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Chui Sai On pledged yesterday that budget tightening will not affect people's livelihood and social welfare

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**WORLD BRIEFS**



**CHINA** The death toll from an explosion at a chemical factory in eastern China has risen to five and the cause of the blast is still under investigation, state media reported yesterday. The factory that produces adhesive materials exploded on Monday night in Lijin county in Shandong province. The official Xinhua News Agency said yesterday that at least five people had been confirmed dead, citing the publicity department of Dongying city government, which administers Lijin. On Tuesday the toll was reported as one.

**HONG KONG's** Land Registry recorded 5,197 sale and purchase agreements for all building units in August, down 29.2 percent on July and down 34.2 percent year-on-year, it said yesterday. The total consideration for sale and purchase agreements in August was HKD38.1 billion (USD4.9 billion), down 31.2 percent on July and down 27.3 percent year-on-year.

**SINGAPORE** Economists have moderated their expectations for several sectors as they are less confident about the growth outlook of Singapore economy this year, according to a quarterly survey released by Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS) yesterday. The economists polled in the survey said they expect Singapore's economy to grow by 2.2 percent this year, down from the previous forecast of 2.7 percent in the survey conducted in June.

More on backpage

# Trailing spouses complain of out of work stress

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# 12,000 TROOPS TO MARCH TODAY IN BEIJING

## Power parade

P11, INSIDE EXTRA



times  
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## CRIME

# Fake jewels found in certified shops

**CUSTOMS** investigators on Tuesday raided eight “locally renowned” jewelry stores, located in both the north and downtown areas of the Macau peninsula, following a complaint that some of the jewel-studded accessories for sale were in breach of luxury brand Chanel’s copyright protections.

According to the agency’s spokesman, the whistle-blower of the trademark infringement was a rights holder in the French brand, who had previously discovered items that the authorities suspect to be “genuine jewels with other label” in the related stores.

A total of nine suspects, one foreign female worker and eight locals, were taken to the authorities’ headquarters



for further investigation on the day of the raids. The officers said that up to 108 items of accessories, including earrings, rings, necklaces and bracelets, worth roughly MOP 2,172,000, had been seized and already

identified as counterfeits by the rights holder who lodged a complaint.

A local, surnamed “Lou”, is said to have been in charge of the corporation together with the imported laborer, who worked as a supervisor. The fe-

male’s branches were being headed by the remaining suspects as managers. The authorities’ preliminary inquiry suggested that the confiscated products hailed from overseas, with prices ranging between MOP 3,000 and MOP 5,000.

However, the accessories could have been sold at a lower price, at least around 20 percent off, making them far cheaper than their counterparts that are showcased in the brand’s own outlets. The owner of the shops failed to show the officers relevant authorization documents to use the hallmark on his products.

Among all the branches raided, four have been certified by the region’s Consumer Council, guaranteeing the quality of their products. The authorities said that the jewelry shops “garnered a certain level of fame from locals,” as they have been running for more than a decade. It remains unclear whether or not the shop owner committed the crime knowing about the registered trademark or not. **Staff reporter**

## REPORT

# Hotels go for insurance policies against guest kidnapping

**MAJOR** hotels, resorts and casinos in the territory are nowadays resorting to specialized insurance policies, the South China Morning Post has reported, in order to shield themselves from an emerging threat – the kidnapping of well-off patrons over bad debts.

Quoting Hong Kong insurance agent Ashley Coles, who is assistant director of credit, political and security risks at Jardine Lloyd Thompson, the newspaper reported that the gaming groups’ interest in this sort of insurance policy would continue to grow: “All the major casinos and hotel chains will have looked into this.”

Most abductions take place in hotel rooms, and this potentially endangers the gaming companies, as they could face lawsuits from victims and their families. It was said that the initiative to take out a specialized insurance policy could defuse the risks, particularly if the policy coverage includes legal liability and deployment of crisis responders in case of kidnapping.

The assistant director said that the mainland’s economic slowdown and plummeting casino earnings have led to a hike in unresolved debts, which often triggers disputes. Most of such rows eventually escalate into abductions.

Kidnapping, also known as illegal detention, is the method through which perpetrators have attempted to seek payment of unpaid loans.

The Judiciary Police receive reports of such crimes every week, with almost all victims being mainlanders. The government’s figures note that as many as 170 people were held against their will during the first half of the year, a number double that recorded during the equivalent period last year.

## MUSIC

# Persian traditional music performance at CCM

**THE** Cultural Centre will stage an Indo-Persian concert this Friday with kamancheh master Kayhan Kalhor and his ensemble of musician friends to deliver an exotic performance that will transport the audience back to the ancient civilizations of Persia and Northern India.

Kalhor, a four-time Grammy nominee from Iran, is an internationally acclaimed virtuoso on the kamancheh, who has been instrumental in popularizing Persian music in the West and is now a creative force in today’s music scene. He has studied the music of Iran’s many regions and toured the world as a soloist with various ensembles and orchestras, including the New York Philharmonic and the Orchestre National de Lyon.

The group comprises musicians who blend Persian and Indian musical traditions that for centuries have been historically, geographically and culturally intertwined. The ensemble will be playing a set



Kayhan Kalhor

of rare instruments including the santour, the tabla and the sitar, combining both classical precision and creativity.

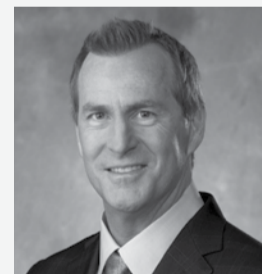
As both Indian and Persian classical music are characterized by their microtonal and monophonic struc-

tures as well as their dependence on improvisation, both traditions feature a master musician who uses a primary melodic form as a base for improvising.

The group explained that there are many factors involved in a musician’s understanding of and approach to music. Each musician’s schooling, personal style, technical ability and vision have a great impact on their approach to developing their musical ideas. These differences make every performance exciting, fresh and unpredictable, every time the pieces are performed.

To help the audience better understand the ethnic music, CCM will also organize a pre-show talk presented in English by Mexican musician Raul Saldaña. The session will take place one hour prior to the concert, where the speaker will share insightful views on Kalhor’s background and repertoire with special focus on world music and instruments.

## WE CORRECT



Kevin Kelley

On September 2 we published an article on page two mentioning that the Ga-

laxy Entertainment Group has announced the appointment of Kevin Kelley as Chief Operating Officer (COO).

The title should have read: “Galaxy appoints Kevin Kelly as COO.” MDT apologizes for the mistake. Meanwhile, the error was corrected yesterday on our website.

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GAMING

# China rout spells more troubles for battered casinos

Annie Lee, Stephanie Wong and Catherine Chen

CHINA'S recent stock market rout is causing more troubles for Macau's hard-luck casinos. As the city's casino downturn entered a 15th month in August, Chinese stocks losing USD5 trillion of their value hasn't helped. For Macau junket operator Iao Kun Group Holding Co., that market turmoil is one of the key reasons why gamblers are holding back.

Nasdaq-listed Iao Kun's VIP rooms reserved for high-rollers lost 20 percent of their clients in the three months to August as "some don't have the capital to come and play," its financial controller Derrick Wong said. "They now need to catch their breathe and recuperate."

Chinese high-stakes bettors "will wait until the economy gets better and then they will have spare money," Wong said in a telephone interview. "This is luxury, it's about spare money."

China's slowing economy and

its relentless crackdown on graft have hurt the shares of casino operators. Last month's surprise devaluation of the yuan spread panic to global markets, deepening concerns over the state of China's economy and further damping sentiment for Macau's casino industry.

The Bloomberg Intelligence

**The yuan devaluation affects sentiment because of the lowered purchasing power among the Chinese**

DERRICK WONG

Macau Gaming Index has plummeted 67 percent from its peak on Jan. 20, 2014. Casino stocks extended Tuesday's decline to close lower, with Galaxy, Wynn Macau Ltd., SJM Holdings Ltd. and MGM China Holdings Ltd. falling more than 4 percent while Sands China lost 3.2 percent by the end of trading in Hong Kong. The Hang Seng Index fell 1.2 percent.

"The yuan devaluation affects sentiment because of the lowered purchasing power among the Chinese," Wong said, adding a slowing economy is another major factor deterring high-end players. Iao Kun runs five exclusive casino gambling venues at Macau casinos, including Galaxy and Sands China.

Tourist traffic from the mainland, which accounts for two-thirds of the total, has fallen for five straight months since March. The weakening currency will have an 8 to 10 percent downward impact on mass gross gaming revenue in 2016, as converting yuan to the greenback-pegged Hong



Kong dollars, the main currency for gambling, will cost patrons more, Daiwa Securities Co. analysts led by Jamie Soo wrote in a note last month.

Adding more negative news to the mix, Macau police arrested 17 people in a raid on five shops thought to be using China UnionPay point-of-sale terminals to illegally take cash out of China. The arrests may herald further restrictions on the use of UnionPay, making it harder for bettors to skirt currency controls.

There has been some positive signs. The government has relaxed visa rules to allow visitors transiting through the city to stay longer and travel more frequently, while it may ease a proposed smoking ban.

But the overall sense remains negative. Galaxy's new casinos that opened in May and the summer holiday season failed to rouse a return of mainland Chinese visitors to the MSAR, with August's

gaming revenue slump widening to 36 percent after easing since February.

September doesn't look too promising for Macau either, according to Grant Govertsen, an analyst at Union Gaming Group. While China has scheduled a three-day holiday to commemorate the 70th anniversary of Japan's defeat in World War II, gamblers may stay away given the gravity of the occasion as "there appears to be an elevation in the call for patriotic sentiment," he wrote in a note yesterday.

The negativity could spread to other new casinos due to open in Macau this year and also next year, said Aaron Fischer, a Hong Kong-based analyst at CLSA Ltd. "If you ask me what I'm most worried about: the Galaxy expansion hasn't grown the market to the extent that we expected," he said. "We have been disappointed by the gross gaming revenue in the last few months." **Bloomberg**

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Catarina Pinto

FEATURE | BLUE CARD HOLDERS' SPOUSES CAN'T WORK

# 'There's a waste of existing human

**T**RANG has spent most of her career working abroad. Boosting over 20 years of international work experience, she moved to Macau two years ago with her family but soon realized that working wouldn't be an option here while she's under her husband's blue card.

Macau's law allows spouses of blue card holders and temporary Macau ID holders to live here under a special stay permit. For blue card holders, only those hired as skilled workers and whose salaries prove sufficient to provide for their families are allowed to bring children and spouses to live here.

These regulations are particularly difficult for the spouses of blue card holders, who are not allowed to work in Macau due to the conditions of their special stay permit.

Trang, who wishes to go by her first name only, says that applying for a blue card of her own might be too challenging: "The company needs to have a quota, because even if I am living here, I'm not considered local." Meanwhile, having to bring up three kids has also contributed to her decision not to search for employment at the moment.

Although she understands that the government's intention is to secure jobs first and foremost for locals, Trang recalled that in Singapore, spouses under a dependent visa are still allowed to work if they apply for special authorization from the Ministry of Manpower.

As a result, Trang believes that there's a waste of existing human resources in Macau. Companies who must adhere to quotas restricting how many foreign workers they can take in could be allowed to hire, for instance, blue card holders' spouses who already live in the city, she suggested.

"A lot of my girlfriends...

**The government is wasting the region's available resources. I have an MBA, and 20 years of international work experience**

TRANG

BLOOMBERG



they are talented people but they can't work. By not giving them a chance, the government is wasting the region's available resources. I have an MBA, and 20 years of international work experience. I have a friend who's a qualified English teacher - many qualifications that Macau needs," she stressed.

Although residing in the city, blue card holders' spouses say they often feel like outsiders. They are not given any identification documents. They're only provided with a stamp on their passport - a simple special stay permit.

They encounter what some would call small challenges when compared with more serious hurdles other migrants are faced with in Macau. The simple act of opening a bank account is rather tricky: the attaché may need authorization from the blue card holder.

"It was quite hard, because I had to bring my husband to the bank. I cannot have a checkbook. I cannot have a credit card," said Trang.

Going through immigration queues at ferry terminals and the airport is another small hassle that makes some feel as though they're not really at home even when they are.

"For those of us who have been living here for over two years and will be living here for a couple more years, we still feel like outsiders, because we don't have that little ID," she recalled.

"When you go through immigration at the border [we think] we are residents, we are not tourists or visitors. However, the restrictions make us feel as though we are not at home. But this is our home. We pay tax here," she explained, adding that because one of her sons is too young, her family can't apply to go through the e-channel.

Trang and her family are applying for residency status so that Macau can become their home on paper.

A former blue card holder attaché, who wishes to re-

**Singapore spouses under a dependent visa are still allowed to work if they apply for special authorization**

main anonymous, told the Times that her family decided to apply for residency status about four years ago when her husband's company informed them that their daughter - about to turn 18 years

old at the time - would no longer be allowed to be under her father's blue card.

"She was still in school, she still had to complete her senior year at The International School. And so my husband's company said that we would have to apply for a student visa for her, or we could apply for Macau ID," she recalled in an interview with the Times.

They chose to apply for Macau ID through IPIM: "I thought, 'I'm going to do a student visa for her, but then what?' So we had to do something!"

The family arrived in the region about eight years ago, moving from Chile for her husband's work. Both her and her daughter were granted special stay permits under her husband's blue card.

The now Macau temporary resident, who's from the United States, had her own business in Chile. She thou-

# resources in Macau'



ght she could manage it from here. Information available for expats eight years ago, however, was scarce. She didn't know she would not be allowed to actually work here. "At the time no one told us anything about how things would go in Macau. That was the biggest problem," she conceded.

Groups like the International Ladies' Club of Macau were of great assistance, she said. "I didn't know I would not be able to work. Then I found out that if I wanted

someone to sponsor me, that would mean that I would need to cancel myself off of my husband's blue card, exit the country, and wait, and only come back [after residency is awarded]," she recalled.

That was not an option for her at the time, she said, as applying for a blue card of her own would mean leaving her daughter here while the blue card process was ongoing.

Not being able to work and faced with bureaucratic and

domestic woes, marriage pressures can start to set in.

"Sure this can bring strains to a marriage (...) I felt depressed for not being able to work. Then I got sick. When you're depressed, you're miserable. You think you're going to be able to do something like in other places. Once I sold my business and got my daughter's school sorted out, I thought, 'What am I going to be doing?' You can only clean your house so much," she acknowledged.

The Macau temporary resi-

dent was able to find many women facing the exact same problems as her while volunteering for the International Ladies' Club of Macau. She too believes that there's a waste of highly qualified human resources here.

"The government has a problem finding employees. They want people who are already here. They don't want to be issuing any extra blue cards or have additional families – let's say – coming in. So why don't you use the resources that you already have here? The spouses?" she suggested.

She added that it does not make sense for spouses to be required to leave Macau in order to apply for their own blue card.

"Even working part-time would alleviate a lot of the problems of finding staff in various areas. This could be a solution for many of the positions that are not filled here." This scheme would not even require any additional housing, she stressed.

Samantha, another temporary resident, was once attached to her husband's blue card but her family decided that applying for Macau ID would be the best option as well, thus allowing her to go back to work upon having kids.

She originally came to town on her own about eight years ago. Holding a blue card, she worked in retail coordination for the Venetian.

"I actually met my husband in Macau. We started dating around the time of the financial crisis and I was soon transferred to Hong Kong. We continued to date and traveled between Macau and Hong Kong for a few years. Once we decided to get enga-

ged and married, I fell pregnant soon after," Samantha recalled.

"We then applied to be under my husband's blue card in order to enable me to move to and stay in Macau. The application took some time and it was a very nerve-racking period, waiting to hear if we could be together as a family," she added.

## Spouses can be required to leave Macau to apply for their own blue card

Samantha believes that it's quite rare for a company to be willing to take on-board expats, unless they're extremely qualified in a particular field. Moreover, for mothers with newborns looking to find a part-time job, the number of employment offers available in the local market is very limited.

"We decided to apply for Macau ID because we knew that eventually I wanted to work. We wanted to make Macau our home," she recalled.

Samantha had previously lived in Singapore for about five years. She explained the city-state's different approach towards dependent visa holders: "As a spouse you could work part-time. You have a salary and pay taxes like any other person (...) it's great because people are using their skills, and the city is getting value out of people with that knowledge and expertise."

"But I sometimes understand as well that Macau wants to look after their people. They want to make sure that locals are employed first," she added.

When a spouse is not allowed to work here, strains in the marriage do not go unnoticed by many women and men. When moving abroad, especially to Asia, there can be a lot of cultural shock, she said. On top of that, Samantha recalled that the employed spouse is sometimes required to work long hours while they're trying to settle in and complete their assigned work to a high standard.

She concluded by saying, "As a well-educated and smart woman, I had quite good jobs myself, and you feel you've lost that ability to go out and use your brain, and work everyday. Me personally, once my ID came through, I launched my own business because I needed to do something, even if it was part-time."

“Sure this can bring strains to a marriage (...) I felt depressed for not being able to work

ANONYMOUS

## IAS claims non-resident families are supported

**T**HE Social Welfare Bureau (IAS) has told the Times that they provide financial support for organizations working to attend to the needs of non-resident workers. "We have offered financial aid to social service institutions providing a variety of services to non-resident employees, including a hotline in English [provided by Caritas], group activities, case follow-up, and counseling," IAS said in a reply to

The Times.

According to Macau's law, special stay permits are granted to direct family members of specialized employees who hold a blue card. Stay permits are granted for the same period of time as their related blue cards.

The regulations clearly state that spouses who are granted a stay permit through their husband or wife's blue card are not allowed to work in

Macau, "except in legally approved situations."

The Times knows that some blue card holders' spouses had also been told that they could not volunteer, either. We sought a comment from the Public Security Police Force, also requesting recent figures regarding the number of blue card holders' spouses currently living in Macau, but did not receive an answer by press time.

# Chui: Spending cuts not to affect citizens' welfare

**B**EFORE departing to attend the celebrations signaling the 70th anniversary of Japan's defeat in World War II in Beijing, the Chief Executive reiterated that measures protecting citizens' welfare will remain intact under the austerity measures announced earlier this week.

Chui Sai On indicated that the budgetary restraints will affect internal spending within public departments.

"Such measures will not affect investment in infrastructure, projects regarding locals' livelihoods, or social welfare. Everyone please rest assured," he said.

The CE continued by saying that officials were confronting the issue of public departments' internal austerity, with provisions that will remain in place even if gaming earnings return to above the "red light" level this month.

To Chui, there were more factors to take into account when deciding on the wage increase. The CE said that workers' purchasing power, inflation, financial conditions, the economic climate and the private sector's adjustment rate could be of reference to the policymakers, as well as saying that the authorities were awaiting a report from the consultative commission.

The drawn-out economic slowdown in the territory has caused much trepidation about the fate of



the Wealth Partaking Scheme next year. The CE told journalists at the airport that he was unable to make a commitment regarding the policy's future at present.

"I am still optimistic that there'll be sufficient surplus for cash-handouts," he said, but conceded that such a remark merely reflected "his personal view."

On the sidelines of a function yesterday morning, the Secretary for Administration and Justice, Sonia Chan, also mentioned the upcoming budget cuts. She said that public departments under her control would have to tighten their belts and adhere to the austerity measures.

The secretary pointed out that all of the officials in her office have always been "financially cautious" and would cut down on "unnecessary expenditure" such as outbound trips and souvenirs.

"In our field, we definitely conduct implementation according to the government's policy," Chan remarked. Nonetheless, when asked if the slash signals a reduction in the grant allocation budgets within agencies under her supervision, Chan said that the authorities' spending depends on how much money flows into the

government's coffers.

When asked whether the administration's move could result in a change to the salary adjustment for civil servants next year, Chan said that the authorities were currently considering two blueprints handed over by the Civil Servants' Salary Assessment Commission earlier, but that they were moving forward on the assumption of financial standing within the government. The evaluators will publish the outcome of their deliberations in the future. **Staff reporter**

## KOU PENG KUAN URGES BUDGET RESTRAINT

**THE PUBLIC** Administration and Civil Service Bureau director, Kou Peng Kuan, was sworn in as the bureau's head yesterday morning. The newly appointed director commented that public departments need to offer "reasonable rationales" for their requests to expand their workforces. However, such demands' final approvals are always subject to the government's budget. He revealed that almost every public division has sought to expand their personnel.

## Tree burial service launched

**T**HE Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau (IACM) will roll out a free eco-burial service called "tree burial" from September 1, according to a press release. IACM is developing a park inside a municipal cemetery in Taipa that will offer 440 free tree burial services to local residents in the first lot.

As a new type of green burial, tree burial, initiated by the bureau, refers to the burying of ashes under a tree after cremation. The idea is that this process returns the dead to nature in a more environmentally friendly way than other types of burial, Liang Guanfeng, an official from the local civil affairs department told Xinhua by telephone.

Macau, one of the world's most densely populated regions, is tight for space with an increasing population, said Liang. He added that the tree burial service is a key innovation driving Macau's burial reform, as the government tries to solve the problem of the region's increasingly scarce land resources.

According to Liang, 70 percent of local residents choose cremation, as opposed to tomb burial where the price of private graveyards ranges from 40,000 to millions of patacas, depending on the area. People are interested in the green funerals, and dozens of citizens have registered in advance for tree burials for their late relatives.

The IACM expects that tree burials will provide an effective means for ensuring the protection of the environment and land resources. **MDT/Xinhua**

## Stamps marking V-Day 70th anniversary issued

**M**ACAU will issue commemorative stamps marking the 70th anniversary of the victory of the Chinese people's resistance against Japanese aggression today, Macau Post said at press briefing yesterday.

A set of stamps consists of two stamps with a face value of MOP2 and MOP5.50, which vividly showcase the heroic acts of the Chinese people involved in the resistance against the Japanese invaders.

One stamp is named the "July 7th Incident" and depicts a Chinese soldier holding and aiming his rifle ahead of him, with a background of the famous Marco Polo Bridge. The other is called "National-wide War of Resistance" — using the Great Wall as a backdrop, the stamp shows a scene of Chinese people fighting against their enemies.

About 4000 copies of first-day covers and 3000 copies of an information brochure will be published, along with 500,000 sets of stamps, commencing today, the head of Macau Post told the press. **MDT/Agencies**

**I am still optimistic that there'll be sufficient surplus for cash-handouts**

CHUI SAI ON

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# Sands China recruits Alan Dershowitz for lawsuit appeal

Kimberly Pierceall, Las Vegas

**F**AMED attorney Alan Dershowitz was recruited by Sands China Ltd. on Tuesday to argue that Nevada's Supreme Court should dismiss a wrongful termination lawsuit filed by the company's former CEO five years ago.

Dershowitz and Sands China lawyer Steve Morris argued the company is registered in the Cayman Islands and does business in China, particularly in Macau, putting it outside the jurisdiction of a southern Nevada courtroom despite a district court's ruling that the case can proceed against it in Nevada because of its connection to Las Vegas.

Dershowitz offered a hypothetical: What if a Sands China waiter spilled soup on a Macau customer in Macau? Could the customer sue in Las Vegas? No, it couldn't, he said. "This case could just as well be about spilled soup," he said.

Sands China, tied to Las Vegas



Alan Dershowitz

Sands Corp., owns and operates four casino-resorts in Macau and is listed on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange. Billionaire Sheldon Adelson, who built The Venetian and The Palazzo on the Las Vegas Strip, is CEO of both. Sands China, Las Ve-

gas Sands, Adelson and other executives have all been sued by former Sands China CEO Steven Jacobs in a lawsuit spanning five years. Jacobs has claimed he was wrongfully fired for exposing misdeeds within the company at its highest levels.

The Nevada Supreme Court did not rule on Tuesday. Any decision would not affect the case proceeding against Las Vegas Sands Corp., Adelson and others because the appeal was brought by Sands China Ltd.

The arguments coalesced around specific categories of jurisdiction that district court Judge Elizabeth Gonzalez said were all satisfied in a May ruling allowing the case to proceed in Nevada.

Dershowitz argued that attorneys for former Sands China CEO Steve Jacobs have tried to have it both ways, saying Adelson controlled everything from Las Vegas including Sands China but also acted as an agent for a more powerful Sands China.

Jacobs' attorney, Todd Bice, disagreed, telling the Supreme

Court justices that he didn't see the latter interpretation in Gonzalez's decision. "Sands China is nothing but a division," of Las Vegas Sands Corp., he said, arguing that all of the decisions were being made from Las Vegas.

Sands China attorney Steve Morris also asked that Gonzalez no longer preside over the case for what he said was bias and hostility directed at his client and not treating both sides equally. "While each of the district court's discovery rulings could be individually viewed as a 'bad' call, collectively they demonstrate the apparent bias that the district court holds against defendants," he wrote.

In his filed response with the court, Jacobs' attorney accused Sands China of misconduct and deceit. "Again, Sands China confirms that any judge who does not acquiesce in its conduct or who confronts it must be pushed aside in favor of someone who will supposedly give it a pass," Bice wrote. **AP**

## First case of brucellosis in 25 years

An 11-year-old local girl has caught brucellosis — the first case recorded in Macau in 25 years, according to a statement by the Health Bureau (SSM). She presented symptoms associated with febrile disease, including a fever, a mouth ulcer, a rash, and elbow pain. She sought treatment at the public hospital several times as her fever would not subside. Blood tests later confirmed the diagnosis of brucellosis. SSM said that the 11-year-old girl had not visited any rural areas, nor had she been in contact with any animals other than a neighbor's dog. Information provided by the girl's family also showed that she had not drunk any unpasteurized milk products. SSM said that it is not yet able to confirm how the child contracted the disease.

## REAL ESTATE MATTERS

### All you wanted to know about property investment

#### — Who is buying and what's the cost of a property? (part 3 of 8)

Juliet Risdon is a Director of JML Property and a property investor.

Having established the company in 1994, JML Property offers Investment Property & Homes. It specializes in managing properties for owners and investors, and providing attractive and comfortable homes for tenants.

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JULIET RISDON

This is the third installment of an eight part series identifying the key factors in choosing the right investment property and putting your money to work.

If you have been following these articles and want to buy property in Macau, you will probably want to know about the costs associated with a purchase.

The price of properties in Macau has risen significantly since 2004. The financial crisis of 2008 caused investors to back away from property investment, which in turn hurt property development. Prices fell and new developments came to a halt. Thanks to the thriving economy, prices came back with a vengeance in 2012 and prices reached record highs before correcting slightly earlier this year.

According to recent figures, if you decided to purchase one of the new developments you will be spending upwards of HKD10,000, or approx. USD\$1,290 per square foot for a standard apartment.

If you wanted to purchase an apartment in an older building, you will do very well to find any property priced at HK\$ 7,000 per sq ft, with most apartments now valued above \$8,000 per sq ft. The location and age of the build-

ing will determine the price per square foot. As high as they seem now, you can expect prices to increase each year as development continues and more people and businesses come to Macau.

The light-rail system is on the horizon, and of course the bridge being built to Macau connecting Hong Kong and Zhuhai will be a massive factor. As the number of visitors and services increases, so will the demand for a larger workforce, which is likely to trigger a further shortage of property.

In the past non-residents from countries such as Australia, Canada, and Britain (excluding China) accounted for about 20 percent of the property buyers in Macau. The number of buyers from the mainland is difficult to track, but estimates put the mainland buyers between 10% - 20% behind all property transactions here. In general Western investors prefer small and medium size apartment apartments rather than the big condos. Conversely, buyers from China prefer the larger, more luxurious properties.

Stamp duty starts at 1% for the first \$2 million, then increases to 2% for up to \$4 million before finally settling on 3% for anything over \$4 million.

Whilst there are no 'restrictions' on who can buy and who can't in Macau, the government has levied an additional stamp duty of 10% of the purchase price on both non-residents of Macau and companies buying properties here in an effort to slow down the growth. You will also pay notary fees and deed registration fees. These fees can be as much as 2% of the value of the property, dependent on the size and price of the apartment or house.

All properties are priced in Hong Kong dollars, and the fixed exchange rate for Macau Patacas to Hong Kong is 1.03 Patacas to each Hong Kong dollar.

Buying property in Macau is not for everyone. You are aware that there is a very limited supply whilst demand remains high. Hence the dramatic price increases.

As supply increases and more apartments open up, pricing may stabilize somewhat. Until then, it still makes sense to buy property in Macau provided we take a long term / 5 year view of the investment.

Join us next week for Part 4 of All you wanted to know about property investment — Property purchase step by step.

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**CONRAD MACAO TO HOST 'PINK INSPIRED 2015' CHARITY LUNCH**



Conrad Macao, Cotai Central will host a Pink Inspired charity lunch on Thursday 15th October as part of the hotel's Pink campaign which is held throughout October to raise funds for the Hong Kong Cancer Fund's Pink Revolution campaign. The lunch will be held in partnership with the International Ladies Club of Macao. Guests attending the lunch have the opportunity to win raffle prizes including international hotel getaways and offers from retailers at Sands Shoppes. In addition each

guest will also receive a gift bag which includes special offers and shopping vouchers from Ralph Lauren, Sabon Body & Bath, Wolford, Shanghai Tang, Bodhi Spa, ARTÉ Madrid, iiJin tote bag, Macau Tatler magazine and a limited edition silver elephant bottle opener with pink ribbon from Georg Jenson jewelers. Emcee for the lunch will be Hong Kong TV personality Mr. Sean Lee Davis.

**MUAY THAI AND MUSIC COME TO THE VENETIAN MACAO**

Thailand's extreme combat sport is coming to The Venetian Macao in October. Xtreme Muay Thai 2015 Macao, the high-kicking fight fest fused with music from Cantopop bands, will land at the Cotai Arena at The Venetian Macao on Oct. 3. Tickets go on sale tomorrow.

The art of eight limbs, as Muay Thai is also known, will see fighters battle against each other with the sole goal of knocking their opponent out. Unlike boxing, Muay Thai fighters can utilize their feet, knees and elbows in addition to their hands in order to secure a victory, which gives a new meaning to the term knockout.

# China slowdown weighs on Australian growth in second quarter

Rod McGuirk, Canberra

**A**USTRALIA'S economy grew a slower-than-expected 0.2 percent in the three months through June, dragged down by waning Chinese demand for resources including iron ore and coal, government figures showed yesterday.

Economists had forecast 0.4 percent growth in the April-June quarter. Australia's resource-based economy grew by 0.9 percent in the January-March quarter.

But latest Australian Bureau of Statistics data showed the slowest quarterly growth since the first quarter of 2013. Annual growth for the year through June was 2.0 percent, well below Australia's long-term average of 3.2 percent.

Treasurer Joe Hockey says the latest figures show that the Australian



Smoke billows out of a chiming chimney stack of BHP steel works at Port Kembla, south of Sydney, Australia

economy is resilient because other resource-reliant economies including Canada and Brazil are now in recession.

"The transition away from a reliance on mining investment is well underway," Hockey told reporters. "Quite clearly there is resilience in the Australian economy that other economies that have huge exposure to commodity prices could only wish for."

The Australian economy has entered its 25th year of continuous growth, al-

though falls in prices for iron ore and coal, which are the nation's biggest exports, have dented growth rates in the past few years.

Government data released on Tuesday showed that Australia's trade deficit increased by 41 percent in the June quarter to 19 billion Australian dollars (USD13.3 billion).

Hockey said a slowdown in mine construction was being offset by increases in the building and services industries.

He said 3.7 percent an-

nual economic growth in the June quarter in the United States, Australia's third largest trading partner, left Australia "relatively well positioned for any unexpected weakness in China," Australia's largest trading partner.

The Australian dollar twice dropped below 70 U.S. cents yesterday, once before and once after the growth data was announced. The Australian currency had not fallen below 70 U.S. cents since 2009.

The first fall yesterday was as a response to weak manufacturing data from China. Australia's benchmark interest rate has been at a record low 2 percent since May.

The government halved its forecast price for iron ore from \$96 a metric ton in 2014-15 to \$48 in the current fiscal year which began on July 1. The price peaked at \$185 in 2011. AP

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**QIAO** Jianjun seemed a model bureaucrat: strict on expense accounts, a stickler for rules. But the director of a sprawling state enterprise that controlled grain stockpiles for a chunk of Henan province had a secret, Chinese officials say: He was embezzling millions.

In October 2011, he abandoned his government-issue black sedan at a local airport and disappeared — apparently headed for a favorite destination among China's wayward party members: the U.S. China's government released a list of 100 fugitives in April; Qiao was among 40 suspected of being in America. As President Xi Jinping's nationwide corruption hunt has punished more than 100,000 officials over three years, many of those who've found bolt-holes abroad have remained frustratingly out of reach.

Rounding them up, in an operation called "Sky Net," falls to China's much feared Central Commission for Discipline Inspection (CCDI). In a rare interview in May with Bloomberg Businessweek, Sky Net's leaders discussed their work with the U.S. in catching and returning fugitives. Despite a recent success — a U.S. indictment against Qiao, the grain official — such collaboration remains fraught with sensitivities, adding to tensions ahead of Xi's U.S. trip this month.

CCDI traces its origins to 1927, when the young Chinese Communist Party established a commission to monitor its members' behavior. Its headquarters now occupy a cement-and-glass rectangle of a building behind a massive stone gateway in central Beijing, not far from the Forbidden City. While there's no sign on the gate, the traditionally secretive Party disciplinary arm has embraced a more public profile under Xi. Its website debuted in 2013; this year, it released an app that makes it a cinch to snitch using a mobile phone.

The Xi-era drive to crack down on corruption has meant more work and growth for CCDI, including the expansion of its inspection offices to 12 from eight. The agency doesn't publish staff numbers, but Chinese media reports estimate its size at up to 1,000. Job postings advertise for candidates with good computer skills, preferably with a degree from a top university. Party membership is mandatory.

If Sky Net sounds like a James Bond film, the role of M. could be played by Fu Kui, 53, CCDI's head of international cooperation until last month when he was put in charge of the agency's Hunan province operations. He's square-hea-

# A secretive agency hunts for crooked officials worldwide

BLOOMBERG



ded and blunt-looking in a white button-down with no tie, and smokes as he talks.

"Our work is about winning people's hearts for the party," Fu said in the May interview, in a conference room lined with world maps. "Now that we're starting to hunt them down, the public is happy to see it."

Xi's campaign has felled two top generals, China's retired security chief, and a former presidential aide, Ling Jihua. They're the big game, the tigers as Xi puts it. Sky Net's quarry is further down the scale, referred to as flies in one of the crackdown's catchphrases. The flies perhaps hurt the

**The trend is for those who embezzled a big sum of money or held the highest positions to flee to the U.S**

FU KUI, 53  
CCDI'S HEAD OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Party's image as much as the tigers among the general public because their crimes have local impact.

Domestically, CCDI sends inspection teams to provinces and state-owned enterprises to look into cases of abuse. They set up shop for months at a time, conducting interviews and pursuing public tips. Based on the results, CCDI orders detentions and further investigations, carried out by law enforcement organs such as the Supreme People's Procuratorate.

Internationally, Sky Net staff members have a more delicate task. China and the U.S. have no extradition treaty. Instead, China generally must demonstrate to the U.S. that fugitives have broken the law. The two sides communicate on such matters through a body called the Joint Liaison Group on Law Enforcement Cooperation. U.S. officials have been more helpful on fugitives in the last two years, Fu says, but it's clear the U.S. — with its processes for protecting the rights of the accused — remains a headache.

"The trend is for those who embezzled a big sum of money or held the highest positions to flee to the U.S.," Fu says. "If one country becomes the destination of many fugitives that

we can't bring back, more will go there."

The Obama administration has warned China more than once not to send unauthorized agents to the U.S. to seek fugitives, and George W. Bush's administration also sent similar messages to Beijing, according to officials from both administrations, who requested anonymity.

"The United States is not a safe haven for fugitives from any country, and we reject any insinuation that we are hindering any other nation's campaign against corruption," the U.S. State Department said in an e-mailed comment. The Justice Department largely echoed those remarks.

It's unclear how many people China is seeking from the U.S., but it's clearly more than the 40 names that appeared on the published list in April. For example, the list didn't include Ling Wancheng, the brother of the former presidential aide, Ling Jihua. Ling Wancheng purchased a USD2.5 million home in California two years ago and lived there for much of 2014, according to reports by the New York Times and the Wall Street Journal. While he hasn't been charged with a crime, China has been pressing the U.S. to hand him over, amid speculation that he

might have had access to highly sensitive information.

Two U.S. officials familiar with the matter said on background that China hasn't formally requested assistance in the Ling matter.

The case of Qiao, the grain official, is different; it's one of two over the past decade in which the U.S. and China have acknowledged cooperating.

The U.S. indicted Qiao on immigration-fraud and money-laundering charges in July 2014, but kept the indictment sealed until March.

Qiao hasn't been arrested yet. A trail of clues about him ends in Europe, where a Li Feng with a St. Kitts passport and a birthdate that matches CCDI's records was listed in 2013 as vice president of the board of a Swiss hotel company. An officer in that business identified two photographs of Qiao sent by Bloomberg Businessweek as the man he knows as Li Feng. It's not clear whether the U.S. or China has followed that trail. Regardless, CCDI's Fu chalks up the Qiao case as a success.

"The reason the U.S. was able to indict him is because China provided information and evidence," he says. "The indictment in itself is a support to China's effort to hunt down fugitives overseas." **Bloomberg**

Didi Tang, Beijing

**C**HINA will hold a massive military parade through the heart of its capital, but ordinary folks can't watch.

Authorities obsessed with security and leery of any possible hitches will virtually shut down central Beijing today, keeping most people out of eyeshot for the parade commemorating the defeat of Japan in World War II. Residents who live along the parade route have received notices ordering them to stay off balconies, keep windows shut, invite no guests and — at some buildings — snap no pictures.

"I am eager to watch the parade, but I understand it's impossible for everyone to have the chance to see it," said a Beijing lawyer who identified himself only by his surname, Yao. "I think watching the live broadcast will be a good alternative."

The neighborhoods around Tiananmen Square, the main venue where President Xi Jinping will inspect the troops with foreign dignitaries, will be under curfew, and Beijing has mobilized 850,000 neighborhood watchers to report anything even slightly out of the ordinary.

City roads will be closed, public bus service suspended and many subway stops sealed, while cordon tape will keep members of the public away from the parade. Authorities also are shutting down office buildings,

# China to hold big parade, but ordinary folks can't go see it



Chinese policemen check identifications of a passerby ahead of today's massive military parade commemorating the end of World War II in Beijing

shops, restaurants and even hospitals along the route for at least 24 hours. Some buildings are staying shut for three days.

As is customary for major international events in the capital, authorities have placed restrictions on factories and traffic to ensure that skies are clear of

Beijing's frequent smog on parade day.

Many residents are fleeing the capital, including Zhang Yu, a 27-year-old media company employee heading to the northeastern seaside town of Dalian.

"The government is complete-

ly oblivious to the need for Beijing residents to have a normal life, and only cares about building its image," Zhang said.

Wu Zhenni, who lives in a 15th-floor apartment facing the parade's main avenue, said pride in the event outweighs any inconvenience. She said

she was thrilled about having a front-row view and wasn't concerned about any photography restrictions.

"Maybe it's not openly allowed, but it's not a big deal if I take some photos from home, when I see great scenes!" Wu said. **AP**

HONG KONG

## Teen student leader Joshua Wong faces trial over pro-democracy protest

**H**ONG Kong teenage student leader Joshua Wong is set to face trial on charges relating to his role in storming government headquarters nearly a year ago in a protest that sparked months-long pro-democracy street occupations.

Wong pleaded not guilty to charges of inciting and participating in an illegal assembly at a magistrate court yesterday.

Two other student leaders, Alex Chow and Nathan Law, also pleaded not guilty at the same hearing to similar charges.

After posting bail, Wong told reporters he didn't regret entering a fenced-off courtyard outside government headquarters during an evening rally on Sept. 26,



Hong Kong teenage student leader Joshua Wong, left, stands in front of yellow umbrellas outside a magistrates' court in Hong Kong

saying it was the "best decision" he'd ever made.

The 18-year-old leader of the Scholarism high school group helped spearhead last year's protest movement against Beijing's plan to restrict elections for top leader of the semiautonomous Chinese city.

Students and other activists occupied streets in busy neighborhoods across the Asian financial

hub for 79 days, but the protest movement fizzled out as authorities refused to budge.

Chow, former secretary general of the Hong Kong Federation of Students, which also played a main role organizing the protests, is charged with participating in an illegal assembly. Law, the group's current leader, is charged with inciting an illegal assembly.

During the protest,

huge crowds jammed the streets outside the government building after police arrested the popular Wong and other key leaders, holding them for nearly two days. Police attempts to scatter the crowds by using tear gas backfired, enraging the protesters and kick-starting their rally, which some called the Umbrella Movement and others dubbed Occupy Central.

The charges carry a maximum penalty of two years in prison, said Wong's lawyer, Michael Vidler.

He said that because he's under 21, Wong would more likely be required to perform community service or go to a youth correction center.

The case was adjourned until Oct. 30. **AP**

## Beijing, S. Korea agree to summit with Japan by November: Yonhap

Sam Kim

**C**HINA and South Korea agreed to hold a three-way summit with Japan in Seoul in late October or early November, Yonhap News said.

Chinese President Xi Jinping and South Korean President Park Geun Hye reached the agreement when they met for talks in Beijing yesterday, Yonhap News reported, citing unidentified Park aides. Her office in Seoul couldn't immediately confirm the report.

The foreign ministers of China, Japan and South Korea agreed in March to hold the summit "at the earliest convenient time." Park, Xi and Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe have never met together.

Park and Xi in recent months have signaled a willingness to put behind acrimony over Japan's wartime past to permit the first three-way summit in three years. Park said last month that it was time for relations with Japan to move forward "based on the



Chinese President Xi Jinping, right, shakes hands with South Korean President Park Geun-hye at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing yesterday

right historical recognition" after Abe said Japan inflicted "immeasurable damage and suffering" across Asia, in his statement marking the 70th anniversary of Japan's surrender in World War II.

A three-way summit may ease tensions related to territorial disputes and invigorate talks on a free-trade deal between the countries, which account for a fifth of the world economy. The three are also members of six-nation talks aimed at dismantling North Korea's nuclear arms programs. **Bloomberg**

## THAILAND

# Police: Suspect's prints match those on bomb material

Nattasuda Anusonadisai and  
Jocelyn Gecker, Bangkok

**P**OLICE investigating last month's Bangkok bombing said yesterday that the fingerprints of a foreign man arrested at the Thai-Cambodia border match those found on a bottle of bomb-making material, and that they were seeking to arrest a Turkish man linked to the blast.

The new suspect, identified as Emrah Davutoglu, is the husband of a Thai woman for whom an arrest warrant has already been issued because she had rented an apartment where bomb-making materials were found this past weekend. The woman professes innocence and says she is in Turkey. Of the eight people for whom arrest warrants have now been issued, at least two others are also believed to be Turkish.

National police spokesman Prawut Thavornsiri said authorities were still conducting DNA tests but could determine that the man arrested at the Cambodian border "is important and is related or conspired with people who committed" the Aug. 17 bombing at the Erawan Shrine in central Bangkok. The blast left 20 people dead, more than half of them foreigners, and over 120 injured.

Thailand's national deputy police chief, Chakthip Chaijinda, told reporters that he thinks the suspect arrested at the border speaks Turkish, which requires an interpreter.



Thai authorities arrest a man they believe is part of a group responsible for a deadly bombing at a shrine in central Bangkok

He did not say whether an interpreter has been brought in or if the Turkish Embassy has been approached.

The Turkish connection has fueled speculation the suspects may be part of a group seeking to avenge Thailand's forced repatriation of ethnic Uighurs to China in July.

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 that among them is a group that has been smuggled out of China to join Islamic State fighters in Syria.

In a later announcement, Prawut said Davutoglu faces charges of conspiracy to possess unauthorized war materials. Prawut said he is believed to have been "part of a network that provided accommodation" to those connected with the bombing.

Earlier this week, police is-

sued an arrest warrant for his wife, Thai national Wanna Suansan, whose name was on the lease of an apartment that police raided over the weekend where bomb-making materials were found. Wanna had told police that she had nothing to do with the bombing and wants to clear her name. Prawut said that Wanna had agreed to come back to Thailand to be questioned by police but then said "she has to think about it."

The investigation into the attack picked up after police raids this past weekend on two

apartments on the outskirts of Bangkok that contained bomb-making materials.

In the first apartment, raided Saturday in the Bangkok neighborhood of Nong Chok, police arrested a suspect they described as a foreign man and seized bomb-making equipment that included detonators, ball bearings and a metal pipe believed to be a bomb casing. The suspect arrested Saturday had a Turkish passport, though Thai authorities say it was fake. At his apartment, they seized more than 200 passports, an unknown number of which appeared to be Turkish and possibly fake.

They also took fingerprints from the apartment, which turned out to match those of the suspect arrested Tuesday at the border with Cambodia, Prawut said.

"We can confirm that the man's fingerprints match with those found on a bottle that contains a bombing substance," Prawut said, and then added, "He could be the one who brought the bomb out of this apartment or he could have brought the bomb to the crime scene."

Prawut said that further testing, including DNA tests, were being conducted to bolster that theory.

Both suspects who have been arrested are being interrogated by the military and have not yet been formally charged.

When authorities announced the arrest Tuesday of the suspect at the border, they described him as bearing resemblance to a man spotted in surveillance video at the shrine who is believed to have planted the bomb. The suspect seen in the video, wearing a yellow T-shirt, is carrying a backpack that he places on a bench before leaving. Prime Minister Prayuth told reporters that the arrested man was a foreigner who appeared to be trying to escape across the border. **AP**

## NORTH KOREA

# Pyongyang denies it apologized to Seoul over mine blast

Hyung-jin Kim, Seoul

**N**ORTH Korea said yesterday that its recent expression of "regret" over a mine explosion that maimed two South Korean soldiers was not an apology, as Seoul claims — raising doubts about tentative moves toward detente between the rivals.

The statement by Pyongyang's powerful National Defense Commission is the first explicit denial

of Seoul's interpretation of the key part of an accord that came last week after marathon negotiations allowed the Koreans to step back from escalating threats of war.

While previous comments by officials had signaled that North Korea did not see its expression of regret for the injuries as an apology, let alone as acknowledgement of responsibility, the vehemence of yesterday's denial, coupled with it

coming from the highest decision-making body in the country, muddies the prospects for better ties between the Koreans, which remain in a technical state of war.

The accord had been vague enough to give both sides seemingly what they wanted.

South Korea immediately interpreted it publicly as a mini-breakthrough, claiming that it successfully pushed the North to take responsibility for the

blast. North Korea got an end to the cross-border propaganda broadcasts Seoul had started after it said it had evidence that the North had planted the mines. Both sides began making plans for more talks and to resume reunions of families separated by war.

North Korea's new statement, however, is a clear warning.

"This kind of interpretation is the result of ignorance on the meaning of a



An unidentified South Korean army official, second from right, gives a briefing to the media at the scene of a blast inside the demilitarized zone in Paju, South Korea

Korean word and its concept," said the statement issued by an unidentified spokesman at the commission's policy department.

"South Korea must not forget for an instant that a misjudgment ... would tri-

gger fatal consequences on North-South relations," it went on. "Nothing can be cruder and un-handsomer than describing as one side's unilateral victory a joint statement that North and South Korea agreed upon." **AP**

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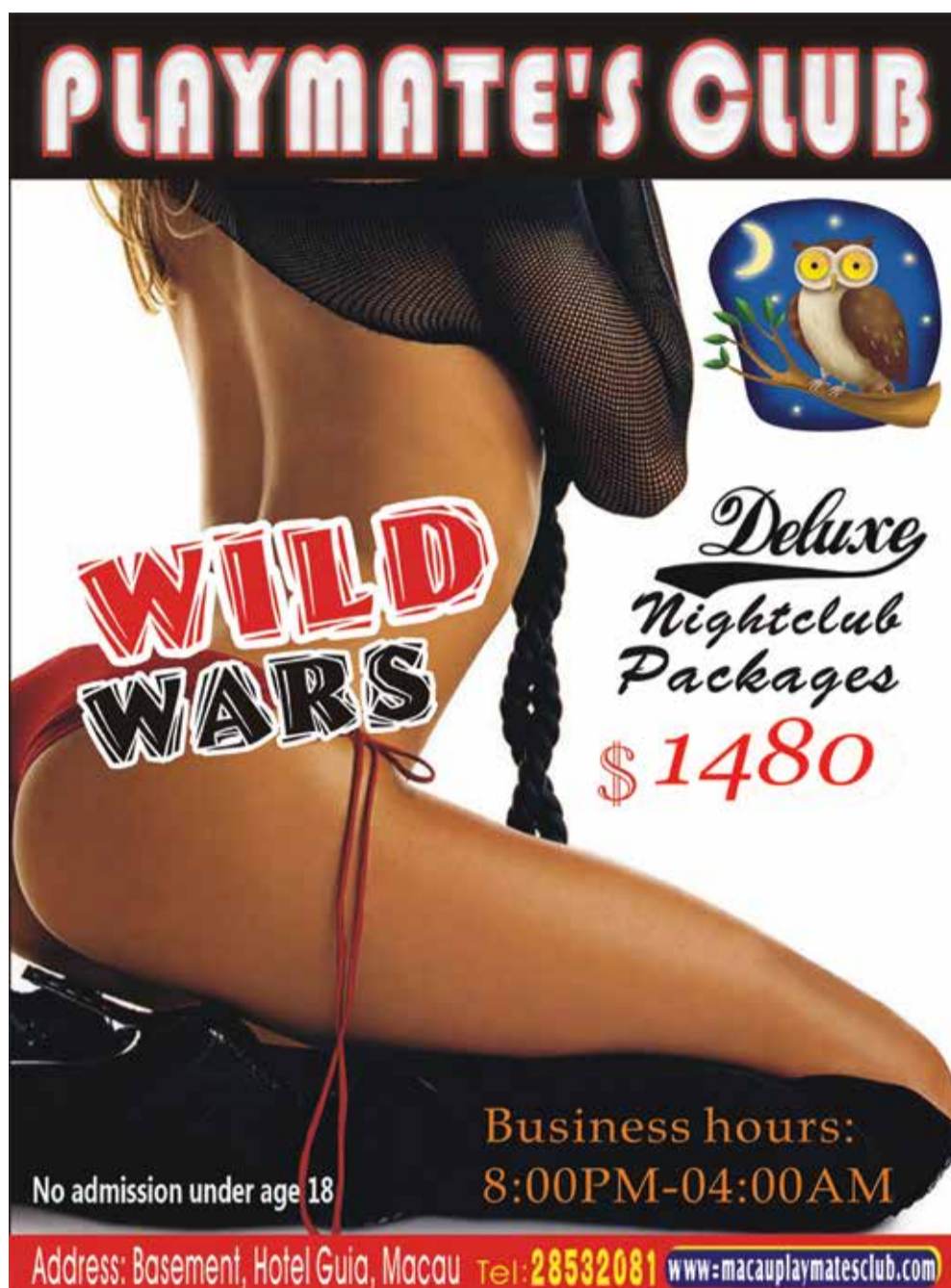


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Shawn Pogatchnik, Budapest

EUROPEAN MIGRANT CRISIS

# Hungary blocks immigrants from trains; 11 drown off Turkey

**H**UNDREDS of migrants chanted defiant slogans outside Budapest's main international train station yesterday as Hungarian police blocked them for a second day from seeking asylum in Germany and other wealthy European Union countries.

"What we want? Peace! What we need? Peace!" the migrants shouted outside the cavernous Keleti train station, the latest focal point for European tensions over the unrelenting flow of migrants from the Middle East, Asia and Africa fleeing war and poverty.

Hungary's prime minister, Viktor Orban, will take a "clear and obvious message" to his meeting today with EU chiefs in Brussels about migrants, a government spokesman said.

"We have to reinstate law and order at the borders of the European Union, including the border with Serbia," Zoltan Kovacs said. "Without re-establishing law and order, it will be impossible to handle the influx of migrants."

The 28-nation bloc has been at odds with itself for months on how to deal with the influx that has seen more than 332,000 migrants enter so far this year. Frontline nations like Greece, Italy and Hungary have pleaded for more help, while powerhouse Germany, which is expecting to take in 800,000 migrants this year, the most in the EU, has demanded that other nations step up and take in more asylum-seekers.

At other pressure points yesterday in the route into Europe, Turkish media reported that 11 migrants drowned as they tried to cross the sea to Greece. French authorities said cross-Channel Eurostar trains were returning to normal yesterday after serious overnight disruptions triggered by reports of migrants running on the undersea tunnel tracks and trying to climb atop trains.

On a beach in Turkey, people pulled the bodies of migrants out of the water, including one of a little child, and clothes from migrants washed up on the sand. Six other migrants were rescued and five remained missing when two boats carrying them from Bodrum to the nearby Greek island of Kos capsized yesterday. The private Dogan agency said the dead included a mother and three children.

The Greek coast guard also recovered the body of a man south of the tiny island of Kalolimnos. It was unclear if he was connected to the Bodrum deaths.

Hungary's police said they intend to reinforce their positions outside the Keleti terminal as the volume of migrants



Migrants shout slogans in front of the Keleti Railway Station in Budapest

■ **The volume of migrants arriving from Serbia grows by the hour, with an estimated 3,000 already encamped near [Budapest] station**

arriving from Serbia grows by the hour, with an estimated 3,000 already encamped near the station. Officers working with colleagues from Austria, Germany and Slovakia, were searching for migrants traveling on Hungarian trains.

The Hungarian government did not explain why hundreds of migrants were allowed to leave Budapest by train on

Monday but not Tuesday or yesterday. It insisted it was complying with EU rules on migration.

"(Migrants) are not entitled to move freely within the European Union even after entering Hungary," Kovacs told The Associated Press. "If the migrants don't comply with the very basic rules that are in place in the European Union, there is no solution to this problem."

Kovacs also defended Hungary's 4-meter fence being built on the border with Serbia and the tougher migration laws it expects to enact in a couple of weeks. Those new laws allow authorities to fast-track decisions on asylum requests and make it illegal to cut through the fence or cross the border except at designated areas.

"We're going to thwart any effort to come to Hungary by illegal means," Kovacs said.

The clampdown has had an immediate effect in the migrants' primary target country, Germany. German police reported yesterday that only about 50

migrants arrived on the morning trains to Munich, compared to 2,400 on Tuesday.

The Greek coast guard, meanwhile, said it had rescued 1,058 people in 28 Aegean Sea locations over the past 24 hours. More than 200,000 migrants have reached Greece this year, chiefly from neighboring Turkey, where more than 1 million live in refugee camps fueled by warfare in Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan.

Greek police also arrested six suspected smugglers in northern Greece after finding 103 migrants, including 19 children, hidden in a truck.

In France, passengers aboard one Paris-to-London train said their service was suspended because migrants trying to climb aboard the train had damaged fire safety equipment. In tweets, passengers also described seeing migrants running along the roofs of another train near the migrant-besieged French port of Calais.

In non-EU member Iceland, a populist movement is

challenging the government's pledge to host just 50 Syrians, taking to social media to urge their government to do more. Some residents went online to commit to opening their homes to a war refugee while others urged the government to turn a disused army base into migrant housing.

Naval vessels from several nations patrolled Mediterranean waters off the coast of Libya yesterday in hopes of preventing more mass drownings of migrants jammed onto flimsy smugglers' boats. A Norwegian vessel was carrying about 800 rescued migrants, including 11 pregnant women and more than 30 children, to Cagliari on the Italian island of Sardinia.

One migrant spoke wearily about missing his family.

"They call me every day and they say to me that they miss me. And I say I miss you. But there's no way to see them," Afghan migrant Abdullah Bakhshi told The AP as he walked along a road on the Greek island of Lesbos. **AP**

## TV canal macau



## THURSDAY

13:30 News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast

14:30 A Revolução do Rock Rendez-Vous

15:15 Cristina Nóbrega

16:50 David Beckham - Rumo ao Desconhecido

18:20 The Presence of Anita (Repeated)

19:10 Montra do Lilau (Repeat)

19:40 Soap Opera

20:30 Main News, Financial &amp; Weather Report

21:00 TDM Talk Show

21:40 Miscellaneous

22:10 The Presence of Anita

23:00 TDM News

23:30 Television Film

## FRIDAY

13:30 News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast

14:30 RTPi Live

18:20 The Presence of Anita (Repeated)

19:10 TDM Talkshow (Repeated)

19:40 Soap Opera

20:30 Main News, Financial &amp; Weather Report

21:15 News

22:10 The Presence of Anita - Final

23:00 TDM News

23:30 Portuguese Film

## SATURDAY

10:45 Boonie Bears

11:40 Young Children

12:00 Cooking

13:00 TDM News (Repeated)

13:30 News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast

14:30 Soap Opera

18:10 News

18:30 Contest

19:50 Macau 360° (Repeated)

20:30 Main News, Financial &amp; Weather Report

21:00 Drama

23:00 TDM News

23:30 Shorts

## SUNDAY

10:25 Young Children

11:00 Sunday Mass

13:00 TDM News (Repeated)

13:30 News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast

14:30 Zig Zag

17:10 Documentary Series

19:45 Comedy

20:30 Main News, Financial &amp; Weather Report

21:00 Contraponto

22:00 Caribbean with Simon Reeve

23:00 TDM News

## offbeat

## LAS VEGAS HAS EIFFEL TOWER, SPHINX AND NOW A URINATING BOY

Already home to replicas of the Eiffel Tower and Sphinx, Las Vegas now has its own copy of Belgium's Manneken-Pis, a statue of a naked little boy relieving himself into a fountain.

The D Las Vegas casino-hotel on Fremont Street revealed the 500-pound replica Tuesday that will sit in the property's valet area coyly saying the 100-year renewable contract with the inanimate little man amounted to the longest entertainer residency in Las Vegas history.

Derek Stevens with The D Las Vegas says he and his brother Greg are of Belgian descent and often visited the original 17th century Brussels statue said to be translated to "Little Man Pee."

The original is frequently dressed up in suits and Stevens expects to do the same with his copy which is two-times larger.

## 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 (Cantonese)

## this day in history



## 1954 NATIONAL TRUST BUYS REMOTE ISLAND

The National Trust for Scotland has taken control of Fair Isle, famous for its bird life and knitted sweaters.

The remote island situated between Shetland and Orkney was bought by George Waterston, an Edinburgh ornithologist, in 1948. He set up a bird observatory which has since built up a worldwide reputation.

The National Trust says it plans to expand research into migratory bird life.

It also plans to ensure greater security and stability for the dwindling population which currently numbers just 45 men, women and children.

The charity was able to buy the island thanks to a £5,500 grant from the Dulverton Trust.

The Pilgrim Trust has given £7,000 to the Bird Observatory Trust to expand their activities and begin a Fair Isle endowment fund.

It is hoped that those interested in birdlife will make donations to the fund to help protect wild birds and research their behaviour.

Mr Waterston told reporters today in Edinburgh that the plan for a bird observatory was concocted in a German prisoner of war camp with fellow inmate and ornithologist Ian Pitman.

Along with fish, Fair Isle's main export is its world famous woollen garments decorated with traditional designs handed down from generation to generation.

The Fair Isle sweater became highly fashionable in the 1920s when the Prince of Wales was often seen wearing one when playing golf.

Courtesy BBC News

## IN CONTEXT

The National Trust was founded in 1895 by Octavia Hill and its Scottish arm set up in 1926 to "protect and promote Scotland's natural and cultural heritage for present and future generations to enjoy".

In 1956 the National Trust organised a conference on Fair Isle to discuss ways of saving the island's economy by improving communications to the remote island.

By 2003 the population had risen to about 70 islanders. Fair Isle still houses an observatory for research into the origins, routes, wintering areas and feeding habits of spring and autumn migratory birds.



**YOUR STARS**

**Aries**  
Mar. 21-Apr. 19  
You're low on funds, but just because you can't shouldn't make you want to do less for others. Keep focusing on ways you can move forward that don't involve money.

**Taurus**  
April 20-May 20  
It might not be a good time to apply any way out ideas, but you can certainly enjoy tossing a few out for consideration. You may get more laughs than dividends, especially among friends.

**Gemini**  
May 21-Jun. 21  
There's plenty you can do to make yourself salient, with or without a bull market. Dreaming about change is becoming counter productive. Take one by the horns and go after it.

**Cancer**  
Jun. 22-Jul. 22  
If you feel the need to do some daydreaming, then be prepared to unearth some nuggets there. But if you think there's real money to be made, then get off the couch and out the door.

**Leo**  
Jul. 23-Aug. 22  
Sure, you have to spend money to make money, but that's only the fun part. You also have to take your time, do your research, and listen to your gut. While doing all that, don't spend a penny.

**Virgo**  
Aug. 23-Sept. 22  
Nothing is written in stone. Everything is changeable, especially at this early stage of the year. The details may seem too daunting to deal with, so for now, focus on broad goals.

**Libra**  
Sep.23-Oct. 22  
You had plenty of time recently to appreciate the smaller things in life. Now it's time to get back to business. Try to get back into your daily routine, even if it will be disrupted by the weekend.

**Scorpio**  
Oct. 23 - Nov. 21  
Like pulling a rabbit out of a hat, making money can take a certain kind of magic. Why not put the romance back into it and whip out a spray of flowers instead? Just be sure to keep the mechanisms hidden.

**Sagittarius**  
Nov. 22-Dec. 21  
Some stories are more than metaphors. In fact, they could expand the way you see yourself making money. Once you get the vision, you'll be revved up to start your plan.

**Capricorn**  
Dec. 22-Jan. 19  
It's a bit early to be asking for an advance. On the other hand, the sheer nerve alone might earn you some extra dividends. You'll know intuitively if your timing is right.

**Aquarius**  
Jan. 20-Feb. 18  
You may think you did a good job of keeping to a budget, but that's simply because the worst of the bills haven't come in yet. You'll kidding yourself if you think you can afford to overspend.

**Pisces**  
Feb.19-Mar. 20  
It's a high energy day, and it seems a waste not to make good use of it. But making hay means more than just making money. Try out new ways of finding value in life.

**THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom**



**SUDOKU**

**Easy**

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

**Easy+**

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

**Medium**

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

**Hard**

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

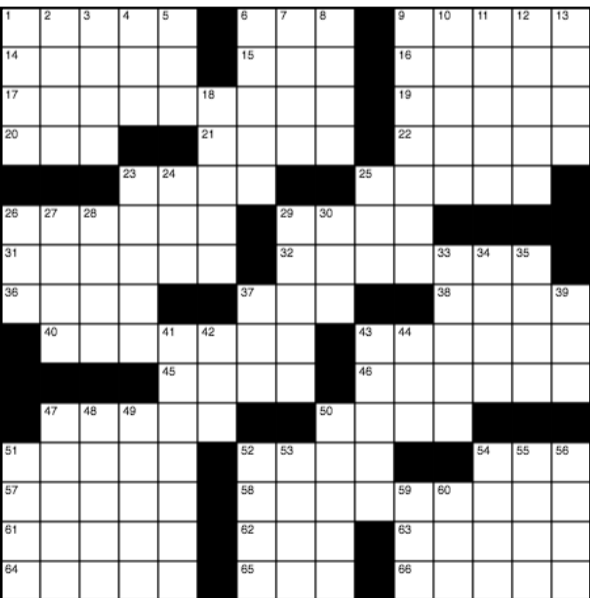
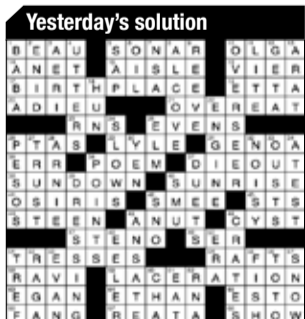
**WEATHER**

	MIN	MAX	CONDITION
<b>CHINA</b>			
Beijing	18	31	clear/cloudy
Harbin	14	23	shower/clear
Tianjin	22	30	clear
Urumqi	15	27	clear
Xi'an	22	27	overcast/moderate rain
Lhasa	12	22	shower
Chengdu	21	26	moderate rain/drizzle
Chongqing	25	34	cloudy
Kunming	16	24	shower
Nanjing	22	31	clear
Shanghai	24	31	cloudy
Wuhan	22	31	clear
Hangzhou	22	32	cloudy
Taipei	26	30	drizzle/moderate rain
Guangzhou	25	32	thundershower
Hong Kong	26	30	shower
<b>WORLD</b>			
Moscow	11	17	cloudy/drizzle
Frankfurt	12	21	drizzle
Paris	11	21	drizzle
London	10	16	drizzle
New York	20	31	clear

**CROSSWORDS**

**ACROSS:** 1- Answer; 6- Invoice abbr.; 9- Actress Phoebe; 14- Conger catcher; 15- Very early; 16- Eskimo boat; 17- Pharmacy; 19- Loiter; 20- Distress call; 21- Just manages, with "out"; 22- Eats to a plan; 23- Hook's mate; 25- Sonata movement; 26- Collapse; 29- Soared; 31- Activities; 32- Pride woman; 36- Slaughter of baseball; 37- Hung, neighbor; 38- Rabbit's tail; 40- Rudimentary component; 43- Flower parts; 45- Unit of computer memory; 46- Wide street; 47- Bristles; 50- At no time, poetically; 51- Biblical spy; 52- 1998 Sarah McLachlan hit; 54- "The Simpsons" bartender; 57- Stadium used for sports or musical events; 58- Remedy for wounds; 61- Massenet opera; 62- British verb ending; 63- Actor Romero; 64- Apportion; 65- Ave. crossers; 66- Sam, e.g.;

**DOWN:** 1- Some wines; 2- First name in architecture; 3- Asset; 4- Drumstick; 5- Decade div.; 6- Came to; 7- Trifling; 8- Driving aids; 9- Decrease; 10- Lower a sail; 11- Exhausted; 12- Keep an \_\_\_ the ground; 13- The \_\_\_ the limit; 18- Mall frequenters; 23- Have a feeling; 24- Russian fighter; 25- Stutz contemporary; 26- Alphabet trio; 27- First-class; 28- Six-stringed instrument; 29- Wind instrument; 30- Fleur-de-\_\_\_; 33- Fragrant compound; 34- Scrutinize; 35- "Star Trek" role; 37- Aardvark morsel; 39- Mao \_\_\_ tung; 41- Capital of Swaziland; 42- Observe, viewing organ; 43- Song of joy; 44- Woman created from the rib of Adam; 47- Mother of Isaac; 48- Actress Verdugo; 49- Andrea Bocelli, for one; 50- Frasier's brother; 51- Engine parts; 52- Budget rival; 53- Finely powdered earth; 54- Not fem.; 55- Word that can precede hygiene, tradition and agreement; 56- Fictional Jane; 59- Euro forerunner; 60- Cartoon dog



Crossword puzzles provided by BestCrosswords.com

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<b>PJ (Picket)</b> 28 557 775	<b>Electricity</b> - Report 28 339 922
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<b>Customs</b> 28 559 944	
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FOOTBALL

# No pressure for Japan coach ahead of World Cup qualifiers

John Duerden, Seoul

Thu, 6:25pm  
Japan v Cambodia  
H 1.02, D --, A 67

**D**ESPITE a disappointing start to his tenure as Japan coach, Vahid Halilhodzic has been told by the Japan football association that his job is not under threat ahead of today's World Cup qualifier against Cambodia.

The Bosnian's first competitive match in charge of Japan resulted in a disappointing goalless draw at home to Singapore in June and was followed by a last-place finish in the four-nation East Asian Cup in August. Japan's display with just two points from three games against bitter regional rivals China, South Korea and North Korea was poorly received by the Tokyo media.

"Some of the media is not so pa-



Japan's head coach Vahid Halilhodzic

tient, but this is a normal situation," Japan FA vice-president Kohzo Tashima told Associated Press.

"He hasn't really started, the first game was an unfortunate draw against Singapore and

while that was not a good result, we need more time to allow his football influence to be felt," added Tashima who was elected to FIFA's Executive Committee in April.

Elsewhere, Japan should be able to take three points from Cambodia at home on a Thursday night in Asian soccer, which features a series of regional powers hosting small teams.

Thirty-nine teams have been split into eight groups in this, the second round of qualification, with only the winners and four best runners up progressing to the final stage.

Asian champion Australia takes on Bangladesh in Perth in its first appearance on home soil since winning the Asian Cup in January.

Preparations for the Soccerroos have been overshadowed by a pay dispute between the players' union and Football Federation Australia, but Bangladesh boss

Lodewijk de Kruif is under no illusions as to the size of the challenge that awaits.

"We are progressing as a nation and the chance to play the Asian champion is a great one for us," the Dutchman told AP. "We will give it everything and use this experience to help us move to the next level."

South Korea hosts Laos, with new Tottenham Hotspur signing Son Heung-min hoping to show the form that led to the Premier League club spending a fee reported to be around USD33 million on the attacker, a record for an Asian player.

Group-leader Guam travels to Tehran with two wins from two matches, but Iran presents a much tougher test than opening games against Turkmenistan and India.

Elsewhere former Netherlands coach Bert van Marwijk has a first game in charge of Saudi Arabia against East Timor. **AP**

RUGBY

## Welsh player banned for using growth hormone



Britain's anti-doping authority has banned a former Wales international rugby league player for two years after positive for a growth hormone releasing peptide. Sean Penkywicz, who served a two-year ban in 2005 for using the banned steroid stanozolol, failed an out-of-competition test last year. The 33-year-old hooker had been playing for English club side Leigh. U.K. Anti-Doping says the case is only the second of its kind in the country relating to the banned substance GHRP-6, which is used by bodybuilders. The suspension runs to April 2017 and effectively ends his career.

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opinion

**HK Observer**

Robert Carroll



**BEGONE TRAMS AND TST PROMENADE! WHAT NEXT? EIFFEL TOWER?**

The old assertion "great minds think alike" - which triggers the riposte: "fools never differ" - comes to mind with recent ideas to 'improve' local iconic landmarks.

First of all there's the astonishing proposal to remove green trams from Central to Admiralty to allow more smoke-spewing trucks and private cars into one of the city's most polluted areas. Secondly there's the similarly outrageous idea to put top tourist and residents' draw, the Tsim Tsa-tsui Promenade, off limits for several years for an upgrade.

In the first case, the ridiculous reasoning is that tram-free roads will reduce traffic flow - but for whom? Cars and trucks. Get rid of the latter and the trams will run freely in a pedestrian-friendly zone in line with city centers in advanced cities worldwide. In the second case, the TST waterfront supposedly needs improving so who cares if all strollers are deprived of the magnificent harbor panorama? Who cares if many tourists stay away for the next three or more years until the work is completed - it's progress stupid! Hang on, isn't TST as a tourist magnet a package: the shopping, the buzz and the breathtaking harbor-side views? And what do we eventually get by closing off this star attraction? It's not exactly earth-shattering; a performance venue and another restaurant or two. Meanwhile given the great largesse of the developer, pouring money into a no-profit venture, surely, along the line, there should be compensation n'est-ce pas? Well how about squeezing in another tower or two into the adjoining area? Déjà vu anyone?

Back to losing the trams. This piece of genius - to be official-planner considered - came from a retired member of their ilk who runs a consultancy, called "Intellects". No, I didn't make this up. Ease dire traffic congestion in central by removing the trams he says.

However an Environmental Protection Department study, under the co-remit of their under-secretary, the capable environmentalist, and former pan-democrat camp legislator, Christine Loh Kung-wai, came to the admirable conclusion that private cars were the main culprit in traffic congestion in Central. Heaven forbid the thought that senior town planners thinking of their own chauffeur-driven convenience at the expense of nearly everyone else? Banish the thought! How could hugely paid officials whose job it is to plan according to the welfare of the public sacrifice the needs and convenience of the millions for their benefit? Unthinkable.

The counter argument to the continued running of trams is that they are slow, rattling, nostalgic remnants of a bygone age that have outlived their usefulness. Why use that form of public transport when there's the MTR? Convenience; more frequent stops than buses, and many more stations than the MTR. Then there's the view for tourists and locals alike at a speed which allows passengers to take it in. Not least there's the heritage value, an undoubted tourism asset is their age and uniqueness - the only two-deck tram service in the world. Lastly they are pollution-free road vehicles, and that's where the world is going. Trams are coming back.

Let's not forget that for civil service and government transport decision-makers MTR trumps trams. This proposal could be the thin end of the wedge. Then why not in future expand the tram-free zone; then why not get rid of the dinosaurs altogether?

If these plans go ahead there's more at stake than temporary shut down of the promenade and part loss of the trams. I mean not everybody loves the TST Avenue of Stars and many people rarely of never take the trams, which are slow, rattly, and through their open windows expose people to highly polluted streets.

**THE 2022 COMMONWEALTH GAMES AWARDED TO DURBAN**

Durban in South Africa will host the 2022 Commonwealth Games, becoming the first African city to be awarded the four-yearly multi-sports event.

The 71 nations and territories of the Commonwealth Games Federation made the decision unanimously yesterday after receiving

Durban's final candidate city briefing at the general assembly in Auckland.

The general assembly also voted to increase the number of compulsory sports at the games from 10 to 16. Scotland's Louise Martin was elected the first female president of the federation.

SIN CITY

**FIFA scandal becomes exhibit at Vegas museum**



Items on FIFA corruption are on display at the Mob Museum in Las Vegas

Kimberly Pierceall, Las Vegas

AL Capone, with raised eyebrows, appeared to be taking a curious sideways glance at the two-minute video of soccer playing and talk about corruption and crooks.

The same Las Vegas museum that has chronicled Sin City's mob beginnings led by the likes of Bugsy Siegel hopes to score with a new exhibit looking at the wide-ranging criminal investigation into soccer's governing body, FIFA.

The Mob Museum debuted the exhibit this week, the first of a rotating crop of exhibits to explore more modern examples of possible organized crime that may not involve fedora-wearing wiseguys and tommy guns.

"It just looks a little different," said Geoff Schumacher, the Mob Museum's director of content, saying future exhibits may likely delve into drug kingpin El Chapo's recent escape from prison, human trafficking and cybercrime.

"You don't have Lucky Lu-

ciano or Meyer Lansky. These are not household names today," he said.

But "The Godfather" mystique has lived on in news coverage following the FIFA investigation including the "FIFA Nostra" headline on French newspaper Liberation and a political cartoon portraying FIFA President Sepp Blatter wearing pinstripes and labeled the "Mafifa Don."

U.S. prosecutors indicted top-ranking FIFA officials in May and have sought their extradition on charges of bribery, fraud and racketeering. Prosecutors allege the defendants plotted to pay bribes of more than \$150 million tied to the award of broadcasting and hosting rights for major tournaments.

At the Mob Museum, the image of Capone, the notorious gangster dead for more than 68 years, looms large two doors down from the new FIFA exhibit.

In between a room filled with black and white family photos of infamous mobsters and an area where visi-

tors can simulate shooting bad guys, the small FIFA wall display is primarily a collection of news coverage, photos and captions set against wallpaper with a pattern of cash and currency symbols.

Admittedly, exhibits "ripped from the headlines" offer few artifacts beyond the literal newspaper and magazine covers, news photos and video clips because any evidence is tied up in ongoing investigations, Schumacher said.

Text explaining the exhibit that's being called "The 'Beautiful Game' Turns Ugly" states soccer's status as the world's most popular sport. "It's also the most corrupt," the text continues.

Those accused in the conspiracy haven't been convicted, and Blatter isn't among those indicted. Former official Chuck Blazer has pleaded guilty to racketeering, conspiracy and tax evasion, and he wore a wire to assist the investigation. Blazer's photo is among several others that fill the small display case including longtime FIFA president Blatter, who has promised to resign.

The display also features Scottish journalist Andrew Jennings and his press passes. "The crooks controlling the FIFA got away with it for so long because there was no real scrutiny," Jennings says in a video interview. AP

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

SOURCE: D5IMG

WORLD BRIEFS



**MALAYSIA** Transparency International said yesterday that Malaysia's fight against corruption can't be credible unless the truth is revealed about the USD700 million found in Prime Minister Najib Razak's personal accounts. Jose Ugaz, the president of Germany-based Transparency International, warned yesterday that Malaysia is facing a "corruption crisis" and that questions over who gave Najib the money, why and what happened to it must be answered.



**IRAQ** Masked men in military uniforms kidnapped 18 Turkish employees of an Ankara-based construction company in Baghdad early yesterday, bundling them into several SUVs and speeding away, Iraqi and Turkish officials said.



**VATICAN CITY** Pope Francis (pictured) is applying his vision of a merciful church to women who have had abortions, easing their path toward forgiveness and saying he realizes some felt they had no choice but to make "this agonizing and painful decision." In a letter published Tuesday by the Holy See, Francis said he was allowing all rank-and-file priests to grant absolution during the Holy Year of Mercy he has proclaimed, which runs Dec. 8, 2015 until Nov. 20, 2016.

times square by rodrigo

