investor monitors a display showing the Shanghai Composite Index at a brokerage in Beijing

Blaming the stock market crisis on a lone reporter is beyond absurd

CHRISTOPHE DELOIRE
SECRETARY-GENERAL, REPORTERS
WITHOUT BORDERS

China's leaders are seeking scapegoats for the collapse of a stock market bubble that

was engineered by government policies. China's benchmark Shanghai Composite Index is

down more than 31 percent since early June when months of sizzling gains, that were

cheered along by state media, began to unravel.

Caijing said last week that Wang had been detained in relation to a July 20 article about the China Securities Regulatory Commission, the market regulator, considering ending interventions aimed at stabilizing share prices. The Commission immediately denied the report. It regularly made interventions up to mid-August.

The official Xinhua News Agency reported that Wang's story caused "abnormal fluctuations" in the market.

Bob Dietz, the Asia program coordinator for the Committee to Protect Journalists, called on authorities to immediately release Wang.

"A statement aired by a state-run broadcaster, before the 'suspect' has ever appeared in court, shows the lengths to which the Xi Jinping government will go to intimidate journalists," Dietz said in a statement.

Reporters Without Borders' secretary-general Christophe Deloire said last week: "Blaming the stock market crisis on a lone reporter is beyond absurd."

Chinese journalists have been shown on television appearing to confess in the past, including 71-year-old Gao Yu, who was sentenced in April to seven years in prison on a charge of disclosing state secrets. **AP**

TAIWAN

Swipe card with porn star image sells out in 4 hours

AP PHOTO



Two special edition swipe cards for Taiwan's mass transit are seen on display featuring the clothed image of 27-year-old, Japanese porn star Yui Hatano, in Taipei

Ralph Jennings, Taipei

A special edition swipe card for Taiwan's mass transit featuring the clothed image of a Japanese porn star sold out within hours overnight via a telephone hotline, despite a storm of opposition.

Taiwan's EasyCard Corp. said on its website that it sold its full run of 15,000 card sets by 4:18 a.m. yesterday after phone orders started at midnight.

The stored value cards — also used for convenience store purchases — feature images of Yui Hatano, a 27-year-old Japanese woman who local media say likes Taiwan and wants to help the card company's charity donation scheme.

Hatano, also popular in Japan, is pictured from the elbows up and clothed. A pose on the cards' wrapper appears with the word "angels" and another is accompanied by the word "demons."

Critics, including parents, politicians and women's advocacy groups, campaigned against the cards, saying the images disrespect women and send inappropriate messages to children. Many stores declined to sell them, and the company ended up offering them via telephone hotline only.

Taipei Mayor Ko Wen-je, whose government is a 40 percent investor in the swipe card company, had asked that the cards avoid being "openly sold," such as at convenience

stores or metro stations, deputy city spokesman David Huang said.

"The city government believes that because a controversy exists, there's no need to do this sale," Huang said yesterday.

Taiwanese went for the cards because they look up to Japanese culture, one metro rider said. "It's culture worship, like when you're young and collect cards with cartoon stars like Doraemon," she said.

Japanese cultural icons commonly appear in children's books and on items such as stationery and smartphone cases. With nearly 3 million arrivals last year, Taiwanese rank as the top source of tourism to Japan, which was also its colonizer for five decades before the end of World War II.

The 15-year-old swipe card company, which has sold more than 20 million cards including co-branded editions, apologized online for the dispute and pledged to do an internal review.

"In the future we will continue to strengthen public service and social responsibility," the company said in a statement on its website yesterday.

Local media say proceeds from the USD15.4 card set sales will go to charity. Company spokespeople were not available for comment. **AP**

Chemical factory explodes in Shandong, killing 1

A chemical factory exploded in eastern China, killing one person, a state-run local news website reported yesterday, nearly three weeks after massive chemical warehouse explosions in the country exposed lax enforcement of safety regulations.

The Dongying News website — run by the Dongying city government — said the factory in Lijin county in Shandong province exploded at 11:22 p.m. Monday and the fire was brought under control about five hours later.

Dongying News said that six executives of the company that runs the factory, Shandong Binyuan Chemical Co. Ltd., have been detained and that the explosion is under investigation.

The company, located in the Lijin Binhai Economic and Technological Development Zone, says on its website that it has the capacity to produce 20,000 tons of adhesive materials annually. No one was available to comment at the company.

Calls to the Lijin county propaganda department were hung up. People answering calls to the police and fire offi-



Residents place flowers at a memorial near their building for victims of the Tianjin blasts in northeastern China's Tianjin municipality

ces said they had no information.

The area is 300 kilometers away from Tianjin, where blasts on Aug. 12 at warehouses storing hazardous chemicals killed at least 158 people, most of whom were firefighters. The warehouses were closer to homes than is allowed under safety regulations, and they were storing too much hazardous material — including 700 tons of sodium cyanide.

Authorities are investigating wrongdoing in permit approvals and regulation of the warehouse company, Ruihai International Logistics, and have detained 12 company employees and executives and 11 government officials. **AP**

Christopher Bodeen, Beijing

RUSSIAN leader Vladimir Putin, South Korean President Park Geun-hye and U.N. Secretary General Ban Ki-moon shine at the top of China's guest list at this week's grand commemorations of the 70th anniversary of Japan's defeat in World War II. After them, the wattage gets pretty low.

Beijing says the attendance of 30 overseas leaders from countries ranging from Mongolia to Egypt to Venezuela is a sign that China's long-undervalued contributions to that hallowed victory in 1945 are finally getting their proper due.

That's clouded, however, by the absence of high-level representatives from major Western democracies whose forces played a key role in the Allied victory, such as the United States, Britain, France and Australia. Given Beijing's political repression at home and its aggressive moves to assert territorial claims abroad, many countries appear reluctant to associate too closely with an event calculated to elevate the Communist Party and its leader, President Xi Jinping, on the world stage.

China tomorrow celebrates what it calls the Victory of the Chinese People's Resistance Against Japanese Aggression and World Anti-Fascist War, which marks the day after Japan formally surrendered to the Allies aboard a U.S. naval ship 70 years ago. Four years later, Mao Zedong's Communists overthrew the Nationalists who had led the fight against Japan, and established the People's Republic that endures to this day as a one-party autocratic state.

The festivities in Beijing will be centered on a massive military parade featuring more than 12,000 troops, scores of warplanes and more than 500 pieces of hardware including tanks, artillery and intercontinental ballistic missiles.

Britain, Germany and Japan are dispatching only retired government leaders, including former British Prime Minister Tony Blair. The U.S. will be represented only by its ambassador to China, Max Baucus.

Just one head of state from a European Union country will attend: Czech President Milos Zeman.

"I think one has to understand that there has always been an uneasiness (about) these kinds of military parades," said Hans Dietmar Schweisgut, the EU's top diplomat in Beijing.

Even Kim Jong Un of North Korea, which counts China as its closest ally, is giving the event a skip, instead sending the secretary of the ruling Korean Workers Party, Choe Ryong Hae. That's perhaps par for the course given that Kim has never left his authoritarian

WWII parade draws Putin, but few other major world leaders



Chinese honor guard members march in formation at an arrival ceremony for Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir at Beijing Capital International Airport

nation since taking power in late 2011.

A grab-bag of nations, meanwhile, has dispatched contingents totaling about 1,000 soldiers to march in the parade, among them Cuba, Pakistan, Cambodia, Venezuela and the tiny Pacific island state of Vanuatu. Another 31 countries, including France, Poland and South Korea, are sending what are described as "high-level military delegations."

If China is disappointed by the turnout, it hasn't let on. This is the first time Beijing has invited such a broad range of foreign leaders to a military parade, and the first time it has held such an event to commemorate the end of the war.

"We have invited leaders of relevant countries to join the Chinese people to celebrate this great day. But it is their

own decision. For us, we respect and welcome all guests," Vice Foreign Minister Zhang Ming said late last month.

The Global Times, a newspaper published by the party mouthpiece, People's Daily, has cited experts as saying the turnout "indicates the worldwide acknowledgment of China's long-ignored contribution to the Asian battlefield during World War II as well as China's rising global status."

The mass display of marching troops and the latest Chinese hardware will showcase China's rising military might. It's also a warning of the consequences of crossing China, although Beijing maintains that the parade is strictly about commemorating past sacrifices and demonstrating its commitment to safeguarding peace.

The spectacle shows the result of two decades of double-digit annual percentage defense budget increases that have transformed the 2.3 million-member People Liberation Army and pushed annual defense spending to USD145 billion this year, the second-most after the United States.

It comes as China has drawn growing criticism over its moves to shore up its territorial claims in the South China Sea, including with the creation of entirely new islands out of and atolls and coral reefs, complete with airstrips and berths for large naval vessels. At the same

time, Beijing has pressed its claim to unoccupied East China Sea islands controlled by Tokyo, a dispute that erupted into days of anti-Japanese rioting across China in 2012.

Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe has passed on his invitation, sending a China-friendly predecessor, Tomiichi Murayama, in his place. The Philippines, with whom China has tangled most in the South China Sea, is sending former president Joseph Estrada. India, China's other chief regional rival, is sending former army chief of staff Gen. V.K. Singh.

The U.S. government, in addition to being concerned about China's South China Sea island-building, would be wary of seeming to endorse Beijing's military buildup at a time of tightening U.S. defense budgets, and of offending Japan, said June Teufel Dreyer, a China politics expert at the University of Miami.

The parade's anti-Japan subtext is difficult to miss.

In addition to the event's official title, Chinese propaganda in recent weeks has ramped up its constant drumbeat of outrage over Tokyo's war crimes, warnings over resurgent Japanese militarism and condemnation of the current Japanese leadership. "Japan and its leaders have to give neighboring countries enough reason to shelve the past look to a better

future with Japan," the official China Daily newspaper said in an editorial yesterday.

"There's the optics in terms of our relations with Tokyo, of participating in an event that rubs it in the nose of our ally once again," Dreyer said. "Then there's the Obama administration's desire to avoid further domestic criticism for its supine attitude toward China's assertiveness."

In a similar sign of opprobrium, Washington refrained from sending a ranking official to similar commemorations in Moscow over the spring. The U.S. "probably doesn't want to be perceived as favoring one side versus the other," Dreyer said.

Western leaders "would prefer not to be used in a highly propagandistic, anti-Japanese show by China," said David Zweig, an expert on Chinese politics at Hong Kong's University of Science and Technology.

China firmly rejects any notion of an anti-Tokyo parade agenda.

Asked about Abe's decision not to accept an invitation, the Foreign Ministry's Zhang responded that China has "stressed several times that the celebrations are not targeting specific countries, not Japan, nor the Japanese people.

"It has no direct link to current Sino-Japanese relations," Zhang said. **AP**

Western leaders 'would prefer not to be used in a highly propagandistic, anti-Japanese show by China'

DAVID ZWEIG
CHINESE POLITICS EXPERT, HKUST

SINGAPORE

Ruling party faces unprecedented electoral contest

Annabelle Liang, Singapore

SINGAPORE'S political parties officially started campaigning yesterday for general elections in which, for the first time in the island-nation's history, the ruling People's Action Party faces contests in all available seats.

Although the PAP is expected to return to power in the Sept. 11 elections, the vote will demonstrate the growing strength of the opposition, which had largely remained emasculated for decades. It is now riding an anti-establishment wave, thanks to the disenchantment with the ruling party over the rising cost of living, restrictions on freedom of expression, and a rising tide of immigration to fill not only low-paying jobs but also middle and high-paying positions.

"Last time I was not interested in politics, I didn't care. But the more I look at it now, the more I feel it isn't right," said Jon Chan, 52, who is unemployed.

"We are turning our citizens into a minority, and giving Sin-



Singapore's Prime Minister and Secretary General of the ruling People's Action Party Lee Hsien Loong, front center, makes his way to an election nomination center with other party members yesterday

gapore to foreigners on a silver platter. We should have a Singaporean Singapore," he said.

Singapore citizens currently make up 61 percent of the country's 5.47 million people, many of them recent migrants. The population is expected to increase to 6.5 million or even 6.9 million by 2030 of which 45 percent will be foreigners, partly to tackle low birth rates.

While official campaigning started yesterday, most parties have already introduced their candidates through press con-

ferences, videos and savvy mobile applications.

Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong urged voters to give his party — in power since Singapore's birth 50 years ago — a "fresh and strong mandate" in setting the direction for the next 50 years.

"The PAP will fight to win every vote. Your future is at stake. Our future is at stake. And the PAP carries a heavy responsibility for this future," said Lee, 63.

The current parliament has

87 elected seats, of which the PAP holds 80 and the opposition Workers' Party 7. In the Sept. 11 elections, the number of seats will be raised to 89.

While it may appear that the PAP won the 2011 general election by a landslide, it did so with 60 percent of all votes in its worst electoral performance. Since then it has lost two by-elections.

An electoral system in which some constituencies are represented by a group of four to six lawmakers has helped to boost the winning party's numbers. This time, 16 wards will be contested in groups, while 13 others will be contested individually. In previous elections, the PAP's power was so absolute that the opposition could not even gather enough candidates to contest all constituencies.

But over the years, the opposition began attracting more supporters and candidates willing to contest, despite knowing that they will most likely lose.

In 2011, the only constituency left uncontested was the

five-member ward of Tanjong Pagar, led by Singapore's founding father and former Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew, who died in March at age 91. Lee, the father of the current prime minister, is widely credited with Singapore's progress from a colonial backwater to a modern economic hub.

This time, the opposition will field candidates in all constituencies. Still, the main opposition Workers' Party has put up candidates for 28 seats - not enough to form the government even if it wins all.

Yesterday, candidates filed their election papers at nine schools designated as nomination centers, and paid a deposit of 14,500 Singapore dollars (USD10,300) to become eligible to contest in the election.

"Sure, the key issue more broadly will be about a government and opposition movement that is able to ensure that Singapore enjoys effective and good government," said Gillian Koh, a senior research fellow at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy. **AP**

AD

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Grant Peck and
Nattasuda Anusonadisai, Bangkok

THAILAND

Prime minister says main suspect in bombing arrested

THAILAND'S prime minister said yesterday that authorities have arrested a man they believe is the main suspect in a bombing at a shrine in central Bangkok two weeks ago that killed 20 people.

Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-ocha said the man is a foreigner and was arrested in eastern Thailand near the Cambodian border. He described him as the main person in the bombing but did not directly say he is suspected of actually planting the bomb.

Prayuth said officials knew from their investigation that people involved in the bombing were about to flee the country and had traced the man to Aranyaprathet district in Sa Kaeo, a major crossing point to Cambodia. The prime minister described the man as a piece in a jigsaw puzzle that would connect various parts of the case, which included a bomb that exploded harmlessly in a river next to a busy pier in Bangkok the day after the shrine blast.

It was not immediately known if the arrested man is the person who was seen in a security video wearing a yellow T-shirt and leaving a backpack at the shrine shortly before the blast there.

Prayuth warned against speculating about the arrested man until more information is learned.

He said it would be great if the suspect is the man they are seeking, "So we will know who they are, where they came from,

AP PHOTO



This combination of file images released by the Royal Thai Police shows a sketch and a closed circuit television image of the main suspect



who's behind this."

"Don't say just yet it's about this and that. It could affect international affairs," he said. "We have to do a lot of tests, fingerprints. If he is the guy, he is the guy."

The blast at the Erawan Shrine was unprecedented in the Thai capital, where smaller bombs have been employed in domestic political violence over the

past decade, but not in an effort to cause large-scale casualties.

Security officials on Saturday arrested a man during a raid on a Bangkok apartment that contained some bomb-making materials, and Thai military authorities have been interrogating him. He has been linked to the shrine bombing, but the authorities have not yet released his name or nationality.

Arrest warrants were issued Monday for two more suspects, a Thai woman and a man of unknown nationality, after a raid Sunday on a second apartment found more bomb-making materials. Relatives of the woman who had rented the second apartment told authorities that she is innocent and is now in Turkey, married to a Turkish man.

No one has publicly claimed responsibility for the attack, sparking an array of theories about who might be behind it. Police have suggested that the suspects were part of a people-smuggling group who held a grudge against Thai authorities.

Speculation has grown that the suspect might be part of a group seeking to avenge Thailand's forced repatriation of ethnic Uighurs to China in July. Prayuth on Monday linked the two theories, suggesting the bombers might have been involved in smuggling Uighurs out of China.

Uighurs are related to Turks, and Turkey is home to a large Uighur community. The Erawan Shrine is especially popular with Chinese tourists, feeding the idea that it could be a target for people who believe the Uighurs are oppressed by China's government. Beijing says some Uighurs are Islamist terrorists, and among them is a group that has been smuggled out of China to join Islamic State fighters in Syria.

The suspect arrested Saturday had a Turkish passport, though Thai authorities say it was fake. At his apartment, they seized at least 11 passports that appeared to be Turkish, among more than 200 passports in all. AP

Australian, Thai journalists acquitted of defaming Thai navy

Papitchaya Boonngok,
Phuket

AN Australian journalist and his Thai colleague were acquitted yesterday in a criminal defamation lawsuit filed by Thailand's navy over an online news report about the trafficking of refugees from Myanmar.

Human Rights Groups immediately welcomed the acquittal but said the case should never have been brought in the first place.

Alan Morison and Chutima Sidasathien were facing up to seven years in prison over a report in their online news website "Phuketwan" saying military forces accepted money to assist or turn a blind eye to the traffi-

cking of refugees from Myanmar by sea.

They were charged with criminal defamation and offences under the draconian Computer Crimes Act.

"This is a fantastic day for us, to be free of the weight of this charge," Morison said outside the court, on the island of Phuket. "I think it's an important result for Thai media and for the media in general."

The contested report on the Phuketwan website was excerpted from an extensive story published by the Reuters news agency in July 2013. The Reuters story was part of a series that won the news agency the 2014 Pulitzer Prize for international reporting.

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

"The acquittal of these two journalists is a positive decision, but the fact is that they should never have had to stand trial in the first place," said Josef Benedict, the regional representative for Amnesty International. "Thai authorities have again shown their disregard for freedom of expression by pursuing this case."

The case came to trial following the discovery in May of dozens of bodies buried at several jungle camps on the Thai-Malaysian border where traffickers held migrants as prisoners. Many of the migrants are ethnic

Rohingya from Myanmar who face persecution at home. In many cases, the migrants pay to be smuggled by ship, but are then detained by traffickers in Thailand who hold them until their families pay ransoms.

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

However, the recent publicity about the camps prompted a Thai government crackdown on trafficking, and several dozen people were arrested, including a Thai army general and local officials.

The U.S. State Department in July said it was

AP PHOTO



Alan Morison, right, Australian editor of the website Phuketwan, and his colleague Chutima Sidasathien

keeping Thailand on its human trafficking blacklist and retained Thailand's Tier 3 ranking, the lowest ranking in its annual Trafficking in Persons report. The ranking designates Thailand as a country that has not made sufficient progress

in tackling human trafficking.

It cited persistent forced labor and sex trafficking and recommended that Thailand stop bringing criminal defamation cases against researchers or journalists who report on human trafficking. AP

USA

Obama paints doomsday scene of global warming in Alaska

Josh Lederman, Anchorage

PRESIDENT Barack Obama is painting a doomsday scenario for the Arctic and beyond if climate change isn't dealt with fast: entire nations submerged underwater, cities abandoned and refugees fleeing in droves as conflict breaks out across the globe.

It's a harrowing image of a future that Obama insists is inevitable unless the world follows his and America's lead by making sweeping cuts to greenhouse gases. Lest his sense of urgency get lost, Obama was to drive the message home yesterday by hiking a melting glacier in Alaska.

Obama is counting on Alaska's exquisite but deteriorating landscape to elicit a sense of urgency that his previous calls to action on climate change have not. He opened his three-day trip to the nation's largest state on Monday with a speech to an Arctic climate summit, calling global warming an escalating crisis already disturbing Alaskans' way of life.

"We will condemn our children to a planet beyond their capacity to repair," Obama said. Alluding ironically to the threat of rising seas, he castigated leaders who deny climate change as "increasingly alo-



President Barack Obama, right, accompanied by Secretary of State John Kerry, left, speaks at the Global Leadership in the Arctic: Cooperation, Innovation, Engagement and Resilience (GLACIER) Conference in Anchorage

ne — on their own shrinking island."

As he traverses Alaska this week, Obama will become the first sitting president to visit the Alaska Arctic. Amid concerns that the U.S. has ceded influence to Russia in strategic Arctic waters, the White House announced yesterday that it would ask Congress to speed up construction of new ice-

breakers. The U.S. currently has two working icebreakers, compared to Russia's 40.

On his first day in Alaska, Obama offered no new policy prescriptions or federal efforts to slow global warming, but said the U.S. is doing its part by working to cut emissions of heat-trapping gases by up to 28 percent over the next decade. Obama set that target

as the U.S. commitment to a major global climate treaty to be finalized in December, and has urged fellow leaders to make similarly ambitious pledges as works to secure a cornerstone of his environmental legacy.

Yet by turning to Alaska's majestic mountains and stirring coastlines to make his point on climate, Obama also

brought fresh attention to deep and persistent divisions in the U.S. over how to balance the nation's energy and environmental needs.

Heavily dependent on energy revenues, Alaska is suffering economically due to the recent plunge in oil prices, a blow made all the more poignant by the fact that the cost of energy here is exceedingly high. Alaska leaders of all political stripes have implored Obama to open up more of the state to drilling to help alleviate a USD3.5 billion budget deficit that has triggered steep cuts to state services — a critical lifeline for poor and rural Alaskans.

Yet even Obama, who has elevated global warming as a rallying point in his second term, has a complicated record on energy that has muddied his clarion call on climate.

The president has struggled to explain how his dire warnings square with steps he's taken to expand energy production, even at the risk of higher emissions. Environmental groups took particular offense at the administration's move to allow expanded drilling by Royal Dutch Shell off Alaska's northwest coast — just a few weeks before Obama came to Alaska to preach on climate change.

"The timing of President Obama's trip to Alaska and the Arctic could not be more ironic, given that his administration just approved dangerous drilling plans that put the region's well-being in serious jeopardy," said Michael Brune, the Sierra Club's executive director. **AP**

Lisa Lerer and Matthew Lee, Washington

THE State Department made public roughly 7,121 pages of Hillary Rodham Clinton's emails late Monday night (yesterday, Macau time), including 125 emails that were censored prior to their release because they contain information now deemed classified. The vast majority concerned mundane matters of daily life at any workplace: phone messages, relays of schedules and forwards of news articles.

Clinton and her aides at the State Department were acutely aware of the need to protect sensitive information when discussing international affairs over email and other forms of unsecure electronic communication, according to the latest batch of messages released by the agency

State Dept releases Clinton emails



Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Rodham Clinton speaks in Cleveland

from Clinton's tenure as secretary of state.

But in a few of the emails, Clinton and her aides noted the constraints of discussing sensitive subjects when

working outside of the government's secure messaging systems — and the need to protect such information.

Senior adviser Alec Ross, in a February 2010

email intended for Clinton, cited frustration with "the boundaries of unclassified email" in a message about an unspecified country, which Ross referred to as "the country we discussed." The email appears to focus on civil unrest in Iran during the period preceding the Green Movement, when Iranian protesters used social media and the Internet to unsuccessfully challenge the re-election of then-President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad.

In an exchange from Feb. 6, 2010, Clinton asks aide Huma Abedin for talking points for a call she's about to have with the newly appointed foreign minister of Ecuador. "You are congratulating him on

becoming foreign minister, and purpose is to establish a personal relationship with him," Abedin replied. "Trying to get u call sheet, its classified...."

In another email from January 2010, Clinton aide Cheryl Mills responds angrily to a New York Times story based on leaked classified cables sent by Karl Eikenberry, the U.S. ambassador to Afghanistan. "The leaking of classified material is a breach not only of trust, it is also a breach of the law," Mills wrote.

Clinton also expressed frustration with the State Department's treatment of certain ordinary documents as classified. After an aide noted the draft of innocuous remarks

about the Israeli-Palestinian conflict was on the State Department's classified messaging system, she responded, "It's a public statement! Just email it."

Sent a moment later, the statement merely said that U.S. and British officials would work together to promote peace. "Well that is certainly worthy of being top secret," Clinton responded sarcastically.

All those emails conversations with Clinton took place via her private email account, highlighting the challenge the front-runner for the Democratic presidential nomination faces as she struggles to explain her decision to set-up a private email server at her New York home. She now says her decision to use a personal email account to conduct government business was a mistake. **AP**

Pablo Gorondi, Budapest

HUNGARY

Gov't shuts down rail traffic for westward-bound migrants

HUNGARY suspended all rail traffic yesterday from its main terminal in Budapest and cleared the train station of hundreds of migrants trying to board trains for Austria and Germany — the hoped-for end destinations in their flight from turmoil in the Mideast and Asia.

Migrants chanting “Freedom! Freedom!” congregated outside the station after being pushed out of the building, joining hundreds more in what has become a transit zone and place of refuge for those fleeing Syria’s war and other hotspots.

Police acted shortly after authorities announced over station loudspeakers that all trains would be stopped from leaving for an indefinite period of time. Hundreds of passengers with travel documents and tickets remained in the cavernous station, some staring at information boards still showing arrival and departure times.

Scuffles broke out earlier yesterday morning as some of the hundreds of migrants pushed toward metal gates at the platform where a train was to leave for Vienna and Munich, and were blocked by police. Several said they spent hundreds of euros (dollars) for tickets after police told them they would be allowed free passage.

The closure of the station appeared prompted in part by pressure from other European Union nations trying to cope

AP PHOTO



Migrants wait to board a train to Germany at the Keleti Railway Station in Budapest

with the influx of thousands of migrants flowing through Hungary. Europe has been overwhelmed by a surge of migrants, with over 332,000 arriving so far this year, according to the International Organization for Migration.

Police in Vienna said yester-

day that 3,650 migrants arrived Monday from Hungary at the city’s Westbahnhof station, with most continuing on toward Germany.

“Allowing them to simply board in Budapest ... and watching as they are taken to the neighbor (Austria) — that’s not

politics,” Austrian Chancellor Werner Faymann told state broadcaster ORF.

While critical of Hungary, Austrian authorities also acknowledged they were overwhelmed by the thousands who arrived by rail Monday evening. Police said they did not have the

manpower to carry out effective controls, which normally would include turning back to Hungary those without proper travel documents who do not ask for asylum in Austria.

But in their search for human traffickers, Austrian authorities re-imposed controls at some of the main road border crossings from Hungary. Hungary’s Utinform, a traffic news agency, said vehicles entering Austria at the Hegyeshalom crossing on the main highway from Budapest to Vienna were backed up 6 kilometers yesterday.

Many of the migrants had entered Europe through Greece and then traveled north through Macedonia and Serbia before reaching Hungary.

In Geneva, the U.N.’s children’s agency said the number of women and children fleeing through Macedonia has tripled in the past three months — up to 3,000 people a day are passing through and roughly one in eight is a pregnant woman.

Greece’s coast guard, meanwhile, said yesterday it had rescued more than 1,000 migrants from the sea off its eastern Aegean islands in the last 24 hours. **AP**

UKRAINE

Death toll from violent protest rises to 3

Efrem Lukatsky and Yuras Karmanau, Kiev

THE death toll from violent protests in Ukraine rose to three yesterday when two more National Guard officers died from injuries suffered in a grenade explosion, officials said.

In the worst outburst of violence in Kiev since the new government took power in 2014, nationalist protesters clashed with police and National Guard troops outside Ukraine’s parliament on Monday as lawmakers took up a measure to give greater powers to Russia-backed separatists in eastern Ukraine.

About 140 people were hospitalized, most of them law enforcement officers, the Interior Ministry said. One National Guard officer died on Monday, and a second

AP PHOTO



Ukrainian protesters, one using police riot equipment, clash with police after a vote to give greater powers to the east, outside the Parliament in Kiev

died early yesterday, both as a result of injuries caused by the grenade, Interior Minister Arsen Avakov said. The National Guard reported another death in the early afternoon, saying that the third man died after a day in coma.

Most of the 100 violent protesters were members

of Svoboda, a nationalist party that holds only a handful of seats in parliament. Wielding truncheons, pipes and sticks with nails, they faced off against police carrying shields and truncheons.

About 30 protesters were detained, of whom 18 remained in custody yesterday, including

the man suspected of throwing the grenade. Avakov said he was a Svoboda member who fought in the east in one of the volunteer battalions, which are loosely controlled by the government.

President Petro Poroshenko, on a hospital visit to see the injured of-

ficers, pledged to find the organizers of the clashes who were handing out sticks and weapons like grenades.

The decentralization of power was a condition demanded by Russia for a truce signed in Belarus in February aimed at ending the fighting between Ukrainian government troops and Russia-backed separatists that has left more than 6,800 people dead since April 2014.

But Ukrainian nationalists strongly oppose the constitutional changes, saying they would threaten the country’s sovereignty and independence.

Poroshenko and his supporters insist that the constitutional amendment would devolve powers to local communities in all of Ukraine, from east to west, while making sure that Ukraine stays a unitary state.

While Ukrainian nationalists think the amendment gives too much power to the regions including the east, Russia-backed rebels there say this is not enough.

Speaking to Russian news agencies in Donetsk, rebel leader Alexander Zakharchenko criticized Poroshenko for taking out a clause that could offer sovereignty to the east and make it a part of a loose confederation within Ukraine.

Now that 265 lawmakers have given it preliminary approval, the bill comes up for the final vote where Poroshenko will need to get at least 300 votes.

A truce in eastern Ukraine brokered by Western powers in February helped to subdue the fighting but did not stop it completely. Government troops and separatists agreed last month to stop fighting by yesterday which was the first day of school in Ukraine. Both sides said yesterday that the cease-fire is holding despite sporadic exchange of rifle fire. **AP**

what's ON



CURRENCY IN THE PAST CENTURY - EXHIBITION OF MACAU'S ISSUED CURRENCY

TIME: 9am-9pm

UNTIL: September 13, 2015

VENUE: Temporary Exhibitions Gallery of the Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau Organizer: Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau, Cultural Affairs Bureau

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8988 4100 / 2882 7103

2015 ART TROUPE-IN-RESIDENCE PROGRAMME - FREE YOURSELF

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

UNTIL: November 1, 2015

ADMISSION: Free

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

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2835 4582

TEA CULTURE HOUSE

TIME: 9am-7pm daily

(Closed on Mondays, open on public holidays)

VENUE: Macau Tea Culture House, Lou Lim Ioc

Garden, Avenida do Conselheiro Ferreira de Almeida

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2882 7103 / 2858 6250

WESTERN VIEWS ON CHINA:

PAINTS OF THE 19TH CENTURY ABOUT CHINA

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

Offbeat

MIGRANTS BIKE INTO NORWAY AT REMOTE ARCTIC BORDER CROSSING

As Europe grapples with record-breaking numbers of migrants, a trickle of asylum seekers from Syria and the Mediterranean region have found an unlikely route: Through Russia to a remote Arctic border post in Norway, partly on bicycles.

Police Chief Inspector Goeran Stenseth said Monday that 151 people have crossed the border this year near the northeastern Norwegian town of Kirkenes, 2,500 kilometers northeast of Oslo.

He said that most of the migrants are from Syria, with some from Turkey and Ukraine, and that they mainly cross in motor vehicles although some have resorted to arriving on bicycles because the Storskog border post is not open to pedestrians, in line with a Norwegian-Russian border agreement.

"There have been about 100 during the past two months, at least 50 in July and looks like August will be much the same," he told The Associated Press. "But the conditions will be bad soon. It's getting colder by the day... Soon no one will be able to bike, that's for sure."

Russians often drive the asylum seekers over the border, raising the possibility that the route has been organized and could possibly be classed as human trafficking.

"It's too early to say, but we are continuing to look into it and will talk to the Russian border officials about it too," he said.

Immigration officials in the Norwegian capital, Oslo, said they had no information about asylum seekers arriving in Norway from the Arctic, and the Foreign Ministry didn't return calls.

Officials in neighboring Finland, which shares the longest EU border with Russia, say they haven't seen similar movements of migrants at any of the eight border crossings along the 1,300-kilometer border.

"It really is only a handful a year, if that," said Ilkka Herranen from the Finnish Border Guard. "Most of the migrants and asylum seekers arrive here from Sweden."

TV canal macau

13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:30	RTPi Live
18:20	The Presence of Anita (Repeated)
19:00	TDM Interview (Repeat)
19:40	Soap Opera
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	Montra do Lilau
21:40	Miscellaneous
22:10	The Presence of Anita
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Miscellaneous
01:10	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)

cinema

CINETEATRO

3 SEP- 9 SEP



LOVE DETECTIVE

ROOM 1

2.30, 4.30, 7.30, 9.30 pm

Director: Wong Pak-Kei

Starring: Ivana Wong, Pakho Chau, Ram Chiang

Language: Cantonese (Cantonese/English)

Duration: 105min



NO ESCAPE

ROOM 2

2.30, 4.30, 7.30, 9.30 pm

Director: John Erick Dowdle

Starring: Lake Bell, Pierce Brosnan, Owen Wilson

Language: English (Cantonese)

Duration: 103min

HERO 2015

ROOM 3

2.15, 7.00 pm

Director: Nikhil Advani

Starring: Haruma Miura, Kiko Mizuhara

Language: Japanese (Cantonese/English)

Duration: 90min



A TALE OF THREE CITIES

ROOM 3

4.30, 9.15 pm

Director: Mabel Cheung

Starring: Sean Ching-Wan Lau, Wei Tang, Hoi Lu Chun, Elaine Jin

Language: Cantonese/Mandarin (Cantonese/English)

Duration: 130min

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



1945 JAPAN SIGNS UNCONDITIONAL SURRENDER

Japanese officials have signed the act of unconditional surrender, finally bringing to an end six years of world war. In the presence of 50 Allied generals and other officials, the Japanese envoys boarded the American battleship Missouri in Tokyo Bay to sign the surrender document.

Within half-an-hour of the signing, a convoy of 42 US ships entered Tokyo Bay and landed 13,000 American troops. The Supreme Commander of the Allied powers, US General Douglas MacArthur, briefly addressed the dignitaries on the deck of the battleship urging them to comply with the terms of the surrender "fully, promptly and faithfully".

He continued: "It is my earnest hope and, indeed, the hope of all mankind, that from this solemn occasion a better world shall emerge out of the blood and carnage of the past; a world founded upon faith and understanding, a world dedicated to the dignity of man and the fulfillment of his most cherished wish, for freedom, tolerance and justice."

He also referred to the nuclear bomb attacks on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, saying they had "revised the traditional concept of war". The world had had its last chance, he said, and if it did not devise some greater and more equitable system Armageddon would be at its door.

Under the terms of the ceasefire, Japan has agreed to end all hostilities, release all prisoners of war, and comply with the terms of the Potsdam declaration, which confines its sovereignty to the four main islands which make up Japan.

It has also agreed to acknowledge the authority of the US supreme commander. Although Emperor Hirohito will be allowed to remain as a symbolic head of state. From today the occupying force will be rapidly increased to about 500,000. British landing forces are expected to be relieved by US Army troops within a few days. Some will return home to Britain, others may be deployed for the reoccupation of surrendered ports.

The Japanese Prime Minister, Prince Higashi Kuni, broadcast an appeal to his people to obey the terms of the surrender. He said the Japanese had to face defeat squarely and "suffer even the insufferable" in seeking to comply with the Emperor's surrender proclamation.

Marshal Joseph Stalin has welcomed the unconditional surrender of Japan. Under the terms of the agreement the disputed southern Sakhalin and the Kurile Islands will pass into Soviet hands. The islands have been occupied by Japan since the Russo-Japanese war of 1904.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

The Allies celebrated victory over Japan on 15 August 1945, and that date as well as 2 September are both known as VJ Day. Japan enjoyed a series of early victories from its entry in the war at Pearl Harbor in December 1941, followed by the conquest of Hong Kong, Burma, the Philippines, Malaya and Borneo.

But the war effort drained the country's economy and hardship prevailed. By 1943 defeats at Midway and Guadalcanal the previous year had contributed to Japan's decline.

Japan suffered further defeats in 1944, then in March 1945 Tokyo came under sustained assault from US bombers. Tens of thousands died and much of the city was razed to the ground.

The Japanese had asked the Soviets to represent them at Potsdam - but under a new deal with the Allies, the Russians were about to break the Russo-Japanese non-aggression pact and did not put their case forward.

On 6 August 1945, the US dropped the first atomic bomb on Hiroshima and three days later a second on Nagasaki. With that and the Soviet declaration of war on 8 August, the Japanese were forced into a surrender that was virtually unconditional.

Emperor Hirohito offered to take the blame for war atrocities committed by the Japanese at a meeting with General MacArthur later in September 1945 but his offer was rejected. He was never tried for war crimes, instead the Americans used him to help push through some democratic reforms that transformed Japanese politics.

Japan regained its independence in 1952 - although the US retained the island of Okinawa until 1972 and still has big military bases there.

YOUR STARS

Aries Mar. 21-Apr. 19 You're in a hurry to start the day right, but the best you can do is to do as little as possible.

Taurus April 20-May 20 There's no need to sit home alone just to save money. You can have fun with others, as long as they're financially like-minded.

Gemini May 21-Jun. 21 Things will be too blurry to focus on this morning, and last night is just the tip of the iceberg.

Cancer Jun. 22-Jul. 22 Consider this your last chance to daydream about your financial future. Don't just imagine riches; imagine how you'll get them.

Leo Jul. 23-Aug. 22 You won't have enough energy to react emotionally, much less fly off the handle. That's a good thing, because the right response isn't clear.

Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22 No one will be organized enough, not to mention motivated enough, to move at more than a snail's pace.

Libra Sep.23-Oct. 22 It's a great day to appreciate all that you have to bring with your financial future. It may not be much in terms of quantity, but it's bursting with quality.

Scorpio Oct. 23 - Nov. 21 Reality, fantasy, goals -- they're all mixed up in your mind today. One of your hidden talents is to untangle them and make each and every one a reality.

Sagittarius Nov. 22-Dec. 21 No one will fault you for putting off your financial decisions for one more day. On the other hand, there's no time like the present to get yourself revved up for the future.

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19 Others may have been amazed with how you pulled off what you did, but the only one who needs to be impressed with your bank account is you.

Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 18 You have to get to the bottom of some financial issues, but you may be sidetracked today. Let yourself off the hook, as long as you don't allow yourself to overspend.

Pisces Feb.19-Mar. 20 It's the perfect time to rediscover who you really are and what you really want out of life. Making the most of your situation is more than saying you don't care anyway.

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Sudoku puzzles categorized by difficulty: Easy, Easy+, Medium, and Hard. Each puzzle is a 9x9 grid with some numbers pre-filled.

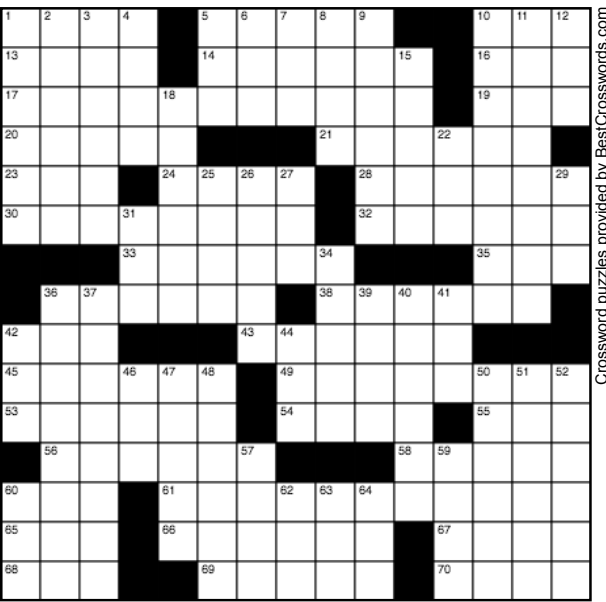
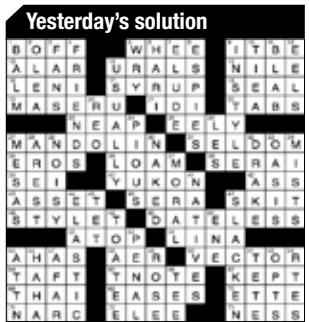
WEATHER

Weather forecast table with columns for MIN, MAX, and CONDITION. Rows include CHINA (Beijing, Harbin, Tianjin, etc.) and WORLD (Moscow, Frankfurt, Paris, etc.).

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Boyfriend; 5- Echolocation; 10- Gymnast Korbut; 14- Work without ___; 15- Lovers' lane?; 16- Contender; 17- Mecca, to Muhammad; 19- Singer James; 20- French farewell; 21- Stuff oneself; 23- ER staffers; 25- 2, 4, 6, 8, etc.; 26- School orgs.; 29- Singer Lovett; 31- Columbus's birthplace; 35- Flub; 36- Composition in verse; 37- Become extinct; 38- Sunset; 40- Morning; 41- Egyptian god of the underworld; 42- Hook's mate; 43- Ave. crossers; 44- Dutch painter Jan; 45- Sometimes you feel like ___; 46- Fluid-filled sac; 47- Dictation taker; 49- Sun. speech; 51- Locks; 54- Floating platforms; 58- Sitarist Shankar; 59- Wound; 63- Alaska's first governor; 64- Patriot Allen; 65- This, in Tijuana; 66- Tooth; 67- Gaucho's rope; 68- Demonstrate;

DOWN: 1- Ali ___ & the 40 thieves; 2- Oklahoma city; 3- Ethereal: Prefix; 4- Speaks; 5- Plant juice; 6- Vinegar's partner; 7- Code-breaking org.; 8- Recess; 9- Actor Christopher; 10- Supervisor; 11- Local; 12- "___ grip!"; 13- I smell ___; 18- Attila, e.g.; 22- Car heart; 24- Reduces speed; 25- Freddie Krueger roamed ___ Street in the movies; 26- Mexican money; 27- Confidence; 28- Army leader?; 30- Craving; 32- Boisterous; 33- Boots; 34- This is only ___; 36- Indicates a direction; 37- Songs for two; 39- Salad sauce; 40- The Mustangs' sch.; 42- ___-Cone; 45- Having a handle; 46- Boxes; 48- Sniggler; 50- Division of geologic time; 51- Not kosher; 52- Hindu music; 53- Author Hunter; 55- Aquatic vertebrate; 56- Dorothy's dog; 57- Winter fall; 60- When doubled, a dance; 61- Use, consume; 62- Genetic material



USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

- Emergency calls 999
Taxi 28 939 939 / 2828 3283
Fire department 28 572 222
Water Supply - Report 1990 992
PJ (Open line) 993
Telephone - Report 1000
PJ (Picket) 28 557 775
Electricity - Report 28 339 922
PSP 28 573 333
Macau Daily Times 28 716 081
Customs 28 559 944
S. J. Hospital 28 313 731
Kiang Wu Hospital 28 371 333
Commission Against Corruption (CCAC) 28326 300
IACM 28 387 333
Tourism 28 333 000
Airport 59 888 88



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Photo shown here may be different from Macau specifications



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Kenya celebrates athletes but more doping probes underway

Mutwiri Mutuota, Nairobi

SOME of Kenya's newly crowned track and field world champions returned home yesterday and were ferried to a celebratory breakfast in a convoy of limousines bearing the logo "Hotbed of Champions."

Javelin gold medalist Julius Yego, 400-meter hurdles champion Nicholas Bett and steeplechase winner Ezekiel Kemboi were among those met at an airport in Nairobi by Deputy President William Ruto, who danced with them on a red carpet.

They will also meet with Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta tomorrow, Ruto said. Kenya surprisingly topped the medal table at the worlds in Beijing ahead of Jamaica and the United States.

But while the East African nation celebrates, its track federation head has announced that investigations are underway into the failed doping tests of



Men's 1500m gold medalist, Kenya's Asbel Kiprop celebrates as he crosses the finish line with compatriot and second placed Elijah Motonei Manangoi, left, and Morocco's Abdalaati Iguider, in third place

two team members.

Joyce Zakary, a 400-meter runner, and hurdler Koki Manunga tested positive for banned substances during the championships, further denting Kenya's reputation after recent allegations of widespread doping and ineffective controls in the country.

On Monday, Athletics Kenya President Isaiah Kiplagat said investigations were underway in Kenya after Zakary and Manunga were provisionally suspended by the IAAF for failing targeted doping tests in China.

"In spite of being accused of using drugs, Kenya is still on top of the world," Kiplagat said.

"These two girls have given their story and I don't want to comment on that because they have recorded their statements. Investigations are on."

The federation had asked Kenya's new national anti-doping agency to take charge of the investigations, Kiplagat said, even though the body was only set up in February and isn't officially operating yet.

"(The) IAAF is on top of things. We have asked ADAK to be on top of things too because indications are that we may have leads, and this time if they lead us somewhere, there will be severe punishment," he said.

Team manager Joseph Kinyua didn't comment in detail on the two cases when he returned to Kenya with the athletes yesterday.

"Yes there were doping claims but that's a story for another day," he said. "We sorted that thing out and sent the girls back home so it did not affect our performance." AP

FOOTBALL Australia coach worried over pay dispute

Coach Ange Postecoglou is concerned that a bitter pay dispute between players and Football Federation Australia has impinged on Australia's preparation for tomorrow's World Cup qualifying match against Bangladesh. Australian players have boycotted commercial appearances in Perth this week because of an impasse in pay negotiations between Professional Footballers Australia and the FFA. The talks affect men's and women's internationals and A-League players. Postecoglou said yesterday he is angry the dispute is "getting played out in Socceroo camp. If we think it's OK during the World Cup qualifiers to play out this scenario then I'm out of whack with everyone else because I think while the game is on ... lay down your guns and pick them up as soon as it's over."

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opinion

World Views

Mark Buchanan, Bloomberg

EASY MONEY CREATES THE MOST DANGEROUS BUBBLES

Economists finally seem to be recognizing what most people have long considered obvious: Overconfident investors can drive the prices of everything from tulips to Chinese stocks far above their intrinsic value, leading to busts that can cause lasting economic damage.

The hard part is figuring out which bubbles are the most threatening, and what to do about them. New research suggests that the most dangerous element may be debt - something the world currently has in abundance.

Economists have long been interested in bubbles, even if the profession as a whole largely ignored them in building theories about how the economy worked. In the 1990s, before he became chairman of the Federal Reserve, Ben Bernanke started a sort of bubble laboratory at Princeton, exploring mathematical models inspired by pioneering theorist Hyman Minsky. Last year, economists Steven Gjerstad and Vernon Smith argued in a weighty book that economic history, as well as evidence from two decades of laboratory experiments, points to speculation in property markets, amplified by mortgage financing, as a persistent central factor driving economic cycles.

Now, with more data, researchers are beginning to think that they can identify different kinds of bubbles, and that some may be much more damaging than others. In a new paper, economists Oscar Jorda, Moritz Schularick and Alan Taylor study housing and equity markets in 17 countries over the past 140 years. They find that the worst bubbles - those that inflict the most economic pain - tend to involve not just speculation, but a surge in easy lending and increasing leverage.

The idea isn't new. In their 2009 book "This Time Is Different," Carmen Reinhart and Kenneth Rogoff looked at roughly 800 years of financial crises and found that economic downturns following credit bubbles were generally worse and lasted longer. Others, from Irving Fisher through Hyman Minsky to figures today such as Ray Dalio, have drawn similar lessons from the history of financial disasters. John Geanakoplos at Yale has long warned of the dangers of what he calls the leverage cycle.

Jorda and colleagues advance this understanding by taking a detailed look at events in the years since 1870. Their research covers most modern, advanced economies during the era of finance-intensive capitalism, and uses long time series and data from many countries to get useful statistics on rare events.

They find that economies easily weather episodes such as the dot-com bust, when speculation set up the stock prices of high-tech companies for a fall. It's another matter entirely when a surge in easy credit encourages people to use borrowed money - also known as leverage - to buy assets. Such bubbles, the authors argue, grow out of an amplifying feedback among credit growth, asset prices and increasing leverage. When they burst, the repercussions are worse, because businesses and individuals must either restructure or pay off all the debt they have amassed, spreading losses and leaving less money for consumer spending and investment.

Such research exemplifies a growing trend in economics to eschew pure theory in favor of studies based on actual data. Very few economists today would deny the existence of bubbles just because the phenomenon doesn't fit into their theoretical models. The profession is finding the courage to acknowledge things that it vehemently ignored for decades. Consider, for example, Paul Romer's ongoing attack on "mathiness" in economic theory, or the growing recognition that economists need a much more empirically based picture of how people think and behave, to replace the assumption of perfect rationality and foresight that has long dominated their mathematical models.

This is progress, even if it comes with misgivings - and perhaps a little gnashing of teeth in some quarters over the loss of beautiful and comforting illusions, especially of markets as wonders of perfect self-regulation. Economics is becoming messier, less certain of itself. In doing so, it will also become more useful.

THE BUZZ JAPAN SCRAPS OLYMPIC LOGO OVER PLAGIARISM ALLEGATION

Tokyo Olympic organizers yesterday decided to scrap the logo for the 2020 Games following another allegation its Japanese designer might have used copied materials. Reversing their earlier support for designer Kenjiro Sano against allegations of plagiarizing the design, the organizers said the decision came after new accusa-

tions over the weekend. "We have reached a conclusion that it would be only appropriate for us to drop the logo and develop a new emblem," said Toshio Muto, director general of the Tokyo organizing committee. "At this point, we have decided that the logo cannot gain public support."



Rihanna excited to celebrate 10 years in music industry



Singer Rihanna attends the "RiRi by Rihanna" fragrance launch on Monday, Aug. 31

Mesfin Fekadu, New York

RIHANNA says she's thrilled to have had a decade-long career in music and she plans on celebrating the feat at some point this year.

"Definitely a very big deal for me. You know, I can't believe it's 10 years already, but we definitely have to celebrate this year," the singer said during an interview Monday. "There are a few things I have in mind, so you'll have wait on that, but don't think I'm forgetting because this means a

lot to me that I made it to 10 years."

Rihanna released her debut album, "Music of the Sun," in 2005. The 27-year-old has released seven albums, launched multiple Top 10 hits and won eight Grammy Awards.

This year she's dropped

I can't believe it's 10 years already

RIHANNA

three singles, including the Top 5 hit "FourFiveSeconds," and says she's busy working on her eighth album.

"New album is going really, really great. We have recorded a lot of songs and I can't wait to finish and put it out. That's my next step," she said.

Rihanna made the comments at Macy's in downtown Brooklyn at the launch of her new fragrance called Ri Ri. Feverish fans screamed inside the packed store, singing her lyrics to past hits and dancing wildly as one of her songs blasted from from speakers.

"I know I made a great decision coming to Brooklyn because Brooklyn fans are on another level," she said. "They are full of energy and they're loud and I like that. They're going to turn up in here today."

The singer said Ri Ri is the first of a new trilogy of fragrances. She's had more than a half dozen other fragrances in the past.

"I intentionally wanted to do something fun, something that made you feel young, flirty, you know, cute," she said with a smile. "It's like a brand new pair of shoes." AP

THE DECISIVE MOMENT

Xinhua/Mao Siqian



This photo taken on Aug 24 shows the Shekou area of the Qianhai Free Trade Zone in Shenzhen. The Shenzhen Special Economic Zone, established in 1980 and situated immediately north of Hong Kong, is China's first and one of the most successful Special Economic Zones.

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

SOURCE: DSMG

WORLD BRIEFS

INDIA Monsoon floods inundate hundreds of villages across the northeast Indian state of Assam, killing at least 21 people in the last four days and forcing some 800,000 people to leave their homes.

PAKISTAN A Pakistani Taliban suicide bomber blows himself up near a vehicle carrying an area commander of the tribal police in northwest Pakistan, killing four people and wounding at least 52.

AFGHANISTAN's president calls for a "holy war" against corruption, one of the major problems facing his war-torn country as he tries to improve its economy and create jobs.

NEPAL Officials say police in southern Nepal opened fire on members of an ethnic group demanding a new state in a draft constitution, killing five people in two separate towns.

SRI LANKA's president asks the country's newly elected lawmakers to draft political reforms to promote ethnic reconciliation and economic development in the post-war era.

PHILIPPINES The Committee to Protect Journalists urges Philippine President Benigno Aquino III to act to stop attacks against the press in the country after three journalists were killed recently.

JAPAN Former "Flipper" trainer Ric O'Barry is arrested for not carrying his passport while in Japan to protest a dolphin hunt due to begin this week.

AP PHOTO



SYRIA A satellite image shows that the main building of the ancient Temple of Bel in the Syrian city of Palmyra has been destroyed, a United Nations agency says.

LEBANESE protesters broke into the Environment Ministry in downtown Beirut yesterday, demanding the resignation of the minister over the country's snowballing trash crisis. The group from the movement known as "You Stink" posted a video of about 30 demonstrators sitting cross-legged on the floor, clapping and shouting slogans against the minister, Mohammed Machnouk.