



CUSTOMS SEIZE FAKES

The Customs Service confiscated a haul of fake merchandise at the airport. The two suspected smugglers are locals

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CHINA TRADE SHRINKS

Chinese exports and imports contracted in August in the latest sign of weakness for the world's second-biggest economy

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CONSUMER COUNCIL

Zhuhai home buyers warned of pitfalls

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WORLD BRIEFS

AP PHOTO



PORTUGAL Four days after his release from jail on bail, former Portuguese Prime Minister Jose Socrates has endorsed Socialist Party candidate Antonio Costa to lead the country following an Oct. 4 general election. Socrates gave his backing to Costa in a statement published yesterday in the *Jornal de Noticias* newspaper. Socrates was Portugal's center-left Socialist premier from 2005 to 2011. A Portuguese judge last Friday released him to house detention from jail, where he spent over nine months on suspicion of corruption, money-laundering and tax fraud.

AP PHOTO



CAMBODIA A large fire engulfs a popular nightclub in the Cambodian capital, killing at least five women who were trapped in one of the rooms. Two men are critically injured.

More on backpage

RENATO MARQUES



Monopoly madness in Macau

P3 MDT REPORT

Customs authorities seize fakes involving 15 brands

THE Macao Customs Service confiscated a significant number of fake products being smuggled into the Macao International Airport involving up to 15 well-known foreign brands throughout the middle of last month.

It was said that the counterfeits, packed in 34 boxes, were transit goods en route to other destinations. The two suspected smugglers caught in possession of the merchandise are both locals aged 53 and 56 respectively. The former is the owner of a local delivery firm

while the latter works for the company as a driver.

The authorities said that all of the seized contraband was not listed on the checklist submitted by the pair at the customs checkpoint, which showed only 120 packages in total for declaration.

The pair, who professed to be unaware that a portion of their goods were fakes, face prosecution after the agents pressed charges against them yesterday.

According to the authorities, the brands whose copyri-

ght protection was infringed were Chopard, Rolex, Prada, Burberry, Chanel, Louis Vuitton, Gucci, Calvin Klein, Dior, Adidas, Nike, Mizuno, Apple, New Balance and Yonex.

Local authorities said that the Framework Agreement on Cooperation Between Guangdong and Macau signed in 2011 with the provincial government strengthened their efforts to stop copyright infringements as both sides periodically participate in joint actions each year. **AU**



HEALTH

UM scholar makes new findings in treatment of depression

A collaborative research study by a team led by Prof Xiang Yutao from the University of Macau's (UM) Faculty of Health Sciences and a Chinese psychiatric clinical research center has found that measurement-based care (MBC) is more effective than standard treatment in easing the symptoms of patients with major depression and in achieving a complete clinical remission.

According to a press release issued by UM, the concept of measurement-based care (MBC) has been gaining attention by those concerned with the treatment of depression because it allows psychiatrists to individualize treatment decisions for each patient based on the changes of psychopathology and their tolerance toward antidepressants. Several studies have evaluated MBC and found that it could be suc-



Xiang Yutao

cessfully integrated into clinical practices and improve the health outcomes of patients.

In their study, 120 patients with moderate-to-severe major depression were consecutively randomized to 24 weeks of either MBC or standard treatment. Outcomes were evaluated by raters

masked to study protocol and treatment. The study shows that there were significantly more MBC-treated patients that reached a response (86.9 percent vs. 62.7 percent) and remission (73.8 percent vs. 28.8 percent). Similarly, the time of response and remission was signi-

ficantly shorter with MBC. Study discontinuation, adverse effects, and concomitant medications did not differ between the study groups. The results demonstrate the feasibility and effectiveness of MBC in patients with moderate-to-severe major depression, suggesting that MBC can be incorporated into the clinical care of those with major depression.

Prof Xiang is currently an associate professor at UM's Faculty of Health Sciences. His research focuses on health service research, mood disorders, and psychopharmacology. Over the past eight years, Prof Xiang has authored or co-authored over 150 papers, which have been published in major international journals, including *The Lancet*, *The American Journal of Psychiatry*, *The British Journal of Psychiatry*, and *Sleep*.

Pac On Ferry Terminal to open mid-2016

AFTER several delays and a huge budgetary slippage, the Marine and Water Bureau revealed that Taipa's Pac On Ferry Terminal expansion should be open to the public by mid-year 2016.

Interviewed by TDM, the bureau's director Susana Wong Soi Man explained that the Infrastructure Development Office (GDI) is expected to hand over the main areas of the ferry terminal currently under construction at the

end of this year. After that, six months will be required before the terminal is completely operational.

"We are cooperating with GDI in the building process and we expect that the delivery [of the infrastructure] should be made at the end of the year. If everything goes well, it will open to the public by mid-2016," the director said. Improvements at the Pac On Ferry Terminal have been over 10 years in the making.



RENATO MARQUES

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Monopoly's best fight for world title

CELEBRATING its 80th anniversary this year, Monopoly is one of the world's favorite board games. It's estimated that more than one billion players in 114 countries around the globe play it, and interest for the game is so high that a Monopoly World Championship has been continuously held since 1973.

For the first time yesterday The Venetian Macao played host to the final round of this year's World Championship where twenty-eight world best players battled it out to pass "Go", including reigning champion, Norwegian Bjørn Halvard Knappskog and veteran aficionado Italian Nicolo Falcone, who was ultimately crowned new World Monopoly Champion.

Some rules have been adapted over the years for this competitive version of the family game with the purpose of making it run faster, the most evident being the inclusion of a 'fast dice' called a 'speed die' that allows the players to run the board faster. Another of the rules is a 'time limit' instead of the regular 'play



Sin Chi Kuok



Nicolo Falcone

until there's a winner'.

The all-day competition saw 28 contestants, representing 26 countries and 2 territories, battling each other until the final table round.

Seated in the deciding match were Japan's Tsutomu Doita, the USA's Brian Valentine, Norway's Bjørn Halvard Knappskog and, Italy's Nicolo Falcone, together with Head

Judge Philip E. Orbanes.

Aside from the glory of becoming World Champion, up for grabs was also the chance to pocket a grand prize of USD20,580 for the winner,

exactly the equivalent of the "bank" in a standard Monopoly game.

On the sidelines of the competition, 80 sets of special edition Monopoly game boards were displayed, delighting game fans and collectors.

Macau was also one of the territories represented in the competition by player Sin Chi Kuok, who told the Times her reasons for developing a passion for the game. "This game is really exciting because it is all about probabilities and I'm doing probabilities research at University", she explained. Another incentive that got her hooked is that it requires negotiation skills and strategies, which are topics also of interest to the local player, who's currently

First World Champion shares experience



Leland Bayrd (center)

GUEST of honor at the 2015 Monopoly World Championship in Macau, Leland Bayrd couldn't pass unnoticed among game fans. Besides being a player for about sixty years now, he was the first Monopoly World Champion back in 1973. Now 75 years old, he's still keen to participate in every local charity tournament he possibly can back in his native California, USA.

Mr Bayrd also never says no to any invitation to follow the youngsters who now battle for the title that once belonged to him. As he told MDT, he is in Macau to share his passion for the game as well as tips about how to win it. "This is a fun game, it's set up

so people can play a game and compete and enjoy it," he said, admitting to playing it with his grand-daughter. In his opinion, that's one of the big reasons why the game has remained popular for so long, because it crosses generations and brings them to the table to have fun together.

Reflecting on whether there's some special skill to the game, of this he has no doubt: "Yes, there is. First you need to know about the odds and what properties you will likely to land the most... but of course there is also a 'luck factor' involved. If you roll continuously a 6 or an 8 you most probably will never land on my

property and that will increase dramatically your chances to win the game," he said, adding that it's much more about mathematics than pure luck. Another of the skills Mr Bayrd highlights is negotiation. "You really need to be in this game, you need to face people in the eyes when you are doing a trade and try to understand what they are thinking and feeling about it," he explained. In his opinion, that's one of the reasons computerized versions of the game were never too popular, because although it allows players to engage with people around the world, you can never face them.

And for those looking for tips to be a winner, Mr Bayrd gave a few pointers: "The oranges are the properties where you will land on the most and the reds and the next most, so those are the properties you want to get."

According to the veteran player, the most surprising thing about the current competitions is the age of the contestants. "They are getting younger and younger. In the old days a world championship would be played among people in their forties," he revealed.



The winner pocketed USD20,580

studying at Cornell University in New York, an institution that's been involved over the years in many studies and publications about the game.

Sin Chi Kuok thinks that besides being entertaining and having a multicultural approach that makes it playable everywhere in the world, Monopoly has many other advantages: "It's a great game, especially for young kids, because they can easily learn about what money is and investment and revenue, and also how to be persistent and accept failure when you lose", she added. **RM**



Red Market library to trial 24/7 opening next year

The city can expect its first around the clock library starting from next year. The Cultural Affairs Bureau vice president Chan Peng Fai stated that the authorities were striving to make that happen. The Red Market library is slated to become the first in the region to run 24 hours per day on trial. The bureau was preparing a public consultation on the matter, which would begin next month. The size of the above library made it the most suitable to start the initiative.

ENTERTAINMENT

Aaron Kwok marks Studio City Event Center opening

Aries Un

CELEBRATED Hong Kong A-lister Aaron Kwok is going to be the very first entertainer to take to the stage of Studio City's Studio City Event Center (SCEC).

The ultramodern venue, which prides itself on its "ground-breaking" interior, will greet the 49-year-old dancer-singer-actor on November 7.

During a media briefing yesterday afternoon, Kwok told the media that he felt special to be holding his "Aaron Kwok De Showy Masquerade World Tour Live in Macau 2015" in such a high-tech venue, which he believed would create an "extraordinary vibe" among his fans and the audience.

"As I am Chinese, I feel so honored to hold a large-scale concert on such an international stage," he said. "This time my show is not similar to those held previously in the United States, England or the Southeastern Asian countries."



Aaron Kwok

One of the features of the concert, divulged by Kwok, was the "intimate standing zone" located near the mobile stage, which allows the audience to have a high level of interaction with the performer.

Furthermore, it was said that the 5000-seat multifunctional venue's cutting-edge acoustics and satellite system designs will complement the artist's three-hour performan-

ce. Kwok's coordinating team conducted a tour through the event center earlier and is now elaborating on the repertoire.

Despite only a few details being released, the Hong Kong star assured his supporters that they might have to brace themselves for a "dynamic night," after which they would go home exhausted and hoarse-voiced.

Macau, which Kwok descri-

bed as "a dreamy fairyland full of entertainment and leisure activities," proved to be an inspiration for him.

"I'm especially in love with the tiny alleyways here in Macau, which are a unique feature to me," he said. "It contrasts with the finely designed casinos that have their own characters." He added that the strong contrast of gleaming resort complexes against the less developed side of the region has left a great impression on him.

Asked if he fretted over the impacts of economic slowdown on the attendance to his concert, Kwok stressed that he was only committed to "presenting his best efforts" to the concert-goers without caring much about what happened off stage. "As an artist, I only focus on what innovations I can present on stage," he said.

Following the performance of the artist, extolled as one of the "four heavenly kings" on the Hong Kong canto-pop scene, another two "legendary performances" will closely follow by "one of the most influential global artists of all times," Kwok hinted.

The famous artist just finished two concerts in Malaysia in April as part of his world tour.

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Consumer Council warns about buying property in Zhuhai

FACED with excessive prices in their hometown, many local residents resort to buying houses in mainland China, particularly in the neighboring city of Zhuhai. According to the Consumer Council (CC), more locals are resorting to that option and problems are arising from property sales, especially if the building is still in its project phase or under construction (pre-sales).

In a statement issued yesterday, the CC mentions that, many times, Macau residents are not well informed about the real estate regulations in mainland China and fall into some "traps."

Following the establishment of an information exchange protocol between CC and the Consumer Council of Zhuhai City, the latter issued a warning note about the acquisition of properties in mainland China.

The warning, now divulged by the CC, stated that people should be aware of some of the exaggerations or misleading in-



Cranes operate at a residential construction site in the Gongbei district of Zhuhai

formation that are contained in advertisements and promotional leaflets. It describes how sometimes promoters will indicate that the property is located close to banks, schools or hospitals, when that is not the case. The price tag put on the properties can be also misleading, since many times it refers only to the cheapest and smallest units.

Licensing is another matter of concern. The Zhuhai CC warning states that "consumers should ask for five licenses and two diplomas" before moving on with the acquisition. The diplomas include the permit to work as a real

estate agent and their academic qualification diploma. The licenses include the "license to use national land" and the "license to sell houses under construction."

The document continues on to mention that consumers should pay paramount attention to the quality of the property and verify whether the builder is "a prestigious firm."

"The owner can ask for the devolution of the house if the building has a serious structural problem. Otherwise, if the problem is general, the promoter should repair the building," the warning reads.

The purchase contract is another source of much conflict between buyers and sellers. The Zhuhai CC warning stresses that that document should be "clear and concise" and define clearly the date of delivery of the residence. It should also indicate the property's area since "consumers should be aware of possible mismatching between the gross construction area and the one that is effectively measured."

Another aspect relates to condominium management companies. Consumers are invited to check throughout what the companies are charging and the services provided.

The neighboring city Consumer Council concluded the document stating that those involved in property and estate conflicts in Zhuhai can contact the Macau CC. Given the protocol between the two institutions, the cases can be transferred to Zhuhai, where the council can provide support to consumers. **PB**



Average daily table revenue increases

Average daily table revenue in Macau's casinos came in at HKD605 million for the first six days of September, according to Barron's Asia. This was higher than the average HKD550 million recorded in August but similar to the last eight days of the month.

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CRIME

Police inquiry continues after woman strangled to death in flat

THE Judiciary Police (PJ) launched a probe yesterday morning after a local woman was allegedly strangled to death inside her own apartment near the Casa Garden.

The victim, aged 60, was found lying inanimate near the entrance of her residence in Edificio Fu I in the central district of the Macau peninsula upon the arrival of authorities. The initial investigation suggested the cause of death to be suffocation during the early hours of the morning, as her body showed indicative signs in the aftermath of the killing.

The online media outlet All About Macau (AAM) reported that the deceased woman's 68-year-old husband was behind the homicide. The man asked one of his two daughters, both of whom live separately in other locations, to call the police after the strangulation. However, the PJ spokesperson Sun Weng Si told the Times that no confirmation had been made over the identity of the

killer as of 8:00 p.m. yesterday.

She also added that the authorities were yet to pinpoint any possible suspect in the case, stressing that the agents remained in the middle of their inquiry. However, both AAM and TDM radio reported that the husband's nephew, who was also found at the scene, has been taken by the authorities to the PJ headquarters to be questioned.

According to TDM, the first to arrive was the victim's daughter, who later asked her cousin to notify the authorities.

The homicide has been considered astounding to many of the victim's neighbors, who described the couple as "affectionate to each other" and the victim as "amiable." They also claimed that the district where the killing took place was always secure.

An investigation to obtain more details on the murder is still underway, said the PJ spokeswoman. **AU**



The Taiwanese delegation visits MGM's Grande Praça

TOURISM | COOPERATION

Taiwanese delegation visits Macau, Zhuhai

A local committee created for the enhancement of the tourism industry organized a delegation of Taiwanese media and travel agency executives to visit Macau and Zhuhai. According to a press release issued by the Macau Government Tourist Office (MGTO), the event aimed to promote regional cooperation in the field of tourism, attracting more Taiwanese visitors to both destinations in one trip and steering Macau towards its

goal of becoming a World Center of Tourism and Leisure.

The delegates came from Taipei, Taichung and Kaohsiung including senior personnel from over 30 travel agencies and representatives of two travel magazines. The visit to Macau and Zhuhai was held between September 4 and 7. During the trip, the MGTO and the Zhuhai Culture, Sports and Tourism Bureau both updated the delegation on the

latest industry trends and multi-destination travel. In Macau, the delegation visited various hotel resorts, a grand art exhibition, the historic center and old Taipa Village, among other activities.

The event was organized by the "Joint Working Committee on Tourism to Support Macau's Aspirations to Build a World Center of Tourism and Leisure," which was created in early June this year by the MSAR and the China National Tourism Administration. In June, the committee held an expert seminar to explore ways in which to foster Macau's touristic development.

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Li Ka-Shing's Cheung Kong offers USD11.6b to buy power assets

Aibing Guo and Fox Hu

CCHEUNG Kong Infrastructure Holdings Ltd. offered USD11.6 billion in stock to buy Power Assets Holdings Ltd. as Li Ka-shing seeks to combine his utility businesses for further expansion.

Cheung Kong Infrastructure will offer 1.04 shares for every Power Assets share not owned by Li's companies, according to a Hong Kong exchange statement yesterday. Cheung Kong Infrastructure will also pay out a special interim dividend of HKD5 a share when the deal is approved, it said.

Hong Kong's richest man is reshuffling his business empire for the second time this year as he looks for acquisitions and prepares to hand over to his elder son Victor. The deal will give Cheung Kong Infrastructure access to the HK\$67.8 billion (\$8.7 billion) cash hoard held by Power Assets and bring together holdings in 11 projects globally.

"Infrastructure is a highly capital-intensive industry where bigger is better," Cheung Kong Infrastructure Chairman Victor Li told reporters. "After the merger we will be more diversified and not concentrated in just one country or industry."

In the past two years, the two companies have bought assets including an Australian gas distributor, a Dutch waste processor, and an airport parking business in Canada. The com-



Li Ka-Shing

bined company will own and operate utilities, waste management and transportation in China, Europe and Australia.

HSBC Holdings Plc is the adviser for Cheung Kong Infrastructure.

The dividend payout will take up about a third of the cash Power Assets has, Victor Li said.

"We are addressing the emotions of some small shareholders," said Victor Li. "Logically we feel there is no reason not to invest the money in businesses when the company is highly profitable."

Since January 2014, Cheung Kong Infrastructure has spent some HK\$14 billion on acquisitions, while Power Assets has done about HK\$5 billion of deals, Daiwa Capital Markets analyst Dennis Ip said in a February note.

"It would not be in the best interests of the Li family if the two companies remained separate entities such that CKI had

to issue equity for new project acquisitions, while Power Assets suffered opportunity cost from the idle cash," Daiwa's Ip had written.

After the acquisition, the Li family's CK Hutchison Holdings Ltd. will own 49.2 percent of the combined company. It now owns 75.7 percent of Cheung Kong Infrastructure, which holds 38.9 percent of Power Assets.

The elder Li reorganized his two main companies, Cheung Kong Holdings Ltd. and Hutchison Whampoa Ltd., in January this year. That created a company focused on property, with the other operating assets from ports to retail stores spanning more than 50 countries.

The Li family in June sold a 19.9 percent stakes in HK Electric Investment & HK Electric Investments Ltd. to Qatar Investment Authority, the Gulf state's sovereign wealth fund, for HK\$9.3 billion. **Bloomberg**

Japanese economy contracts 1.2 percent in April-June quarter

Elaine Kurtenbach
Business Writer, Tokyo

JJAPAN'S economy contracted at a 1.2 percent annual rate in the April-June quarter, according to revised data yesterday, as economists warned China's slowdown and financial market turmoil might weaken an expected recovery in the second half.

The figure was better than the preliminary estimate last month of a 1.6 percent contraction but economists said the general trend is weak.

"The details were hardly reassuring," Marcel Thieliand of Capital Economics said in a commentary. Corporate investment fell 0.9 percent.

He expects growth to be positive but tepid in the current quarter.

Public investment and private residential investment were the strongest areas of growth in the April-June quarter. Revisions to tax laws have led many property owners to raze old houses for reconstruction, helping boost housing starts.

But other areas such as auto registrations and industrial production have been lackluster. China's slowing

growth has also cast a pall on the outlook for exports in coming months.

"We recognize the downside risk to our growth forecast, with continuing disappointing news from Asian neighbors and recent market turmoil," Masamichi Adachi of JPMorgan said in a research note. He said he expects the economy to still recover in the second half of the year.

"In all, we continue to think that domestic demand is firming, but external demand may be weaker than we currently anticipate," he said.

Domestic demand was essentially flat in the April-June quarter. On a quarterly basis, the economy contracted 0.3 percent versus the earlier estimate of a 0.4 percent contraction.

The government hopes to boost growth through inflation, but sluggish wages and exports have frustrated that effort.

Employee compensation fell 0.2 percent in April-June.

Japan's fiscal year begins in April, so public spending tends to be highest in the spring, as construction projects resume or get underway. **AP**



A man walks past shelves of shirts in Tokyo

corporate bits

COTAI WATER JET LAUNCHES EIGHTH ANNIVERSARY PROMOTIONS



Cotai Water Jet will introduce three new ticket promotions to celebrate its eighth anniversary. The offers, one available via the Cotai Water Jet IOS/Android mobile app, and the other for WeChat users of Sands Resorts Cotai Strip Macao, will both offer discounts on tickets.

From Sept. 15 to Dec. 15,

customers purchasing an adult city route or airport route ferry ticket via the Cotai Water Jet IOS or Android mobile app will be able to upgrade to Cotai First tickets by paying an additional small fee.

Similarly, Sands Resorts Cotai Strip Macao WeChat users can get a promotional code that will allow them to download an e-coupon for two different offers. The first gives customers the chance to buy an additional Cotai Class ticket for a minimal charge when purchasing a full fare adult Cotai Class ticket, while the second offers WeChat users the chance to buy a Cotai First ticket when purchasing a full fare adult Cotai First one.

MACAO WATER'S MSR III COMES INTO OPERATION



Started in 2014 and having overcome almost two years of difficulties, the Main Storage Reservoir Water Treatment Plant III (MSR III) was completed in the middle of this year. Yesterday an inauguration ceremony for the new plant was successfully held at Macao Water.

Adhering to its business principle of "Preparing for the future", Macao Water decided two

years ago to begin the MSR III expansion project to further enhance local water supply capacity and strengthen the protection of short and mid-term water supply safety.

At a cost of MOP120 million, the MSR III is one of the investment projects forming part of Macao Water's 2011-2020 infrastructure planning worth a combined total of MOP700 million.

MANDARIN ORIENTAL PRESENTS MID-AUTUMN DELIGHTS

Mandarin Oriental, Macau celebrates Mid-Autumn Festival with its homemade mooncakes, presented in a gift box featuring the hotel's signature fan in the design. In addition, the Mandarin Oriental Cake Shop is providing Mandarin Oriental Mooncake Hampers containing mooncakes and a variety of goodies.

The mooncake box design is based on Mandarin Oriental, Macau's fan, which was originally produced in 1800, featuring brightly colored flowers on a gold background symbolizing vivacity and prosperity.

Inside the box are four mooncakes in flavors including double egg yolk with white lotus paste, sweet pastry with egg

custard and five-kernel with Yunnan ham, as well as single egg yolk and terminalia with red bean paste.



Brazil, Angola and China are the source of new investments in Portugal

NEARLY half of foreign direct investment in Portugal in 2014 originated in Brazil, Angola and China, contributing to increasing interconnectedness between these economies, according to official data.

The latest data from the Bank of Portugal on foreign investment in the country in 2014, the best year in the recent past in terms of foreign capital entry, showed that Brazil was responsible for 28.5 percent of the investment, and took a clear first place in the investment ranking.

The investment originating in Angola accounted for 9.5 percent of the total while investment from China was 8.8 percent of the total, with the three countries together making up 47 percent of total FDI in the period.

Investment from Brazil has focused on buying large Portuguese companies such as the acquisition of cement maker Cimpor by Camargo Corrêa, and the creation of



Lettering advertising a sale sits on the window of a shoe in Porto, Portugal

root companies such as a factory for aircraft components by Embraer, whose capacity is being strengthened.

Angola has made investments in banking (Millennium BCP, BPI, BIC), telecommunications (NOS), media (Global Media) and, more recently, in construction and in industry (Efacec).

As for China, there were notable investments in the power sector in Energias de Portugal (EDP), Redes Energéticas Nacionais (REN), in healthcare, insurance and investment banking (BESI), at a time when Fosun International is negotiating the purchase of Novo Banco, which would be the biggest

ever Chinese investment in Portugal.

Daily financial newspaper *Jornal de Negócios* reported that in the first half growth in investment from Brazil, Angola and Portugal in China continued despite the difficulties in these countries, especially the first two.

As a demonstration of the growing interdependence of these economies, the situation in Angola has caused concern in Portugal, with a fall in exports to this market and reduced business of Portuguese companies operating there, some of which recorded difficulties in paying wages.

As for the weight of Brazil,

Angola and China in the overall amount of foreign direct investment in Portugal, the trend is growing, but in total is still modest, and a long way from the Netherlands (23.6 percent), where the shareholding management companies of some major Portuguese corporations are headquartered, Spain (23.6 percent) and Luxembourg (21.5 percent).

Despite the recent sale of telecommunications operator PT by Brazilian telecom operator Oi, Brazil comes high on the list, below the UK and France with 2.3 percent of the investment amount, Angola with 1.7 percent and China with only 0.7 percent.

Taking into account the investment during the crisis period, after 2008, by the first half of this year, Angola went from 107 million euros invested to 1.721 billion euros, and China from 1.7 million euros to 706 million euros, with what were by far the most significant increases. **MDT/Macauhub**

Hainan Airlines likely to link Beijing to Fortaleza

CHINA'S Hainan Airlines and Brazil's Azul signed an agreement to launch a connection between China and Fortaleza in the Brazilian state of Ceará, with a stopover in Lisbon, Portugal, reported the specialized website NewsAvia.

The website cited the Fortaleza press, specifically the *O Povo* newspaper, as saying that the cooperation agreement was signed by the CEOs of both airlines, Chen Ming, for Hainan Airlines, and Antonioaldo Neves, for Azul.

One newspaper noted that the founder and majority-shareholder of Azul Linhas Aéreas Brasileiras driver is David Neeleman, who is one of two members of the Atlantic Gateway consortium that bought the Portuguese state's 61 percent stake in TAP - Air Portugal.

The Portuguese airline has, since 2010, had a code-share agreement with Air China, TAP's partner in the Star Alliance, for scheduled services on the Porto/Beijing, Lisbon/Beijing and Lisbon/Shanghai routes.

Under the agreement, TAP transports passengers headed for China to Frankfurt, Madrid, Rome or Milan and Air China guarantees the rest of the trip. **MDT/Macauhub**

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Trade shrinks in latest sign of economic weakness

Kelvin Chan
Business Writer, Hong Kong

CHINESE exports and imports contracted in August in the latest sign of weakness for the world's second-biggest economy.

Customs data posted online yesterday showed that shipments of goods last month shrank 5.5 percent in dollar terms compared with a year earlier while imports tumbled by 13.8 percent.

Julian Evans-Pritchard of Capital Economics predicted that trade growth would improve over the next few months because August's figures were hit by disruption from a massive explosion at the busy Tianjin port and government enforced factory shutdowns in the run-up to a huge military parade in Beijing last week.

But the trade data along with other recent weak indicators will add further pressure on China's communist leaders



as they try to keep the economy from slowing too fast and shedding too many jobs.

China's legions of export-oriented manufacturers have powered the country's re-

markable economic ascent but growth is stalling amid waning global demand. The manufacturing industry's woes are compounded by Beijing's efforts to guide the economy

away from trade and investment toward growth based on slower, self-sustaining domestic consumption.

The latest numbers come after a larger-than-expected

8.3 percent decline in July exports and a slew of other recent downbeat data on factory purchasing, retail sales, investment and industrial production.

Total exports last month totaled USD196.8 billion while imports were \$136.6 billion, leaving a trade surplus of \$60.2 billion.

China's economic growth held steady at 7 percent in the most recent quarter but doubts that Beijing can maintain that rate for the full year are rising, and were manifested in a bout of global stock market turmoil last month.

In response to signs faltering growth, policymakers in Beijing have cut interest rates five times since November, with the most recent cut coming in late August.

China also devalued the yuan last month in a surprise move that some analysts interpreted as an attempt to stimulate exports but which Beijing said was a move toward a more market-determined exchange rate.

Weakening the currency by up to 3 percent against the dollar would not have a big impact in demand for shipments, ANZ Bank economists said in a research note. **AP**

Business group says Beijing running out of time for reform

Joe McDonald
Business Writer, Beijing

A European business group warned yesterday that China is running out of time to keep slowing economic growth on track and needs to speed up market-opening reforms promised in a 2-year-old development plan.

In some areas, the ruling Communist Party is moving backward on reform pledges by reducing market access for foreign and private companies, said the European Union Chamber of Commerce in China in a report. It pointed to proposed laws that would limit use of foreign security and computer technology.

Growth in the world's second-biggest economy fell to a two-decade low of 7.4 percent last year. It is forecast to fall further as the ruling party tries to shift to sustainable expansion based on domestic consumption and service industries instead of trade and investment. Concern about a possible "hard landing" of plummeting growth that triggers political tensions has mounted as manufac-



turing, auto sales and exports weakened this year.

"The current slowdown could evolve into a soft landing if China manages to rebalance its economy," the chamber report said. But with an aging population, the report said, "its window of opportunity to successfully roll out the structural reforms needed to do so is rapidly closing."

The party's long-range development blueprint issued in 2013 calls for making the state-dominated economy more productive by giving market forces a central role and opening more industries to private and foreign competitors.

The chamber termed current conditions "reform and closing up" — a play on the party's long-time description of its economic plans as "reform and opening up."

The report echoes a si-

milar appeal last month by the American Chamber of Commerce in China for Beijing to move faster on opening banking, insurance and other service industries to private and foreign competitors. The group said that could help China improve its volatile financial markets and cope with disasters such as the deadly chemical explosion in the port of Tianjin.

Beijing has made some changes such as repealing in April a rule that limited foreign investors to owning only a minority stake in online commerce businesses. But it has yet to make significant changes to reduce the dominance of politically favored state-owned enterprises, or SOEs.

"Basically, we still see market forces being impaired by the strengthening or even the expansion of

SOEs," said the chamber president, Joerg Wuttke, in an interview ahead of the report's release.

The chamber urged the Chinese leadership to speed up reforms aimed at making bank lending and other financial business more market-oriented. It called for an end to China's system of catalogues that tell foreign companies in which industries they can invest. Instead, it urged Beijing to carry out its repeated promises to switch to a "negative list" that would put some areas off limits for national security or other reasons and leave the rest of the economy open.

The chamber warned that recent legal changes could close wide swathes of the economy to foreign and private business. It pointed to a sweeping, vaguely worded National Security Law, proposed restrictions on use by banks of foreign security products, a law tightening control over nongovernmental organizations and proposed cyber-security and anti-terrorism laws.

"Yes, China needs a national security law," said Wuttke. "But the wording is so opaque and vague that a lot of mergers and acquisitions by foreign businesses in China could be impossible." **AP**

Foreign reserves fall after spending on yuan support

Joe McDonald
Business Writer, Beijing

CHINA'S foreign exchange reserves fell by a record USD93.9 billion in August as the central bank spent heavily to support its currency's exchange rate following a surprise devaluation.

Reserves declined to \$3.557 trillion as of the end of August, according to the People's Bank of China. They remain by far the world's largest despite August's fall.

Currency traders bet the yuan would fall further after the Aug. 11 devaluation that rattled global financial markets, putting downward pressure on the exchange rate and prompting the central bank to buy the currency to support its value.

The central bank said the devaluation was part of efforts to make the yuan's state-set exchange rate more market-oriented. But the change, coming at a time of weakening Chinese economic growth, prompted suggestions it was trying to give struggling exporters a price advantage.

Analysts said the devaluation was too small to make a difference in trade but it fueled concerns of a possible "currency war" if other governments responded by weakening their own exchange rates.

"China will be facing a difficult situation, where efforts to support the yuan may be increasingly untenable," said Bernard Aw of IG Markets in a report.

Beijing amassed its foreign exchange reserves over the past two decades through buying currency to prevent the yuan from rising too fast against the U.S. dollar and hurting Chinese exporters.

At a meeting of Group of 20 finance officials last weekend, People's Bank Gov. Zhou Xiaochuan said the yuan had reached a stable exchange rate against the dollar, according to a central bank statement. **AP**

TIBET

Beijing holds ceremony marking 50 years of autonomous government

SCHOOLCHILDREN waved flags and paramilitary troops marched in full battle dress as the Chinese government yesterday staged a mass spectacle marking 50 years since Tibet's establishment as an ethnic autonomous region firmly under the control of Beijing.

The event lauded Tibet's economic successes under Communist Party rule, even as activists criticized its record on human rights.

Top political adviser Yu Zhengsheng stressed Tibet's unity with the rest of China in his address in front of a crowd of thousands gathered in front of the stunning Potala Palace in the regional capital of Lhasa, once home to the Dalai Lama and now a museum.

"During the past 50 years the Chinese Communist Party and the Tibetan people have led the transformation from a backward old Tibet to a vibrant socialist new Tibet," Yu told the audience of schoolchildren, soldiers, armed police and party officials applauding and waving flags.

People's living standards have improved, infrastructure has been built across Tibet and its gross domestic product had

■ ■
If Tibet's people have a good news story to tell, why doesn't Beijing let them freely tell it?

FREE TIBET



A drum dance phalanx performs a grand ceremony marking the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Tibet Autonomous Region at the square of the Potala Palace in Lhasa

grown 68 times, Yu said at the ceremony broadcast live on state television.

Yu's speech was followed by a parade of goose-stepping marchers carrying the national emblem of China, along with portraits of past and present leaders, including President Xi Jinping. Dancers and musicians in traditional Tibetan dress also performed, although there was no visible participation by representatives of the Buddhist clergy that forms the backbone of the Himalayan region's traditional culture.

Tibet has been a source of controversy ever since Beijing sent troops to occupy the Himalayan region following the 1949 communist revolution. It says the region has been part of Chinese territory for centuries, while many Tibetans say it has a long history of independence under a series of Buddhist leaders.

The region's traditional Buddhist ruler, the Dalai Lama, fled

in 1959 amid an abortive uprising against Chinese rule, and continues to advocate for a meaningful level of autonomy under Chinese rule.

China established the Tibetan autonomous region in 1965, one of five ethnic regions in the country today. While nominally in charge of its own affairs, Tibet's top officials are appointed by Beijing and expected to rule with an iron fist. The region, which incorporates only about half of Tibet's traditional territory, is closed to most foreign media and has been smothered in multiple layers of security ever since the outbreak of deadly anti-government riots in 2008.

Reinforcing the importance of strict control from Beijing, the party's central committee said in a statement that; "Only by sticking to the CPC's (Communist Party's) leadership and the ethnic autonomy system, can Tibetans be their own masters

and enjoy a sustainable economic development and long-term stability."

Referring to the Dalai Lama, Yu said activities by him and others to "split China and undermine ethnic unity have been defeated time and time again."

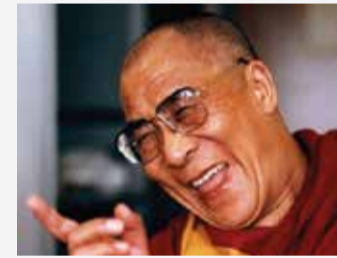
Free Tibet, a London-based rights group, said Beijing was trying to define Tibetan identity according to its priorities, and that Tibetans suffered restrictions on movement, censorship and lived in a system designed to punish opposition to the Beijing government.

"If Tibet's people have a good news story to tell, why doesn't Beijing let them freely tell it or give the world's media the opportunity to freely see it?" the group said.

There was no immediate comment from the 80-year-old Dalai Lama, who is in Britain this month for a series of speaking engagements.

CCP CLAIMS TO HAVE AUTHORITY OVER REINCARNATION

A CHINESE official on Sunday defended the role of the government in the Tibetan Buddhism system of reincarnation, saying whatever the Dalai Lama says or does can't change the central government's right to confirm a new incarnation. Norbu Dondup from the Party's United Front Work Department Tibet Autonomous Regional Committee, made the remarks at a press conference in which a white paper on Tibet was released ahead of the region's 50th anniversary. Dondup said the reincarnation system has been affirmed and regulated by the central government since the Qing Dynasty. "So, no matter what the Dalai Lama says or does, he can't deny the central government's right to confirm the new incarnation," the official stated. Dondup was responding to an interview by the New York Times with the 14th Dalai Lama, who said "the CPC is pretending that they know more about the reincarnation system than Dalai Lama."



Yesterday's event reflects Xi's taste for organized spectacle, in a throwback to the mass rallies common in the early decades of communist rule. It comes less than a week after a massive military parade in Beijing to mark 70 years since Japan's surrender at the end of World War II. AP

Court publicly apologizes for wrongful convictions

A Chinese court publicly apologized to 19 people it wrongfully convicted of financial crimes in a rare show of contrition by the country's authoritarian and highly opaque legal system.

The apology from the People's High Court for the eastern province of Anhui appeared in a local newspaper on Monday. The court said it wished to help restore the reputations of the individuals, all of whom were imprisoned in 2012 on charges of illegal fundraising, or fraud.

The 19 people were accused in a single case involving China's so-called grey economy, which loans money to busi-



ness ventures too small to obtain loans from large state banks. The court said a review of the case revealed the convictions were wrongful, but it didn't explain why.

The convictions of the 19 defendants were overturned as well as the original indictments against them.

Chinese courts are controlled by the ruling Communist Party, and trials almost always result in convictions. Wrongful convictions, including those resulting in the death penalty, are not unusual because of political considerations, reliance on confessions rather than evidence,

and pressure to solve homicides and other major cases.

Some cases have been overturned with restitution paid, but courts have hardly ever apologized.

In the Anhui case, the apology should be seen as a sign of progress in how the judicial system deals with its mistakes, said Gu Chengliang, a law professor at Shanghai's Jiaotong University.

"This is a move that deserves positive affirmation. It definitely marks progress in the legal system and is a position that courts should take when there's indeed injustice," Gu said. AP

JAPAN

Abe, running unopposed, on course to be longest serving PM

Maiko Takahashi Isabel Reynolds

SHINZO Abe is on course to become Japan's longest-serving prime minister in more than four decades after standing unopposed in his ruling party's leadership election.

Abe's re-selection yesterday as president of the Liberal Democratic Party comes as protests flare over unpopular legislation to expand the role of the Japanese military. Abe isn't required to hold a general election for another three years. If he stays in office until 2018, he would become the third-longest serving prime minister since World War II.

Potential rival Seiko Noda dropped out of the leadership race after failing to pick up the necessary number of nominations.

Putting the defense bills to bed after months of wrangling would open the way for Abe to return his focus to the economic policies that helped secure his unexpected comeback in 2012. An earlier stint as premier was cut short by parliamentary gridlock and illness. Slow progress toward his goals of escaping deflation and restoring confidence in the world's third-biggest economy may be further complicated by recent market turmoil in China.



Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, center, raises his clenched fist during a kickoff rally for an election, at a hotel in Tokyo

"Winning unopposed makes him look like the only game in town," said Robert Dujaric, director of the Institute of Contemporary Asian Studies at Temple University's Japan campus. "It was important for Abe to win with the biggest margin possible - which he did - as Abenomics isn't working yet and the security legislation isn't popular."

Public faith in the policies dubbed "Abenomics" has faded - with 37 percent of respondents to a Nikkei newspaper poll published Aug. 31 saying they had a high opinion of the policies, while 45 percent said they didn't.

With opposition parties in disarray, Abe has nonetheless managed to claw back some of the public support he lost over the defense bills, which are set to be enacted by the end of the parliamentary session on Sept. 27.

He incorporated a wide range of views in his statement on the 70th anniversary of Japan's World War II defeat. He also scrapped a plan for a futuristic Olympic stadium amid public frustration over the expense amid ballooning public debt. The Nikkei newspaper survey found 46 percent of voters supported him, up on 38 percent in a similar poll the previous month.

If Abe remains prime minister until September 2018, he will overtake his mentor Junichiro Koizumi. The longest-serving was his great-uncle Eisaku Sato, who stayed in office for a total of more than seven years until 1972. Shigeru Yoshida is close behind, also serving just over seven years in the 1940s and 1950s.

Bloomberg

AUSTRALIA

Critics: Deal to send refugees to Cambodia damaged

Rod McGuirk, Canberra

A multi-million dollar deal to resettle refugees from an Australia-run detention camp on the Pacific nation of Nauru to Cambodia has been irreparably damaged by a Rohingya refugee's decision to go home to Myanmar, the opposition and refugee advocates said yesterday.

Only four refugees — two Iranian men, an Iranian woman and the Rohingya man — took up the offer of cash, free health insurance and accommodation to resettle from Nauru to a gated community in the Cambodian capital of Phnom Penh in early June.



Ethnic Rohingya sit at a refugee camp north of Sittwe, western Rakhine state, Myanmar

The four are pilot cases for another 637 asylum seekers on Nauru who were hoping that Australia will accept them.

A Cambodian official revealed this week that the 24-year-old ethnic

Rohingya man from Myanmar wanted to give up his refugee status and return to his homeland. He had been in contact with the Myanmar embassy in Cambodia.

Opposition immigra-

tion spokesman Richard Marles said Prime Minister Tony Abbott's government had agreed to pay 55 million Australian dollars (USD38 million) for the Cambodian deal which did not solve the problem of where to send asylum seekers who want to live in Australia.

"As an option, Cambodia has amounted to an expensive joke," Marles said in a statement.

He said Abbott's government does not have a "sensible" solution to for the asylum seekers on Nauru.

Immigration Minister Peter Dutton was in Europe and has not commented. He said in May that he expected the first

refugees to resettle in Cambodia would be a success story that would encourage other refugees on Nauru to follow. Cambodia will only accept refugees who come voluntarily.

Paul Power, chief executive of the national umbrella group Refugee Council of Australia, said the Cambodia experience would only discourage others.

"The fact that someone who's fled such an appalling situation in Myanmar wants to go back there rather than stay where they are, it's a pretty devastating condemnation of the practicality of what the Australian government has

constructed there," Power said.

Ian Rintoul, Sydney-based director of the Australian advocacy group Refugee Action Coalition, said he spoke to all four refugees before they left Nauru and none intended to stay in Cambodia. They'd hoped to collect lump sums of about \$10,000 which never materialized.

"They thought they were going to get enough money to go somewhere else — it's as blunt as that," Rintoul said.

The International Organization for Migration, which helped settle the refugees in Phnom Penh, declined to comment on the Rohingya's circumstances. AP

KOREAS

North and South to hold Oct. 20-26 reunions of war-divided families

Hyung-jin Kim, Seoul

NORTH and South Korea agreed yesterday to hold reunions next month of families separated by the Korean War in the early 1950s, a small but important bit of progress for rivals that just last month were threatening each other with war.

One hundred mostly elderly people from each country will be reunited with their relatives Oct. 20-26 at the Diamond Mountain resort in North Korea, according to Seoul's Unification Ministry and North Korean state media.

The decision came after overnight talks among the Korea's Red Cross officials at the border village of Panmunjom that began Monday. The Korea's initially agreed to push for the reunions after striking a deal last month that eased a standoff that had flared after a mine explosion blamed on Pyongyang maimed two South Korean soldiers.

The highly emotional reunions have not happened since early last year. But even yesterday's announcement doesn't guarantee success. The rivals have a long history of failing to follow through on reconciliation efforts.



South Korea's chief delegate Lee Duk-haeng, right, shakes hands with North Korean delegate Pak Yong Il, left, at the Inter-Korean Red Cross Working Level meeting at the border village of Panmunjom in Paju, South Korea

Planned reunions in 2013 were scrapped at the last minute because of North Korean anger in part over its claim that the South was trying to overthrow Pyongyang's government.

Most applicants are in their 70s or older and desperate to see their loved ones before they die. Many Koreans don't even

know whether relatives on the other side of the border are still alive because their governments mostly ban the exchange of letters, phone calls or emails.

Some foreign analysts also remain skeptical about inter-Korean ties because of speculation that North Korea will fire what it calls a satellite to

celebrate the 70th birthday on Oct. 10 of its ruling party. Similar past launches triggered an international standoff as South Korea and other neighboring countries called them disguised tests for long-range missiles. Such a launch would endanger the reunions.

About 22,500 Koreans had

participated in brief reunions — 18,800 in person and the others by video — during a period of detente. None were given a second chance to meet their relatives, according to South Korea's Red Cross.

South Korean officials have long called for holding reunions more regularly and expanding the number of people taking part. North Korea is seen as worrying that doing so could open the country to influence from more affluent South Korea and threaten the ruling party's grip on power.

During the talks, South Korea reiterated its demands that both countries regularize reunions, and allow separated family members to check whether their loved ones are still alive and exchange letters. North Korea wanted to focus on next month's reunion, chief South Korean negotiator Lee Duk-haeng told reporters in a televised briefing.

Lee said the countries agreed to try to resolve the issue of separated families and hold Red Cross talks again soon.

The two Korea's remain divided along the world's most heavily fortified border since the 1950-53 Korean War ended with an armistice, not a peace treaty. **AP**

MYANMAR

Suu Kyi opens election campaign on Facebook

JUST five years ago, when Aung San Suu Kyi was still under house arrest, she commented that one day she hoped to get a Twitter account and chat with the outside world.

Yesterday, the opposition leader kicked off campaigning for Myanmar's historic Nov. 8 general election with a Facebook post — one of many signs of how far the country and its most recognizable politician have come in a few years.

In a video message, Suu Kyi called the upcoming election "a crucial turning point for our country."

Suu Kyi, who enjoys huge public support, is barred from running for president because of a clause in the constitution



In this Sept. 6 file photo, Myanmar opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi speaks during her "Election Awareness Tour" in Ho-Pong township, southern Shan State

that excludes people with foreign spouses or foreign children from the presidency. The clause is widely seen as custom-made for Suu Kyi, who is the widow of a British academic and has two sons with British nationality. But she is seeking re-election to parliament.

"For the first time in

decades, our people will have a real chance of bringing about real change," Suu Kyi said in the message posted on her party's Facebook page in Burmese and English. "We hope that the whole world understands how important it is for us to have free and fair elections."

More than 90 political

parties will take part in the parliamentary elections, which are being closely watched as the next step toward democracy in a country that was run by a repressive military junta for nearly half a century.

The polls will be the first since a nominally civilian government was installed in 2011. But with the military still firmly in control of the process, there is widespread speculation over whether the election will be free and fair.

The polls will also be the first time Suu Kyi's National League for Democracy party has contested a general election in 25 years.

The NLD is expected to make large gains at the expense of the military-backed ruling party, and mi-

ght even win a majority.

The last time the NLD took part in a national election was in 1990, when it won by a landslide. But the result was ignored by the military, which kept Suu Kyi locked away under house arrest for 15 years without phone lines or Internet and blocked virtually all contact with the outside world.

The party boycotted the next nationwide election in 2010 because Suu Kyi, a Nobel Peace Prize winner, was still under house arrest and barred from taking part. The 2010 polls were condemned by international observers for widespread irregularities. It was in 2010 that Suu Kyi commented through her lawyer that she wished to "sign up

on Twitter" once she was released to "get in touch with the younger generation inside and outside the country."

A week after the 2010 election, Suu Kyi was released from house arrest. Her party took part in 2012 by-elections, winning 43 of the 44 seats it contested — including Suu Kyi's first elected post as a member of parliament.

"We hope to take our country to that point where there can be no return from genuine development in the democratic direction," Suu Kyi said in the video message yesterday. "Please help us by observing what happens before the elections, during the elections, and, crucially after the elections." **AP**

CATHOLIC CHURCH REFORM

Pope speeds up, simplifies process for marriage annulments

Nicole Winfield, Vatican City

POPE Francis radically reformed the Catholic Church's process for annulling marriages yesterday, allowing for fast-track decisions and removing automatic appeals in a bid to speed up and simplify the procedure.

Francis issued a new law overhauling three centuries of church practice, placing the onus squarely on bishops around the world to now determine when a fundamental flaw has made a marriage invalid.

Catholics must get a church annulment if they want to remarry in the church. Without it, divorced Catholics who remarry civilly are considered to be adulterers living in sin and are forbidden from receiving Communion — a dilemma at the heart of a debate currently roiling the church that will come to the fore next month at a big meeting of bishops.

The church's annulment pro-



Pope Francis waves to the faithful as he arrives to recite the Angelus noon prayer from his studio window overlooking St. Peter's Square at the Vatican on Sunday

cess has long been criticized for being complicated, costly and out of reach for many Catholics, especially in poor countries where dioceses don't have marriage tribunals.

"With this fundamental law, Francis has now launched the

true start of his reform," said Monsignor Pio Vito Pinto, the head of the Roman Rota, the church's marriage court. "He is putting the poor at the center — that is the divorced, remarried who have been held at arms' length — and asking for bishops

to have a true change of heart."

Reasons for granting annulments vary, including that the couple never intended their marriage to last or that one of the spouses didn't want children.

Francis' biggest reform involves a new fast-track procedure, handled by the local bishop, that can be used when both spouses request an annulment or don't oppose it. It can also be used when other proof makes a more drawn-out investigation unnecessary.

It calls for the process to be completed within 45 days.

The longer, regular process should take no more than a year, officials said.

Another reform is the removal of the appeal that automatically took place after the first decision was made, even if neither spouse wanted it. An appeal is still possible, but if one of the sides requests it — a simplification that was used in the United Sta-

tes for many years.

The reform also allows the local bishop, in places where the normally required three-judge tribunal isn't available, to be the judge himself or to delegate the handling of the cases to a priest-judge with two assistants.

That measure is aimed at providing Catholic couples with recourse to annulments in poorer parts of the world, or places where the church doesn't have the resources or manpower to have fully functioning tribunals.

In the document, Francis insisted that marriage remains an indissoluble union and that the new regulations aren't meant to help to end them. Rather, he said, the reform is aimed at speeding up and simplifying the process so that the faithful can find justice.

The overall aim of the reform, he said, "is the salvation of souls."

"It is a democratizing move focused on easing the course of reintegration into the church for women, in particular," said Candida Moss, professor of Biblical studies at the University of Notre Dame. "His actions are propelled by compassion and pragmatism: He recognizes the dangers of spousal abuse and the reality that many modern marriages are undertaken without full consideration." **AP**

AD



Start 11.00am
Hac Sa Beach near Miramar Restaurant

2015



Tournament

澳門沙灘欖球賽

Macau Bats Mini Rugby - Registration & Kick Off day
September 19th at Taipa Hockey Ground

2015
Macao
Beach
RUGBY

EUROPEAN MIGRANT CRISIS

Germany prioritizes refugee funds as Hungary speeds up fence

Patrick Donahue, Edith Balazs and Alexander Weber

GERMAN Chancellor Angela Merkel said Europe is facing a defining moment tackling the largest influx of refugees since World War II as diverging paths for handling the crisis came into focus across the region.

"I've rarely held such an innermost conviction that this is a task that will decide whether Europe is accepted as a continent of values," Merkel said yesterday after meeting Swedish Prime Minister Stefan Lofven in Berlin. "On this issue where the whole world's eyes are upon us, we can't just say Syria is too far away, we won't deal with it."

German Finance Minister Wolfgang Schauble said earlier in the day that providing 6 billion euros (USD6.7 billion) in added



Young refugees with cuddly toys in hand arrive at the main train station in Munich, Germany

funds for refugees is an "absolute priority." That contrasted with Istvan Simicsko, named Hungary's defense minister on Monday, who said his country will devote more resources to speeding up the fortification of a razor-wire border fence.

The two countries are indicative of a wider divide within the European Union, with Germany among nations calling for greater burden sharing by introducing refugee quotas across the 28-member bloc, and others such as Hungary arguing that doing so will simply encourage more migrants to come. Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban is taking a get-tough approach by building the fence, beefing up the number of soldiers along the border and pushing through stricter laws.

Hungary plans to deploy as many as 4,000 soldiers to complete construction of the sturdier fence on the country's border with Serbia should parliament approve the measure, Simicsko told reporters in Budapest, calling the situation "extremely grave."

Germany - which estima-

tes that 800,000 migrants will enter the country in 2015, nearly four times last year's figure - is backing a European Commission plan that will be announced today. Jean-Claude Juncker, the commission's president, will propose relocating 120,000 migrants in Italy, Greece and Hungary to countries throughout the EU, according to an EU official who asked not to be identified discussing plans that are not yet public.

The list of nations deemed free of political persecution to which people can be safely returned will expand to include EU candidate countries in the western Balkans and Turkey, a move meant to speed up the deportation of those unlikely to get asylum, the person said.

"Sweden and Germany are of the opinion that we need binding quotas, binding numbers

of refugees who have a right to asylum and who are then fairly distributed across EU member states based on certain principles," Merkel said. "Unfortunately, we're far off from that - and therefore we're of the opinion that something has to change here."

The U.K., Ireland and Denmark won't be included in Juncker's proposal because they have an opt-out on immigration policy. U.K. Prime Minister David Cameron, who pledged on Monday to take 20,000 refugees over five years, will accept people directly from camps in the Middle East instead of those already in Europe. Cameron argues his plan will make the process more orderly and cut down on human trafficking and deaths.

Austria, which is expecting as many as 80,000 asylum requests this year, is one of the proponents of a quota system. Chancellor Werner Faymann met Slovak Prime Minister Robert Fico and Czech Premier Bohuslav Sobotka in Bratislava on Monday to discuss the plan, which the eastern European leaders oppose.

"There are tough discussions, and I experienced some yesterday," Faymann told journalists in Vienna yesterday. "It's unacceptable for the European Union that some countries, just because they aren't personally affected to the same extent, don't contribute to a common solution." **Bloomberg**

OBAMA ADMINISTRATION WEIGHS STEPS TO HELP CRISIS

THE OBAMA administration says it is "actively considering" ways to be more responsive to the global migrant crisis, including refugee resettlement. Peter Boogaard, a spokesman for the National Security Council, said the United States is in contact with countries in the Middle East and Europe grappling with the influx of more than 340,000 people from the Middle East, Africa and Asia. He did not

elaborate on specific measures, but said they included "refugee resettlement." He noted that the U.S. has provided over USD4 billion in humanitarian assistance since the Syrian crisis began, and over \$1 billion in assistance this year. On Monday, Democratic presidential front-runner Hillary Rodham Clinton called in an Associated Press interview for a "concerted global effort" to assist the refugees.

CECIL THE LION

Minnesota dentist who killed beloved lion returns to work

Kyle Potter, Minneapolis

THE American dentist at the center of an international uproar over the killing of a beloved lion in Zimbabwe returned to his clinic in suburban Minneapolis yesterday after weeks out of the public eye.

Walter Palmer entered the clinic in Bloomington at about 7 a.m. without a word to media gathered outside. As he walked from his vehicle, a staff member met him on the sidewalk, grabbed his

arm and parted a throng of reporters to rush the dentist to the front door.

Employees also escorted patients inside. Police blocked off an area around the clinic and were working to minimize potential traffic congestion in case of a big protest turnout.

Only a handful of protesters were on hand around sunrise.

Cathy Pierce, wearing a shirt with Cecil's photo, yelled "Extradite Palmer" as the dentist was whisked inside the Bloom-

ington clinic.

It's been a month since Zimbabwean officials announced that police would process paperwork to extradite Palmer for participating in the hunt, but as of Monday, a police spokeswoman in Harare, Zimbabwe's capital, said there were no new developments in the case.

An attorney acting on Palmer's behalf told AP that he offered to make Palmer available to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to talk about the case several weeks ago,

but he hasn't heard back.

Stephanie Michaelis, a woman who lives near the clinic, came over to argue with protesters, telling them to leave Palmer alone. She said the uproar over Cecil's death was overblown and that people should be more concerned about abortions and threats to human life.

In an interview Sunday with The Associated Press, Palmer disputed some accounts of the hunt and repeated that he believed he acted legally



Police stand guard at the dental practice of Walter Palmer, who returned to his practice yesterday

and was stunned to find out his hunting party had killed one of Zimbabwe's most treasured animals.

Cecil was a fixture in the vast Hwange National Park and had been fitted with a GPS collar as part of Oxford University lion research. After Palmer was named in late July

as the hunter who killed Cecil, his Bloomington clinic and Eden Prairie home became protest sites, and a vacation property he owns in Florida was vandalized. Palmer was vilified across social media, with some posts suggesting violence against him. **AP**

what's ON

"BEST FILM MUSIC OF ALL TIME"
- MACAU YOUTH SYMPHONIC BAND
TIME: 8pm
VENUE: Macau Cultural Centre,
Avenida Xian Xing Hai, s/m, NAPE
ADMISSION: MOP100
LANGUAGE: Cantonese
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2825 2825 / 2825 5555

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
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

Offbeat

SOUTH AFRICA: ZULU REED DANCE
DISRUPTED BY "EVIL SPIRITS"

South Africa's annual Zulu Reed Dance ceremony was disrupted by hallucinating girls who swarmed the country's president, a Johannesburg newspaper reported on Monday.

Teenage girls dancing in the annual cultural festival heard voices and rushed toward the area where President Jacob Zuma and Zulu King Goodwill Zwelithini were seated during the Saturday ceremony in KwaZulu-Natal province. The president's bodyguards escorted him away from the thousands of colorfully-clad dancers, The Star's front-page report said.

Zuma's spokesman, who was at the ceremony, said the newspaper reports were exaggerated.

"There was no danger to the president," Bongani Majola told The Associated Press, adding that Zuma attended the whole ceremony without further incident.

"There are some of you who came here with evil spirits to spoil this event," the Zulu king told the crowd once order was restored, according to the report.

Nomagugu Ngobese, president of a cultural group that trains the young women, heard reports that priests were summoned on Friday, after some dancers began wailing, apparently possessed.

This happened again during the main ceremony on Saturday. Dancers began to hallucinate and scream, causing panic among the crowd of thousands of young women, who scattered in different directions, said Ngobese, who attended the ceremony. They did not run toward the president, she added.

"Now that it has happened within the palace, it seems as if it's something new," said Ngobese, an academic and traditional healer who said spirit possession was common.

South Africa's Reed Dance is smaller than a similar event in Swaziland. In South Africa about 10,000 teenage girls participate, according to a government website. According to Zulu custom, only virgins are allowed to bring reeds to the royal homestead during the four-day ceremony.

Before the festivities, the teenagers are taught life skills and reproductive health, said Ngobese.

TV canal macau

13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:30	RTPi Live
18:20	Trail of Lies (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	Trail of Lies
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



1976 CHAIRMAN MAO ZEDONG DIES

The chief architect of the Chinese revolution, Chairman Mao Zedong, has died at the age of 82.

His death - at 10 minutes past midnight - was announced by the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party, the State Council, the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress and the party's Military Affairs Commission.

Chairman Mao had been in poor health for several years and had declined visibly in recent months. He had not seen any foreign visitors for some time.

It is not clear yet who will replace him. There is no designated heir to the leadership of China's 800 million citizens.

News of Chairman Mao's death has spread quickly through the Chinese capital. Many people are wearing black armbands. Groups have paid tribute opposite a huge portrait of Chairman Mao at the main entrance to the Forbidden City.

His body will now lie in state at the Great Hall of the People. A memorial service will be held in Tiananmen Square on 18 September. Everyone except those performing essential tasks will be expected to maintain a three minute silence.

The official Chinese obituary paid tribute to Chairman Mao's important struggles against "enemies" within the Chinese Communist Party, which he co-founded in 1921.

He rose to prominence as the man who led the communist forces on the epic 6,000 mile (9,656 km) "long march" to Shenyang in northern China to flee attacks from the nationalist Kuomintang party in the mid-1930s.

In 1949 he became chairman of the newly established People's Republic of China.

During the 1950s, Chairman Mao launched the Great Leap Forward, a campaign to increase industrial production by mobilising China's enormous manpower into rural peoples' communes.

Even after he retired as chairman of the republic he continued to influence policy as chairman of the Communist Party.

The Cultural Revolution was launched in 1966. Schools and colleges were closed and the students joined the Red Guards in an ideological crusade which led to many officials losing their jobs, being tortured and killed.

He was credited for encouraging President Richard Nixon's visit to China in February 1972, the first by an American leader. Other countries opened embassies in Beijing and China was finally granted a seat at the United Nations in 1971.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

Mao Zedong was the founder of modern China and is still regarded by the Chinese as one of their great leaders.

However, he was also a ruthless and deeply flawed leader whose policies killed tens of millions of people.

The so-called "Great Leap Forward" of collectivised farming and rapid industrialisation led to nationwide famine which killed 10-35 million people.

The Cultural Revolution, which he launched to purge political opponents, dragged on for 10 years and ruined the lives and educations of a whole generation.

His death left a power vacuum in China.

The "gang of four" - leading radicals, including Mao's widow, responsible for the Cultural Revolution - attempted to take control but were arrested by Mao's successor Hua Guofeng and convicted of crimes against the state.

Deng Xiaoping emerged as China's new leader in 1978.

He liberalised academic debate and introduced economic reforms.

There was also a move away from the collective idea in the countryside which meant the power of the Communist Party was weakened.

In 1989 he ordered troops to break up the Tiananmen Square pro-democracy demonstration. Hundreds, possibly more, were killed provoking international outrage and sanctions.

He continued to dominate China's government until his death in 1997.

YOUR STARS

Aries Mar. 21-Apr. 19
Communication is as rapid as ever. The only drawback is, there's nothing to communicate but thin air.

Taurus April 20-May 20
If you didn't imagine the latest changes, then it makes sense you would be gun shy when it comes to making long term plans.

Gemini May 21-Jun. 21
It's hard to be motivated when nothing seems to be happening. Consider everything you do as groundwork for the future.

Cancer Jun. 22-Jul. 22
You're weathering the storm by curling up inside your shell. It beats sticking your head in the sand, but there are more courageous ways to handle yourself.

Leo Jul. 23-Aug. 22
No one person can outperform a good financial team. The only problem is, you aren't on one. Think of every party and every social gathering as an opportunity for collaboration.

Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22
You're getting used to putting a good spin on the numbers. There are plenty of ways to look on the bright side, after all. But you'll get the numbers to do the work for you for a change.

Libra Sep.23-Oct. 22
You and everyone around you are experiencing more than a whole new ballgame. It's a whole new landscape. Just how fast you adapt to it dictates how long it takes you to turn a profit again.

Scorpio Oct. 23 - Nov. 21
You never had to be careful in business before, but nowadays you're tempted by things you shouldn't do. Most risks simply will not pay off.

Sagittarius Nov. 22-Dec. 21
Why simply pretend you're okay when you can actually be perfectly fine? Sure, watching the numbers drop can fill anyone with anxiety.

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19
Don't worry about bottom feeders. It goes without saying they aren't here to stay. Current conditions attract flighty people, and that's putting it graciously.

Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 18
Strange how you can still have a good day in the face of your financial affairs. It just proves that money isn't everything.

Pisces Feb.19-Mar. 20
You have to visualize what you want before you can get it but you don't have to be too specific. General wealth and well being is all you need to know for now.

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

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

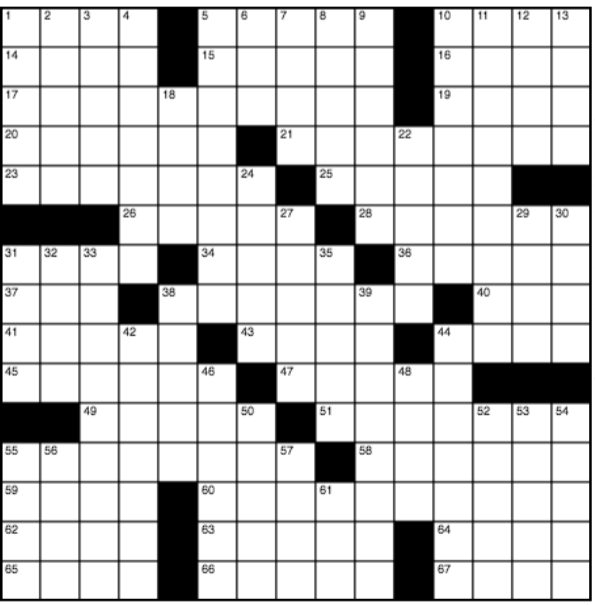
WEATHER

Weather forecast table with columns for MIN, MAX, and CONDITION. It lists weather for various cities in CHINA and the WORLD.

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Israel's Barak; 5- Brazilian dance; 10- Packs tight; 14- Osteologist's concern; 15- Habituate; 16- Hebrew month; 17- With great success; 19- Salmon that has spawned; 20- Respect; 21- Narcissism amok; 23- Panacea; 25- Diciembre follower; 26- "Dallas" matriarch; 28- Lure; 31- E.g., e.g.; 34- Annapolis inst.; 36- Begin's co-Nobelist; 37- Hair goop; 38- Greek goddess of justice; 40- Illustrative craft; 41- Crazy as ___; 43- London district; 44- Ye ___ Shoppe; 45- Hoarded; 47- "The Merry Widow" composer; 49- The Wreck of the Mary ___; 51- Pert. to the fingers; 55- Hereditary German title; 58- Canal site; 59- Greek portico; 60- Inappropriate; 62- Continue; 63- French farewell; 64- Dick Francis book "Dead ___"; 65- Bandleader Puente; 66- Prophets; 67- Scraps;

DOWN: 1- "Barnaby Jones" star; 2- In what way?; 3- Single things; 4- Greek goddess of agriculture; 5- Impetus; 6- Prince Valiant's son; 7- Merlin, e.g.; 8- Hogwash; 9- Whatever person; 10- Capital of Indonesia; 11- Glandular; 12- Former French colony of north-western Africa; 13- Mex. miss; 18- Blackbird; 22- Brainy bunch; 24- Thin fogs; 27- Sign up; 29- Ace, e.g.; 30- Kitchen addition; 31- Turkish titles; 32- Waist band; 33- Sanguinaria; 35- Oohed and ___; 38- Lend ___ (listen); 39- Extinct small horse; 42- Aromatic herb; 44- River in N South America; 46- Stage plays; 48- Petri dish gelatin; 50- Elude; 52- Get to the point?; 53- Less than lively; 54- Wears well; 55- High-ranking NCO; 56- Yours, in Tours; 57- Writer Wiesel; 61- ___ Lingus



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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Honda Macau



Rob Harris
Sports Writer, Manchester

FOOTBALL

Qatar invests in English soccer through world's oldest team

QATAR has invested in English football for the first time — in the unlikelyst of clubs.

The recipient of Qatari cash is not a globally-recognized Premier League power but a tiny club playing seven divisions below the topflight.

What Sheffield FC lacks in glamor it makes up for in status. From the powerhouses of Barcelona and Manchester United to amateur outfits worldwide, every football team emanates from this club in northern England's steel city.

When Sheffield FC started playing in 1857 there was no other team in the world. It was the first.

Now, eager to be associated with the pioneers of football, the country hosting the Middle East's first World Cup has invested 100,000 pounds (USD153,000) in Sheffield FC, The Associated Press has learned.

The enduring controversy surrounding the awarding of the 2022 tournament means the investment from the World Cup organizers could be interpreted as Sheffield FC being used by a country in need of a positive promotional platform.

But Sheffield FC said it only turned to Qatar after feeling snubbed after making direct approaches to the English Football Association and Premier League in the search for cash to fund a return to the site of its original home. Applications for grants have to go through the Football Foundation.

"This is not about Qatar muscling in," Sheffield FC chairman Richard Tims told the AP. "This is about having a catalyst that makes everyone sit up and take note ... a partnership between



Eric Dier (R) of Tottenham Hotspur breaks through during the Barclays Premier League match between Liverpool and Tottenham Hotspur at White Hart Lane in London, England on August 31, 2014

the new kids on the block and the world's first football club protecting the heritage of football."

QATAR CONNECTION

Qatar lacks the deep football heritage of England and it is trying to rapidly develop both players for the World Cup and raise interest in the game among its tiny population.

Hassan Al Thawadi, secretary general of Qatar's World Cup supreme committee, has links to Sheffield after studying law at the city's main university in the 1990s.

"Over the past few years since the (Sheffield FC) chairman first contacted us we have been working together to look for suitable ways in which we could lend our support," Al Thawadi said.

"Our modest contribution is part of a first step on an important journey for the club of

gaining wider support for the (stadium) project."

THE STADIUM

After struggling to survive in a city dominated by Sheffield Wednesday and Sheffield United — former Premier League clubs now in the second and third tiers, respectively — Sheffield FC moved in 2001 into a 1,500-seat stadium in nearby Dronfield, a small village in the Derbyshire countryside.

Sheffield FC has bought the land on its original site at Olive Grove in Sheffield but to relocate to its birthplace the team is raising money for the stadium itself.

"I hope that when the new ground and museum at Olive Grove is developed and schoolchildren from across the world visit and stand on the site where the beautiful game was created, they will be able to comprehend just how

far the game travelled to every corner of the globe which resulted in the first Middle Eastern World Cup," Al Thawadi said.

FOOTBALL'S FIRST

While Sheffield FC's founders did not invent football they do lay claim to being the first organization with the intention of playing the game.

Football was played throughout Britain with different rules until October 1857, with some games having 500 players and often ending in violence. Then two passionate cricketers, William Prest and Nathaniel Creswick, set about unifying the laws and Sheffield FC was born.

Prest and Creswick wrote the first set of rules, adopting free kicks and introducing a cross bar. To meet the cost of their current land, those rules were sold at auction in 2011 for 881,250 pounds (\$1.4 million) to a buyer who remains anonymous.

For three years of its existence, Sheffield FC played among itself, including married men against unmarried men, until Sheffield persuaded the nearby Hallam cricket club to form a rival.

By 1862, 15 other clubs were established in the Sheffield area — famous for its steel industry — and organized themselves under the auspices of the Sheffield Club, the forerunner to the Football Association, which was formed in 1863.

In 1889, Sheffield FC helped to

form Sheffield United, and Wednesday. Sheffield FC continued as a separate club and won its biggest honor — the national Amateur Cup — in 1904.

The pioneers' pulling power belies its lowly position in the modern game. Its most recent moment in the spotlight came around its 150th anniversary in 2007 when FIFA President Sepp Blatter attended a cathedral service and dinner in Sheffield and Pele attended a celebratory game against Inter Milan.

SHEFFIELD STRUGGLES

Being the world's first club secured a place in history but did not secure its future.

The Sheffield FC men's team plays in the amateur ranks of English football in the eighth tier but its 12-year-old women's side is thriving.

Qatar's cash pledge has already enabled Sheffield Ladies to show the FA it had the required resources to gain promotion in May to the second-tier. Now it is one step from the top-level Women's Super League.

"We wanted to show our commitment to the club by helping support their promotion," Al Thawadi said.

"I will be hoping to persuade others in the international football community to join in supporting this important mission to preserve this wonderful club and promote grassroots development." AP

Germany, Portugal close in on Euro 2016 qualification

GERMANY and Portugal closed in on European Championship qualification yesterday (Macau time), while Northern Ireland missed the chance to book its place at next year's tournament in France.

Thomas Mueller scored twice and set up the other for Germany to defeat Scotland 3-2 in Glasgow and move within touching distance of automatic qualification.

The world champions are assured of at least a playoff place but one point from their remaining two games — Ireland away or Georgia at home — will secure their place in France.

Portugal also needs just one more point after Miguel Veloso scored in injury time to snatch a 1-0 win



Miguel Veloso scored for Portugal against Albania on min. 92

at Albania.

The top two finishers from the nine groups qualify automatically for Euro 2016. The best third-place team also qualifies automatically, and the eight remaining third-place teams go to a playoff to contest the last four qualifying places.

GROUP D. Mueller scored twice in the first half

either side of Mats Hummels' own goal, and then set up Ilkay Gundogan for the winner after James McArthur had pulled Scotland level again.

Mueller now has five goals in three Bundesliga games for Bayern Munich and three goals in two qualifiers for Germany since the season began.

Also, Poland routed Gibraltar 8-1 to stay on course for a top-two finish, while John Walters' 69th-minute goal was enough for Ireland to boost its hopes of a playoff with a 1-0 win over Georgia in Dublin.

Ireland, which next plays Germany at home then Poland away, has a five-point lead over Scotland, which plays Poland at home then Gibraltar away.

GROUP F. Northern Ireland needed an injury-time goal from Kyle Lafferty to draw 1-1 at home against Hungary after going down to 10 men.

A win would have ensured automatic qualification, but the draw leaves the team still top of the group.

Hungary looked like closing to within a point of the

leaders when Richard Guzmics volleyed in from close range in the 74th minute after goalkeeper Michael McGovern spilled a free kick. Chris Baird was then sent off for Northern Ireland, but Hungary couldn't hold out and stayed four points back in third.

"It wasn't vintage," Northern Ireland manager Michael O'Neill said, "but it was pure theater."

Romania drew 0-0 at home to last-place Greece and remained second, a point behind Northern Ireland.

Also, Finland beat Faeroe Islands 1-0

GROUP I. Both Portugal and Albania hit the woodwork before Veloso headed in substitute Ricardo Quaresma's pass for

the visitors' 92nd-minute winner.

It ensured that Portugal made it six wins from six road games in qualifying and brought a measure of revenge for the side's shock defeat to Albania in Aveiro in the opening round.

Elsewhere, Denmark was stymied at Armenia for a second 0-0 draw in four days, complicating the Danes' chances to secure a berth for the 2016 tournament with a top-two finish.

Portugal increased its group lead to 15 points. Denmark has 12 while Albania has 11, but both Portugal and Albania have a game in hand.

Armenia moved onto two points with the draw with Denmark. Serbia is in last place with one point. AP

opinion

Artifacts
Vanessa Moore



SMALL EATS

The old saying, "The way to my heart is through my stomach" accurately sums up the way I feel about China. Famed for its "small eats" or 小吃, one of my main joys venturing across the border is being able to sample the mainland's incredible variety of street food. While some may scoff at the thought of eating down an alley, I personally think you haven't lived until you've tried it. And no trip would be complete without stuffing my face with a plethora of tidbits. Fried, boiled, roasted and steamed, for me, seeking out billowing clouds of smoke down nondescript backstreets is a process almost as cathartic as searching for the Holy Grail. And a couple of weeks ago I was finally able to give in to my cravings by ripping up to Shanghai for the weekend to feast my eyes as well as my belly.

Contemplating the fickle metropolis that is China's financial capital, what makes Shanghai especially distinctive in my mind - and one of the things China does best - is big contrasts. From old to new, gleaming skyscrapers to dank alleys, mega-uber wealth to grinding poverty, the same can also be said of its food. And Shanghai offers some of the most incredible diversity of the good stuff I've seen. Take, for example, that noble Shanghaiese specialty the xiaolongbao 小笼包, otherwise known as the soup dumpling. Found at five-star restaurants, food courts and humble street stalls, that's the greatest thing about them: you can get a succulently steaming basket everywhere and anywhere whether you're a prince or a pauper.

But hang on a second, for those sticklers for historical accuracy among you, I should probably make a little digression. To set the record totally straight, those little parcels of soupy heaven didn't really originate in Shanghai. They actually came from a separate town called Nanxiang, southwest of the city. But as Shanghai's macadam fingers stretched out and multiplied, the municipality got swallowed up, digested and assimilated into the outer suburbs. So like a form of culinary synthesis, present-day xiaolongbao are de facto Shanghaiese.

Ok, digression over and back to more of Shanghai's finger-lickingly good street menu. Aside from xiaolongbao, alleyway dining doesn't get much better than another of my favourites, a deceptively simple carby treat named cong you ban mian 葱油拌面 or scallion noodles - literally spring onion oil tossed noodles. Then there's crispy, oily fried white radish cakes, or you dun zi 油墩子, topped with salty chilli paste sauce. And for the true connoisseur, something I first tried in Taiwan, chou doufu 臭豆腐, also known as stinky tofu. Cut into bite-sized pieces, deep-fried, and liberally pasted with spicy sauce, like durian, once you get over the smell the taste is more than doubly worth the negligible nostril assault. And lastly, for the oil-averse among you who still remember far too many gutter oil stories, baozi 包子, or plump steamed buns filled with a delicious savoury tofu and green herb combination round off my top five open air munches.

While the mainland can be criticised for many things, street food certainly isn't one of them. Despite decades of communist upheaval and the razing of old neighbourhoods, select areas of Shanghai and Beijing (to a lesser extent) have managed to retain their old world charm. Looking back closer to home, although Macau has fared much better in preserving its traditional streetscapes, its alleys and cul-de-sacs seem to be strangely empty without the tell-tale sizzling of oil and the clatter of pushcarts.

In an effort to sanitise, modernise and air-condition everything in sight, our old Cantonese dai pai dongs, cart noodles and street hawkers are fast becoming an anachronism, much to the detriment of everyone. While we now have some of the best restaurants and Michelin-starred eateries this side of the world, what makes our new-fangled finery even sweeter is the contrast between the two. Sometimes the fanciest dinner is best followed by a steaming alleyway breakfast. Because life is all about contrasts, isn't it?

THE BUZZ CHARITIES TO SHARE IN CHAMPIONS LEAGUE TICKET SALES

Europe's top football clubs will give millions of dollars to charities supporting migrants trying to enter the continent.

The European Club Association says its members agreed to give 1 euro (USD1.11) for every ticket sold to this month's Champions League and Europa League matches.

The promise commits 80 clubs to donate money from its first home match in the group stage.

Announcing the pledge, ECA chairman Karl-Heinz Rummenigge says "this is a serious and big problem we have to face now in Europe and I believe football has a kind responsibility for these poor people."

Rummenigge says up to 3 million euros (\$3.3 million) could be raised, with other members invited to contribute. The idea was first proposed by FC Porto president Jorge Nuno Pinto da Costa.

US

Candidate Huckabee to join rally for clerk opposed to gay marriage



AP PHOTO
GOP presidential candidate Mike Huckabee

Dylan Lovan
Louisville, Kentucky

PRESIDENTIAL candidate and former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee will join protesters at rally outside the jail where a Kentucky clerk is locked in a cell over her refusal to issue marriage licenses to gay couples.

Huckabee plans a private meeting with Kim Davis, who was jailed by a federal judge Thursday after defying several court orders. Her lawyers spent Labor Day weekend filing appeals in an effort to force her release, but she remains there on a contempt charge.

Huckabee, a former Baptist minister who often reaches out to religious conservatives, says Davis is simply exercising her religious free-

dom by denying the marriage licenses.

Davis' jailing offers the many Republican presidential candidates an opportunity to appeal to the Republican's evangelical Christian wing, which opposes same-sex marriage and casts Davis' imprisonment as an issue of religious freedom. Not all the Republican White House hopefuls see it Huckabee's way, however.

Huckabee's visit comes a day after Davis filed yet another appeal in the hopes of being released. Her attorneys asked for an order to have Kentucky Gov. Steve Beshear accommodate Davis' "religious conviction," and not force her to grant licenses to gay couples.

The same request was denied last month by U.S. Dis-

trict Judge David Bunning, who jailed Davis.

On Monday, about 30 protesters lined the sidewalk outside Bunning's home in Fort Thomas, Kentucky, carrying signs that read "Free Kim Davis." Fort Thomas Police Lt. Casey Kilgore said the group gathered around 2 p.m., and the protest stretched on for several hours.

Davis, an apostolic Christian, says gay marriage is a sin. She also says it would be a sin for her to issue a marriage license to a same-sex couple because the licenses are issued under her authority.

Davis stopped issuing all marriage licenses in June the day after the U.S. Supreme Court legalized same-sex marriage nationwide. Two gay couples and two straight couples sued her. Bunning ordered Davis to issue the licenses, and the Supreme Court upheld his ruling.

But Davis still refused to do it. Bunning ruled Thursday that Davis was in contempt of court and sent her to jail. Her deputy clerks - except for her son, Nathan Davis - then issued marriage licenses to gay couples on Friday. AP

THE DECISIVE MOMENT

AP Photo / Abraham Caro Marin



Spanish top actress Penelope Cruz poses during a photocall for the film 'Ma Ma' in Madrid, Spain, earlier this week.

Station	Air quality
Roadside	30-50 Good
High Density Residential Area	55-75 Moderate
Ambient	60-80 Moderate

SOURCE: DSI/MG

WORLD BRIEFS

PAKISTAN-INDIA A senior Pakistani official expresses optimism that recent tensions with neighboring India over the bitterly disputed Kashmir region can be defused.

AUSTRALIA A surfer says he was lucky not to lose an arm when a shark bit his board off Australia's most populous state.

NEPAL Police search the river where the body of a 27-year-old teacher from Austin, Texas, was thrown after she was hammered to death.



AP PHOTO

UK Britain's defense secretary says further drone attacks against suspected jihadis in Syria are possible in the coming weeks if plots against Britain are being planned. Michael Fallon told BBC Radio yesterday that the government would not hesitate to use drones to prevent attacks against Britain from coming to fruition.



AP PHOTO

SYRIA An unseasonal sandstorm swept across the Mideast yesterday, covering Beirut and Damascus with a blanket of yellow dust, sending hundreds of people to hospitals with breathing difficulties and causing the deaths of two women, officials said.



AP PHOTO

GERMANY Lufthansa is canceling 1,000 flights today because of a pilot strike. Some 140,000 travelers will be affected by the grounding, the airline said yesterday. "Lufthansa deeply regrets the resulting inconvenience to its customers," it said. The pilots union, Vereinigung Cockpit, began its strike on long-haul flights yesterday, forcing the cancellation of 90 flights. Today it is extending the strike to include medium- and short-haul flights.