



WORLD PRESS PHOTO SHOW NEXT MONTH
The World Press Photo exhibition will be showcased at Casa Garden from October 10 to November 1

P2



CHAO: PJ IS ACTING AS 'POLITICAL POLICE'
"Agents have been instructed to actively gather citizens' comments on the Internet," the activist alleges

P3



LI KEQIANG DOWNPLAYS ECONOMIC CONCERNS

P11



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WORLD BRIEFS

PAKISTAN Police in Pakistan say gunmen have killed two journalists in separate attacks in the country's violent port city of Karachi in the last 24 hours.

INDIA More than 1,000 Muslim clerics in India ratify a religious ruling that condemns the Islamic State and calls the extremist group's actions "un-Islamic."

PAKISTAN-INDIA A Pakistani paramilitary force says a delegation of border officers has left for New Delhi to discuss cease-fire violations with Indian authorities.

AFGHANISTAN Roadside bombings kill two Afghan soldiers and four children, as a suspected NATO drone strike kills two militants.

NEPAL Police opened fire on protesters demanding statehood in southern Nepal yesterday, killing at least four people in two towns, an official said.

PHILIPPINES The Philippine Supreme Court orders the government to pay at least USD510.3 million to a consortium led by German airport operator Fraport AG that built Manila's newest airport terminal.



MALDIVES Human rights lawyer Amal Clooney attended a hearing yesterday to appeal a 13-year jail sentence given to the Maldives' former president and met with the attorney general to discuss the case. Clooney is part of a three-member international legal team trying to secure Mohamed Nasheed's release.

More on backpage

Bon Jovi China tour trimmed to Macau

P5



Government urged to 'come clean' on Hong Kong extradition treaty

P3



SPORTS

Top squash players to compete in town

Aries Un

Up to 24 world-ranked squash players from around the globe will compete against each other to improve their ranking in the Macau Squash Open, to be played next week in a glass court that will be installed downtown.

The annual championship, inclusive of both a men's and a women's division and slated to run from Sept 15 to 20, will be recognized by the Professional Squash Association (PSA) as a four-star tournament. The organizer, the Macau Squash Association, also deployed five local sportsmen for the contest, consisting of qualifiers on Sept 15 and 16, the main draw between Sept 17 and 18, semi-finals on the following day and the final on Sept 20.

The champions of last year's event, Omar Mosaad (world ranking: 6), Tarek Momen (world ranking: 10) and Malaysian female professional squash player Nicol David (world ranking: 2), will return

to the arena together with three other players from the world's top ten seeds.

Local sister-and-brother duo Ivy Liu (world ranking: 108) and Steven Liu (world ranking: 208), who made an appearance alongside three of their fellow players in a media briefing yesterday afternoon, told the media how they could not wait to take to the squash court.

Malaysian female player Nicol David is 2nd in the world rankings

Liu, in his early twenties having dabbled in the sport for at least 13 years, expressed his desire to achieve more in the six-day competition than he did last year, in a "learning manner."

Asked for suggestions of

what the government could do to encourage the squash scene, he said that the shortage of venues in the region has caused conflict between sportsmen and amateur squash players. "I think the government should develop more venues for squash as there's always a strain," he said.

Currently, government-owned squash facilities are located inside the Vitoria Sports Centre, Taipa Northeast Sports Centre and Bowling Centre.

According to the game's regulations, squash players ranked in the world's top 11 will go straight into the main draw of 16 players. Domestic players could also be included in the draw as wildcards.

The first half of the tournament will take place in the Bowling Center in Cotai, with the rest being held at the glass court in Amizade Square. The organizer will also hold a carnival on Sept 19 and 20 to mark the launch of what is considered a major event for domestic squash players, with free entry for local citizens.

ARTS

World Press Photo exhibit at Casa Garden starts Oct 10

The world's leading contest for photojournalists is returning to Macau next month. The World Press Photo Exhibition will be showcased at Casa Garden from October 10 to November 1. As usual, the event, displaying the results of a worldwide annual contest, will be brought to Macau by the House of Portugal (Casa de Portugal). The prize-winning pictures will

World Press Photo Contest selected an image by Danish photographer Mads Nissen as the World Press Photo of the Year 2014. Nissen is a staff photographer for the Danish daily newspaper Politiken. The picture shows Jon and Alex, a gay couple, during an intimate moment in St Petersburg, Russia. Life for lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender (LGBT) people is becoming increasingly di-

This year's competition saw entries from 5,692 photographers submit from 131 countries

be presented in a traveling exhibition to 100 cities in about 45 countries.

According to the World Press Photo Foundation, this year's competition saw entries from 5,692 photographers submit from 131 countries. A total of 97,912 images were entered in the contest.

A group of internationally recognized professionals in the fields of photojournalism and documentary photography convened in Amsterdam in February to judge all of the entries. The jury awarded 45 prizes in eight themed categories to 41 photographers of 17 nationalities, namely: Australia, Bangladesh, Belgium, China, Denmark, Eritrea, France, Germany, Iran, Ireland, Italy, Poland, Russia, Sweden, Turkey, the UK and USA.

The jury of the 58th annual

fficult in Russia. Sexual minorities face legal and social discrimination, harassment, and even violent hate-crime attacks from conservative religious and nationalistic groups. The winning picture belongs to a larger project by Nissen called "Homophobia in Russia" which was shot for Scanpix. The photo also won First Prize in the Contemporary Issues category.

The World Press Photo Foundation was created during the 1950s and the contest aims to encourage higher standards of photojournalism and documentary storytelling worldwide. Its aim is to generate wide public interest in and an appreciation of the work of photographers and other visual journalists, as well as to promote the free exchange of information.



The World Press Photo of the Year, by Mads Nissen

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New Macau urges gov't to 'come clean' on Hong Kong extradition treaty

Catarina Pinto

THE New Macau Association (ANM) has urged the Macau government to "come clean" and disclose details on the extradition treaty it will be signing with Hong Kong later this year.

ANM's vice-president, Jason Chao, said that the comments made by the Secretary for Administration and Justice, Sonia Chan, this summer are worrying, since she has allegedly hinted that the extradition agreement might not comply with some international extradition principles.

Chao told a press conference yesterday that the association fears that the rules of double criminality, jurisdiction over offenses committed against Macau nationals, and forms of punishment principles might not be observed in the extradition agreement, which is currently being discussed with the neighboring SAR.

"Sonia Chan's comments are worrying because she noted that some international principles are not going to be observed. So we are asking which principles are not going to be observed? This is a very impor-



tant question," he stated.

If the extradition treaty fails to observe certain principles, ANM members fear that citizens may end up being extradited to Hong Kong for offenses that are not considered to be crimes under Macau's laws.

Double criminality, for instance, is an extradition principle observed in various countries, stating that a suspect can only be extradited from one country to another to stand trial if they break a law that exists in both countries.

Furthermore, they also fear that Macau citizens may be ex-

tradited to countries boasting more severe prison sentences.

"So there may be a case where Macau residents could be extradited to serve a life sentence, which is against principles set forth in our current law," he recalled.

Chao also fears that Hong Kong residents may be extradited to Macau for offenses related to exposing state secrets – a crime outlawed by Hong Kong's mini-constitution but not by Macau's Basic Law.

The political activist acknowledged that an extradition agreement also under dis-

Sonia Chan's comments are worrying because she noted that some international principles are not going to be observed

JASON CHAO

cussion between Macau and mainland China poses an even greater concern. He fears that citizens may be extradited to China, where rights, freedoms and protection from torture might not be observed.

Chao commented on the recent case of a Chinese fugitive who saw his residency status in Macau revoked by the Secretary for Economy and Finance's Office. Wu Quansheng was eventually expelled from Macau, although the SAR and mainland China have not yet signed an extradition treaty.

The political activist called it a rendition case, and went even further to suggest that this is a recurring practice in Macau: "We know that the Macau government declares people who are listed on the mainland China's wanted citizens list as persona non grata. Technically these people cannot be deported to China, but I have information that this is a current practice."

The political activist acknowledged nonetheless that Macau and Hong Kong need an extradition agreement to prevent criminals from walking free, citing Joseph Lau's case.

"He has been sentenced to five years in prison [in Macau]. But you all know he walks free in Hong Kong and he's escaping justice. We all understand the need for an agreement on the transfer of fugitives. But these agreements must comply with international principles, which safeguard our rights and freedoms," he noted.

If the government fails to respond to their appeal, ANM's vice-president has pledged to take this matter to the United Nations in November, when he will be attending a meeting of the UN's Commission against Torture.

PJ is acting as 'political police,' says Jason Chao

THE Judiciary Police (PJ) has been acting as "a political police [force]," because the Personal Data Protection Office (GPDP) is "selling citizen's privacy to police authorities," says Jason Chao, vice-president of the New Macau Association.

The political activist yesterday leveled criticism at GPDP for its decision to authorize PJ officers to request the personal data of members of local associations through the Identification Services (DSI). "It's outrageous," he said, adding that, "rather than protecting citizens' personal data, they're selling Macau people's privacy to the police."

He added, "We know that, with a court order, DSI may have to release someone's information to the police, on a case-by-case basis. But by connect-



Jason Chao

ing these two departments the PJ now has access to information stored by DSI, and this authorization is unacceptable."

Furthermore, Chao accused the PJ of playing the role of "a political police [force]," as agents have been instructed to actively gather citizens' comments on the Internet, especially those concerning politics.

"The PJ has been active

in [monitoring] what citizens say about politics. PJ sends agents to where people deliver letters to the government," he recalled, adding that GPDP's decision gives Macau's Judiciary police additional power to monitor residents.

The activist fears that GPDP's move may prompt people to think twice before joining an association. **CP**

CRIME

'Psychotic' husband chief suspect in Tuesday's homicide

THE judiciary Police (PJ), who are conducting ongoing investigations into the case of a woman who was found strangled in her home close to the Camoes Garden on Tuesday morning, have indicated that the deceased's mentally unstable husband committed the murder.

The 68-year-old local suspect, surnamed Chu, allegedly wound the strap of a handbag around the victim's neck while she was in a deep sleep. It has been verified that the alleged murderer suffers from a chronic depressive disorder, according to PJ spokeswoman Yeung Sau Chan.

Chu notified his two daughters and elder brother after the killing, and allowed them to enter his locked residency in which the victim, a 60-year-old housewife, was found lying on a carpet by the TV set at the time of the family members' arrival.

It still remains unclear whether the murder took place in the dining room, where the body was discovered, Yeung said. The suspect, who

was taken to the PJ headquarters from his Edificio Fu I apartment near Camoes Garden on the afternoon of the homicide, appeared to be "mentally abnormal" during the inquiry.

He was subsequently taken to the public hospital for checkups. His medical records revealed that he had failed to show up for post-psychiatric examinations after he was diagnosed with an anxiety disorder in June 2008.

Three months ago the suspect again sought medical treatment in the presence of his family at the same hospital due to increased concerns about his mental stability. He was then referred to the psychiatric department in July. An examination conducted last month confirmed his clinical depression.

Yeung noted that the suspect's unstable psychological state since Tuesday has made investigation more difficult for the authorities. He is currently being held in an "appropriate venue" under medical observation. **AU**

New Era proposes 'express bus' service



NEW Era is putting forward a proposal to introduce an 'express bus' service, according to the company's vice executive director, Kwok Tong Cheong, as per a report by Radio Macau. Mr Kwok said that the proposal has been sent to the Transport Bureau (DSAT), and is now under assessment.

This would help ease pressure on the busiest bus routes

KWOK TONG CHEONG

"We are trying to introduce 'express bus routes,' as this would help ease pressure on the busiest bus routes. The proposal is with DSAT now and we're still in talks. Of course the government has a different view but we will try to make things work," he stated.

New Era is looking to offer bus routes featuring fewer stops so that users are able to reach their destinations faster. Mr Kwok believes that this would increase customer satisfaction levels.

Mr Kwok added that the express bus routes could start operating within two to three months if DSAT approves their proposal.

The Macau government is currently in talks with the other two bus operators, Transmac and TCM, to sign new contracts, after a report from the Commission of Audit slammed DSAT's handling of public bus operations in 2013.

Mr Kwok did not want to elaborate on these negotiations, saying that New Era's contract is different to those of other companies' since it already featured the new scheme at the time of signing, while TCM and Trasmac's contracts focus on the transition from the old to the new public bus model.

COURTS

Man sentenced for providing accommodation to illegal migrant

THE Court of Second Instance (TSI) has rejected an appeal filed by a man who provided accommodation to an illegal immigrant, according to a ruling released yesterday. He was given a four-month suspended prison sentence for providing accommodation to an illegal immigrant in a five-bedroom apartment where 13 other people were also living.

The case dates back to 2013 when a man with a gambling addiction arrived in Macau illegally after he had previously been banned from entering the territory. Not long after he managed to enter the region illegally, the man went to gamble at a local casino where he met his long time friend, who promised to find him a place to stay. The immigrant's friend then took him to meet the defendant, who allegedly introduced him to a still unknown woman who then

walked the illegal immigrant to the five-bedroom apartment where he eventually stayed.

A police raid launched by the Public Security Police Force (CPSP) found the illegal immigrant living in the flat, in addition to 13 more people spread across four bedrooms.

The defendant had filed an appeal to the TSI, claiming that he was not the one who actually provided the accommodation, and therefore he could only be accused of negligence.

However, the court found that the defendant had the means and ability to prevent the provision of accommodation to the illegal migrant. Furthermore, the court said that the defendant had shown no interest in knowing about or requesting the tenant's documents. The court therefore denied the appeal. **CP**

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CANCELATIONS of concerts in Shanghai and Beijing won't affect Bon Jovi's performances in Macau. The band is scheduled to perform at The Venetian's Cotai Arena on September 25 and 26.

The Times contacted Sands China inquiring whether the cancellation of the mainland shows would have repercussions for Bon Jovi's concerts in Macau. "At this stage, I can tell you the Bon Jovi concerts in Macau will go ahead as planned," said Donna Campbell, director of public relations at Sands China Ltd.

In June, when the concerts were announced, Sands China's Dave Horton said, "Bon Jovi are a global phenomenon and this announcement is more evidence of our continuing commitment to Macau."

The Cotai concerts are a promotional event presented by The Venetian Macao and AEG Live.

However, Bon Jovi's shows in China, which were scheduled for next week, have been canceled because of what promoters have called "unforeseen reasons."

AEG Live Asia declined to give a reason for the cancellations

CONCERTS IN CHINA CANCELED

Bon Jovi Macau shows to 'go ahead as planned'



Jon Bon Jovi performs in concert with his band Bon Jovi in Philadelphia.

tion, but said in a statement on Tuesday that refunds will be offered for the shows, which were scheduled for September 14 in Shanghai and September 17 in Beijing. AEG also apologized "for the inconvenience and

disappointment that this will cause." A representative for Jon Bon Jovi has yet to reply to an email seeking comment.

The Financial Times newspaper reported that the shows had been called off because the

■ The band once included a picture of the Dalai Lama in their video backdrop during a concert in Taiwan in 2010

Ministry of Culture had discovered that the band once included a picture of the Dalai Lama in their video backdrop during a concert in Taiwan in 2010, citing recollections from people familiar with the matter.

The ruling Communist Party is sensitive to any perceived support from foreign govern-

ments and celebrities for the exiled Tibetan spiritual leader, whom they denounce as a separatist.

A recently released video shows Jon Bon Jovi singing a famous Chinese love ballad from the 1970s in Mandarin, adding to the buzz in China around this tour. Chinese fans have expressed their disappointment and anger on social media, with some complaining that they had even booked airline tickets and taken time off work to see the concerts.

Authorities have tightened scrutiny over foreign musicians performing in China after Icelandic singer Bjork shouted "Tibet, Tibet" following a song called "Declare Independence" at a Shanghai performance in 2008. A concert by U.S. pop group Maroon 5 scheduled for Saturday in Shanghai was canceled in July following an alleged tweet by a band member about meeting the Dalai Lama.

The announcement of the Bon Jovi cancellations came on the same day as the Communist Party held grand celebrations in the Tibetan capital of Lhasa to mark 50 years since it established Tibet as an ethnic autonomous region firmly under Beijing's control. **MDT/AP**

COOPERATION | HENGQIN

Chinese medicine park complete by first half of 2017

THE government attaches great importance to the development of traditional Chinese medicine (TCM), according to the Secretary for Economy and Finance, Lionel Leong Vai Tac. Speaking in Guangzhou, where he attended an event related to the Traditional Chinese

Medicine Science and Technology Industrial Park of Co-operation between Guangdong and Macau, the Secretary noted that he regards TCM as an important strategy for the successful diversification of the economy. Lionel Leong said that the park, located in Hen-

gqin, will be completed by the first half of 2017. According to Leong, the park's managers are "gradually initiating discussions with the Portuguese-speaking countries about issues such as international registration, and import and export trade." The local government

and the Zhuhai government signed an agreement in 2011 for the park's development, which has also been listed as one of the major tasks to be done this year as part of the implementation of the Framework Agreement on Cooperation between Guangdong and Macau.



A market stall selling traditional Chinese medicine in Macau



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Education in how to be 'a good digital citizen'

Aries Un

PARENTAL supervision of children's online activities is an important part of their education, and has been recognized by International School of Macao (TIS) headmaster Howard Stribbell as a rising challenge for both the school and parents.

During a casual meeting yesterday morning with members of the school's parents' association to discuss their concerted efforts to foster a healthy upbringing for the students, Stribbell told the Times that finding a way to educate students to be a "good digital citizen" is very important to the school.

Incorporated into TIS curriculum, education on behaviors in the virtual world also require involvement from parents, the headmaster said.

"Outside the school, that's



very difficult and it's very important for the parents to monitor their kids' social media. But we also need to make sure that we have relationships - parents with children, teachers with children," he said in reference to the importance of intimate bonds that could draw the two sides mentally closer.

A Singaporean mother named Gina said that she was always around her two daughters,

aged five and nine, just to keep an eye on what sites they lingered on and what might come up in their cyber-world.

The best approach, not only according to her but also to British-Indonesian mother Judith Cunningham, is to curb the use of electronic devices if possible. However, that seems less viable for her 13-year-old daughter who has just entered adolescence. The mother also expres-

sed concerns over the romantic interests of her daughter, who in return showed dislike towards her parents' interference. "If people tell my daughter: 'you're so pretty,' she'd fall very easily for that," said Cunningham, whose family just arrived to the territory.

As the school just started its new academic year last Tuesday, students' tendencies to oversleep and risk being late have proved headache-worthy for their parents. In addition, both of the parents interviewed stated that they have struggled to help their sons readjust to the school routine after a long vacation.

The parents' association holds regular meetings with the school management each month to ensure maximum involvement in the school. The school's headmaster stressed the role of parents there, saying that not only would they become more informed, but that their kids' school performance would also rise as a result, a theory backed-up by some researchers.

He advised that, aside from preparing a suitable environment for their kids to do assignments after school, the parents should also introduce leisure or sports activities to their kids.

MSAR promoted in Bangalore, India



Ms Senna Fernandes and PATA leaders meet with Gold Awards winners

The Macau Government Tourist Office (MGTO) has promoted Macau at the Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA) Travel Mart 2015, which was this year held in Bangalore, India, between September 6 and 8. One of the highlights of the event was once again the PATA Gold Awards Luncheon and Awards Presentation hosted on Tuesday by MGTO. Ahead of the Travel Mart, MGTO director Helena de Senna Fernandes joined a PATA Executive Board meeting for the first time, after being nominated as a member of the governing body of the association. This year PATA presented Grand and Gold Awards to 29 organizations and individuals for their outstanding performances in different disciplines, such as marketing, corporate social responsibility and travel media.

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Japan leads world stocks higher with 7.7 percent surge

Kelvin Chan
Business Writer, Hong Kong

JAPANESE stocks posted their biggest gain in nearly seven years yesterday, leading other world indexes higher, as Asian officials sought to counter pessimism about prospects for markets and economic growth.

Japan's Nikkei 225 index vaulted 7.7 percent to 18,770.51, its biggest one-day rise since October 2008, when markets were volatile during the global financial crisis, and its 10th biggest gain since 1949. Other major Asian markets rose between 2 and 4 percent.

The strong gains come after three months of weakness in stock markets that was partly sparked by the dramatic sell-off in Chinese shares beginning in early June. Economic policy measures in China and Japan were positives for investors yesterday but there were also technical factors at work in the rebound, analysts said.

"Buoyant sentiments were in full display across Asia as regional bourses flashed green," said Bernard Aw, market strategist at IG in Singapore. "Risk is back in vogue and the European traders clearly embrace it as well," he said in market commentary.

The Nikkei, which had earlier hit its lowest level since February, bounced after comments from Prime Minister Shinzo Abe that raised expectations of more measures to



A man look at an electronic stock indicator of a securities firm in Tokyo yesterday

shore up economic growth under his "Abenomics" stimulus program. The remarks gave an extra boost to Japanese stocks, which some analysts said were lagging behind the recovery this week on Wall Street and other global markets.

"The markets overnight looked much healthier while the Nikkei was still pointing in the wrong direction," said Ben Collett, head of Japan and Asian equities at Sunrise Brokers in Hong Kong. "The unsexy truth is that this is a lot of people moving to buy stock and not many sellers."

In written remarks from Abe read to a Bank of America-Merrill Lynch conference in Tokyo, the prime minister pledged to cut corporate tax rates by at least 3.3 percentage points next year. Passage of legislation making it easier to hire temporary workers and reports that Abe plans to keep

his current economic team in a cabinet reshuffle next month also appeared to whet investor appetite.

China's Ministry of Finance helped with a new round of measures to revive growth.

The steps, which include infrastructure spending and reforming taxes for small businesses, follow other recent moves aimed at soothing jittery markets. A rebound in Shanghai shares Tuesday also reinforced faith in Beijing's interventionist policies to halt sliding prices.

Other Asian benchmarks ended with big gains. South Korea's Kospi added 3 percent to 1,934.20 and Hong Kong's Hang Seng climbed 4.1 percent to 22,131.31. The Shanghai Composite Index in mainland China rose 2.3 percent to 3,243.09. Australia's S&P/ASX 200 gained 2.1 percent to 5,221.10. **AP**

British Airways plane catches fire on Las Vegas runway

Kimberley Pierceall and Ken Ritter, Las Vegas

THE 157 passengers aboard British Airways Flight 2276 were settled into their seats for the 10-hour flight from Las Vegas to London when the aircraft's left side engine caught fire.

Those aboard fled down emergency slides and across the tarmac as flames leaped from the British Airways Boeing 777-200 and dark black smoke billowed.

Reggie Bugmuncher, of Philadelphia, was charging her phone and waiting at a gate Tuesday (early yesterday, Macau time) for her flight from McCarran International Airport when she heard people saying, "Oh, my God." She looked out and saw "bursts of flames coming out of the middle of the plane."

"Everyone ran to the windows and people were standing on their chairs, looking out, holding their breath with their hands over their mouths," Bugmuncher said.

The plane's emergency slides deployed and passengers quickly fled. She said it was a "bit more orderly" than she would have expected given the dramatic nature of the fire and smoke.

Firefighters stationed at the airport reached the plane two minutes after getting reports of flames, and within another three minutes, everyone inside

the plane had escaped.

After firefighters extinguished the flames, emergency vehicles could be seen surrounding the aircraft, which was left a sooty gray from the smoke and fire retardant.

Federal Aviation Administration spokesman Ian Gregor said the plane's left engine caught fire and an investigation was under way. The National Transportation Safety Board was collecting information about the incident, said Eric Weiss, a spokesman for the agency in Washington.

Clark County Deputy Fire Chief Jon Klassen said the cause of the fire wasn't clear yet, but the fire didn't appear to breach the cabin.

Fire officials said 14 people were taken to Sunrise Hospital by early Tuesday evening for minor injuries, most a result of sliding down the inflatable chutes to escape.

The airline said the aircraft "experienced a technical issue" as it prepared to take off. "Our crew evacuated the aircraft safely and the fire was quickly extinguished."

British Airways spokeswoman Caroline Titmuss said in an earlier email that "safety is always our priority." Titmuss said that the airline was "looking after customers" but didn't elaborate. **AP**



Smoke billows out from a plane that caught fire at McCarran International Airport, Las Vegas

corporate bits

STEVE WOLSTENHOLME JOINS TIGER RESORT



Manila-based Tiger Resort Leisure and Entertainment, Inc. yesterday announced the appointment of Steve Wolsten-

holme as Chief Operating Officer. He will be responsible in overseeing the business and leading the group towards the

opening of the newest Manila resort and casino complex targeted for December 2016.

Prior to joining Tiger Resort, Wolstenholme previously served as President and Chief Operating Officer of Grand Sierra Resort and Casino in Reno, Nevada. With his background and experience in the hospitality and gaming industry, Wolstenholme completes the senior management team of Tiger Resort.

"The growing demand for entertainment properties in the Philippines is an exciting challenge and I am honored and delighted to be part of the Tiger Resort team. The company's objective is to push the boundaries in the industry through innovation to deliver our customers' needs and wants and this is what I aim to achieve," explains Wolstenholme.

MGM BRINGS SEVENTH OKTOBERFEST TO TOWN ON OCTOBER 15



MGM Macau is bringing its seventh Oktoberfest to town. This time, MGM is hosting the event in cooperation with Consulate General of the Federal

Republic of Germany in Hong Kong and the German Macau Business Association, with Macau Government Tourist Office as the supporting unit. Between

October 15 and 25, Munich's famed festival will take place at The Vista II of MGM Macau.

This 11-day beerfest captures Bavarian festivities through imported German beer, live entertainment and a party atmosphere. Furnished with long wooden tables and benches under a tent, the venue opens every day from 6pm till midnight, with the clinking of beer mugs and the sounds of traditional accordion and Oom-Pah music. Ceiling wreaths and bunting, taps flowing with Spaten beer, carnival game booths, folk dancing and sing-alongs are all part of the atmosphere. Rhythmic Bavarian dance, the playing of the traditional Alpenhorn, beer maids in dirndls and the Högl Fun Band, flown in from Germany, reflect what you would find in Munich.

POLL

Americans concerned most over mainland's economic power



Chinese soldiers march during a military parade to commemorate the 70th anniversary of Japan's World War II defeat in Beijing Thursday, Sept. 3

Matthew Pennington,
Washington

CHINA'S economic muscle remains a more serious concern for Americans than security threats posed by cyberattacks and the nation's growing military, according to a survey released yesterday.

The survey by the Pew Research Center comes ahead of a high-profile U.S. state visit this month by China's President Xi Jinping. Differences between the world powers have sharpened over

hacking allegations and China's increasing assertiveness in making territorial claims in the South China Sea.

The poll finds that 54 percent of Americans have an unfavorable view of China, and that negative views run much higher among Republicans than Democrats. But overall, eight out of 10 Americans see serious problems with China on key economic, security and social issues.

Concern is most intense over the USD1.27 trillion in U.S. debt held by China and the loss of U.S. jobs

to China. Next come cyberattacks, China's policies on human rights, the U.S. trade deficit with China, China's impact on the global environment, and its growing military power.

The poll was based on 1,003 telephone interviews in the U.S. between April 13 and May 3. The margin of error was 3.6 percentage points.

The survey was conducted before the revelations in June that millions of U.S. federal personnel records had been hacked.

U.S. lawmakers have said the cyberattacks originated in China.

The polling also preceded recent turmoil in China's stock market that rattled global markets, amid growing uncertainty over whether the communist government can manage reforms of the world's second-largest economy after three decades of rapid growth.

Contenders for the 2016 Republican presidential contest have already been talking tough on China, and the survey found that Republicans are significantly more concerned about threats from China than Democrats.

Some 77 percent of Republicans regarded Chinese-held debt as a very serious problem, compared with 60 percent of Democrats. Sixty-five percent of Republicans saw cyberattacks from China as a very serious problem, compared with 49 percent of Democrats.

However, the overall percentage of respondents describing debt, jobs and the trade deficit with China as a very serious concerns has declined significantly since a Pew poll last posed those questions in 2012. The unfavorable view of China has remained constant in the past three years.

Those unfavorable ratings are less pronounced among the young. Just 39 percent of respondents under 30 have a negative opinion of China, compared with 64 percent of those aged 50 and older. AP

54%

The number of Americans with an unfavorable view of China

Attacker stabs 4 judges with knife smuggled into court

A man apparently upset with a court verdict stabbed four judges with a knife smuggled into a courthouse in central China yesterday morning, the court and state media said. The man suddenly drew the knife and attacked two judges as they were taking questions from him about the court's ruling in a labor dispute, according to a statement released by the Intermediate People's Court in the Hubei province city of Shiyan. It identified the attacker as the appellant in the case, 43-year-old Hu Qinggang. Two more judges were injured when they tried to stop Hu, who was later detained by court marshals, the court said. One of the judges was severely injured and put under intensive care, but the wounds were not life-threatening, the court said. The state-run online publication The Paper said the suspect had apparently smuggled the dagger past security at the front entrance by wrapping it inside newspapers. Neither the court statement nor the media reports disclosed the court's verdict or the details of case, although labor disputes in China usually involve non-payment of wages.

Hong Kong probes funds, brokers, Reuters says

Paul Panckhurst

HONG Kong's securities regulator is investigating whether brokers and hedge funds in the city violated licenses by creating and trading Chinese investment products, Reuters reported, citing unidentified people. The two-week-old probe covers international securities firms and Hong Kong units of Chinese brokers and involves Chinese investment quotas used to create products for hedge funds to trade stocks and bonds in the mainland, Reuters said. No comment was immediately available from the Securities and Futures Commission. Brokers may have needed extra licenses in connection with some products, where they had the discretion to manage portfolios of securities for their clients, the news agency reported. One unidentified person said the SFC was looking at whether some hedge funds had breached their licenses or general conduct rules. The probe is intended to aid the China Securities Regulatory Commission, Reuters reported.

Gov't changing how it reports GDP to meet IMF standard

CHINA is tweaking the way it reports quarterly gross domestic product data, paving the way for the nation to adopt an International Monetary Fund standard as it presses ahead with the goal of gaining reserve currency status for the yuan.

The new reporting method will create conditions for China to adopt the IMF's Special Data Dissemination Standard and will better reflect short-term fluctuations in the economy, the National Bureau of Statistics said in a

statement yesterday. The IMF describes the SDDS, established in 1996, as "a global benchmark for disseminating macroeconomic statistics to the public."

Under the change, the NBS will now release its tally of economic output for each quarter, along with a cumulative reading. Formerly, it released quarterly economic growth rates, but didn't specify the value of GDP for each three-month period on its own.

China has recently introduced a se-

ries of other technical policy changes to aid its bid to join the SDR basket of currencies, including allowing overseas lenders to buy and sell the yuan onshore for direct investments, publishing a currency reference rate five times a day, and permitting banks to set whatever deposit rate they like for terms longer than a year. Those moves came in addition to the shock yuan devaluation on Aug. 11 in a change that gave markets a bigger say in setting the yuan's value. Bloomberg

Li downplays economic concerns, says growth in 'proper range'

Joe McDonald
Business Writer, Beijing

CHINA'S No. 2 leader tried yesterday to mollify foreign concerns about its economic slowdown, saying growth is in the "proper range" and Beijing has no plans to allow its currency to decline further.

Speaking at a meeting of the World Economic Forum in the eastern city of Dalian, Premier Li Keqiang said Beijing will stick to plans for market-opening reforms despite recent "fluctuations" in economic performance.

Communist leaders are in the midst of an unusually high-level effort to calm global financial markets after a collapse in Chinese stock prices and abrupt downturns in manufacturing and exports.

The central bank governor, finance minister and securities regulatory agency issued similar statements last weekend that stock market turmoil was ending and the economy was stable.

"The underlying trend of the economy is still moving in a positive direction," said Li, the country's No. 2 leader and its top economic official. Pointing to data showing more than 7 million urban jobs were created in the first half of the year, he said, "all this shows the Chinese economy has been running within the proper range."

Li announced no new initiatives but touched on a wide range of issues that are sensitive for foreign investors in a clear attempt to assure them business conditions would remain stable.



A Chinese yuan sign is seen at a currency exchange shop in Hong Kong

China's economy has cooled steadily over the past two years as communist leaders try to steer it to more self-sustaining growth based on domestic consumption instead of exports and investment. But foreign concern about a possible "hard landing," with slumping growth fueling political tensions, spiked up after trade and factory activity fell in July and August.

Li said current growth, forecast by the government at about 7 percent for the full year, is acceptable so long as it generates enough jobs.

The premier said Beijing has no further plans to allow its yuan to decline in value following a surprise Aug. 11 de-

valuation.

Chinese authorities said the change was aimed at making the yuan's state-set exchange rate more market-oriented, but it prompted concern Beijing might depress it further to give a price advantage to exporters that are struggling with weak global demand. That sparked fears of a global "currency war" if other governments responded by pushing down their own exchange rates.

The premier said "continuous depreciation" would hurt Chinese exporters by causing foreign customers to postpone orders. He said exporters told him they want stable exchange rates.

"We don't wish to boost our exports by devaluing the Chinese currency," said Li.

"Still less do we want to see a 'currency war,'" he said. "As the Chinese economy has become so closely integrated with the global economy, such a currency war would bring more harm than any possible gains to China."

The premier also tried to reassure investors that recent economic turmoil would not disrupt progress on carrying out pledges to open more of the state-dominated economy to private and foreign companies.

Reform advocates complain Beijing is moving too slowly in carrying out a long-range

The underlying trend of the economy is still moving in a positive direction

development blueprint issued in 2013 that calls for giving market forces a central economic role for the first time.

In a report this week, the European Union Chamber of Commerce in China said regulators are backtracking in some areas, including with the introduction of proposed security legislation that would limit access to foreign computer security products.

"The direction is for China to open wider to receive more foreign direct investment and to open more areas to foreign investors," said Li.

Li affirmed that Beijing plans to let its currency trade freely, though he gave no time frame. A growing amount of Chinese trade is settled in yuan but Beijing still determines the exchange rate and restricts the flow of money into and out of the mainland.

"It needs to be a process determined by the market," Li said. "It will take some time, in keeping with the actual situation of China's economic conditions. But we will press ahead with steps to achieve full convertibility under the current and capital accounts." **AP**

CHINA'S increasingly ambitious space program plans to attempt the first-ever landing of a lunar probe on the moon's far side, a leading engineer said.

The Chang'e 4 mission is planned for sometime before 2020, Zou Yongliao from the Chinese Academy of Sciences' moon exploration department told state broadcaster CCTV in an interview broadcast yesterday.

Zou said the mission's objective would be to study geological conditions on the moon's far side, also known as the dark side.

That could eventually lead to the placement of a radio telescope for use by

Beijing aims to be first to land probe on dark side of the moon



The moon rises in Beijing

astronomers, something that would help "fill a void" in man's knowledge of the universe, Zou said.

Radio transmissions from Earth are unable to reach the moon's far side, making it an excellent location for sensitive instruments.

China's next lunar mission is scheduled for 2017, when it will attempt to land an unmanned spaceship on the moon before returning to Earth with samples. If successful, that wou-

ld make China only the third country after the United States and Russia to have carried out such a maneuver.

China's lunar exploration program, named Chang'e after a mythical goddess, has already launched a pair of orbiting lunar probes, and in 2013 landed a craft on the moon with a rover onboard.

China has also hinted at a possible crewed mission to the moon.

China sent its first astronaut into space in 2003 and has powered ahead with a series of methodically timed steps, including the deploying of an experimental space station. **AP**

AUSTRALIA

Gov't to launch airstrikes in Syria, take more refugees

Rod McGuirk, Canberra

AUSTRALIA will launch airstrikes against Islamic State targets in Syria within days and resettle an additional 12,000 refugees from the deepening humanitarian and security crisis in the Middle East, Prime Minister Tony Abbott said yesterday.

He also announced that his government will pay an additional 44 million Australian dollars (USD31 million) to keep 240,000 Syrians and Iraqis in refugee camps in Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey, bringing the Australian contribution to the humanitarian crisis in Iraq and Syria to AU\$230 million since 2011.

Australia's six F/A-18 Super Hornet jet fighters based in Dubai have been bombing targets in Iraq since October last year. Australia is moving across the border, where the legality of airstrikes is less clear, at the request of the



Australian PM Tony Abbott

United States.

"There can be no stability and no end to the persecution

and suffering in the Middle East until the Daesh (Islamic State) death cult is degraded

and ultimately destroyed," Abbott told reporters. "This is very much in Australia's na-

tional interest."

The 12,000 refugee places announced yesterday are in addition to Australia's usual annual refugee intake of 13,750.

Air Chief Marshal Mark Binskin, Australia's Defense Force Chief, said the first Australian airstrikes against Syrian targets would be launched this week.

"Combat operations are dangerous by the nature of what the men and women are doing," Binskin said. "I don't envisage a marked increase in the risks of operating where we're going to operate in Syria."

The government can commit to the Syrian campaign without asking Parliament. While the opposition Labor Party supported Australian military involvement in Iraq at the request of the Iraqi government, it questioned the legality and purpose of extending the campaign into Syria,

"What's the objective here? What's the end game? It's not enough to be speaking in sound bites about what an evil organization Daesh is," opposition deputy leader Tanya Plibersek said.

Richard Di Natale, leader of the minor Greens party, said: "The decision ... to drop bombs on the Syrian people is going to make a bad situation much worse." AP

Munir Ahmed, Islamabad

FOR years, Pakistan did not put prisoners to death. Then a Taliban attack butchered 150 people, most of them children, and the country resumed carrying out the death penalty and quickly turned into one of the world's most avid executioners.

But instead of killing militants, the campaign is largely executing common criminals, The Associated Press has found.

Only one in 10 of the 226 prisoners executed since December was convicted of a terror attack, according to human rights activists. Still, the executions continue in order to placate a public still angry over last year's Taliban assault on a military school in the city of Peshawar.

The Pakistani government refuses to discuss the executions, and most on the street still support them. Some, however, are beginning to question whether the death penalty truly works as a deterrent in a country where suicide bombings remain a common militant tactic.

"You cannot deter those militants who are commi-

PAKISTAN

Islamabad among world's top executioners after terror attack



Family members of Shafqat Hussain, who was convicted and hanged for killing a boy, wait to receive his body outside the central jail in Karachi, Pakistan

tted to die for a cause," said analyst Hasan Askari Rizvi, a retired political science professor.

Pakistan under former President Pervez Musharraf halted executions in 2008, partly due to the pressure of human rights groups. The hiatus started after another terror attack shocked the nation — the assassination of former Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto amid a heated election campaign. The government blamed

the Pakistani Taliban for that attack as well, though the militants never claimed responsibility for the assault and others questioned why elements of Pakistan's powerful intelligence agencies failed to prevent her killing.

At the time of the pause in 2008, Human Rights Watch said some 7,000 people were on Pakistan's death row and 36 had been put to death that year. The year before, authorities executed 134

people; they put to death 85 in 2006, 52 in 2005 and 21 in 2004. Officials discussed commuting the death sentences of those remaining to life in prison, but apparently never did.

After 2008, Pakistan's military executed only one soldier in 2012 after convicting him of murder. Civilian authorities largely didn't discuss resuming executions, even as the Pakistani Taliban and other insurgent groups continued their campaign of violence across the country, including suicide bombings and the 2012 shooting of future Nobel Prize laureate Malala Yousafzai.

The Dec. 16 attack changed everything. In Peshawar, Taliban gunmen stormed a military-run school, killing 150 people, nearly all children attending class. Popular anger raged against the militants, many of whom have long ties to sections of Pakistani intelligence

services.

Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif used his strongest language yet against the extremists, vowing there would be no discrimination between "good or bad Taliban" as he allowed those convicted of terror charges to be executed. He also pledged to "continue this war until even a single terrorist is not left on our soil."

Days later, Pakistan carried out its first executions by hanging Mohammed Aqeel, convicted of attacking an army headquarters near Islamabad, and Arshad Mahmood, put to death for his role in a 2003 plot to kill Musharraf. Other executions followed. In all, at least 21 people have been executed in terror cases involving a plane hijacking, attacks on soldiers and other violence, according to data from the independent Human Rights Commission of Pakistan. In March, Pakistan

quietly lifted its execution ban entirely and hangings surged. Over all, Pakistan has executed at least 226 people, according to the commission, though an exact number is difficult to ascertain as authorities decline to discuss the death penalty in detail. Repeated requests for comment by the AP to the Pakistani Interior and Information ministries have gone unanswered.

Officials also said Interior Minister Chaudhry Nisar Ali Khan was traveling abroad and unable to discuss the executions. However, Khan told journalists in August that the country had executed at least 211 people, including terrorists. He did not elaborate.

On the street, the executions remain incredibly popular among many Pakistanis, including those who lost loved ones in the Peshawar school attack.

"I think terrorists should be killed at public places the way they kill innocent people," said Ashfaq Ahmed, an Islamabad taxi driver. "If terrorists use guns to kill people, you too kill them with guns. Kill them the way they kill innocent people." AP

Nattasuda Anusonadisai and Jocelyn Gecker, Bangkok

THAILAND

Police say suspect handed backpack to Bangkok bomber

THAI police said yesterday that a key suspect has admitted to meeting the alleged Bangkok shrine bomber outside a train station and handing him a heavy backpack containing a bomb just before the blast occurred the night of Aug. 17.

Police announced the development as they escorted the suspect, identified as Yusuf Mierili, to the scene of the alleged handover and also to the Erawan Shrine, where the blast killed 20 people, for a public reenactment of his role and movements before and after the explosion.

Public reenactments conducted in front of the media are a common part of Thai criminal investigations, although they have been criticized for implying a suspect's guilt before a trial. The suspect in yesterday's reenactment has not yet been formally charged but police say he was a member of the network that carried out the attack.

The latest disclosure by the police appeared to be another element in reconstructing the attack, which has growing links to China's Uighur extremists, although Thai authorities have not explicitly acknowledged



AP PHOTO
Police officers escort a key suspect in last month's Bangkok bombing, wearing a yellow shirt, identified by Thai police as Yusuf Mierili

that. Authorities have said that publicly calling the blast an act of terrorism would harm its image as a tourist destination.

Thai authorities have suggested that at least two of the suspects are Turkish and that Mierili holds a Chinese passport, boosting a theory that the bombing was to avenge Thailand's forced repatriation of more

than 100 ethnic Uighurs to China in July. Uighurs are related to Turks, and Turkey is home to a large Uighur community.

Yesterday, police and armed commandoes escorted Mierili to Bangkok's Hua Lamphong train station where he allegedly handed a heavy backpack to the suspected bomber, who was seen in security camera footage

wearing a yellow T-shirt and leaving a large, black backpack at the open-air shrine just minutes before the blast.

"This place is where he met with the yellow-shirt man to exchange a backpack," national police spokesman Prawut Thavornsiri told reporters outside the train station.

"Yusufu said the backpack

that he carried was heavy and it was a bomb," Prawut said. It remained unclear who made the bomb and who allegedly placed it inside the backpack. Prawut did not say if Mierili's involvement was limited to carrying the backpack or if he is suspected of also being a bomb-maker.

Mierili told police that he had carried the backpack from an apartment in the Nong Chok district of Bangkok's outskirts, an apartment where police found bomb-making materials during a raid on Aug. 29.

After the hand-off the two men went their separate ways, Prawut said.

Mierili — who police have also identified as Yusuf Mierili — was arrested Sept. 1 at the Thai-Cambodia border. Police say they found his fingerprints on a container of gunpowder at the apartment in Nong Chok. He faces charges of conspiracy to possess unauthorized explosives. **AP**

AD

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EUROPEAN MIGRANT CRISIS

EU seeks deal for its countries to share 160,000 refugees



Young migrant boys flash V-victory signs while arriving at a temporary holding center for migrants near the Hungarian border with Serbia, in Roszke, southern Hungary

Lorne Cook, Brussels

THE head of the European Commission issued an impassioned plea yesterday for Europe to face up to its immigration crisis, urging EU countries to agree by next week to share 160,000 refugees and warning that Greece, Italy and Hungary can no longer handle the influx alone.

Speaking at the European Parliament in Strasbourg, France, Jean-Claude Juncker unveiled a list of new proposals to help Europe confront its biggest refugee emergency since World War II.

"The refugee crisis will not simply go away," Juncker told EU lawmakers, noting that some 500,000 migrants have

Juncker's new plan involves sharing 120,000 refugees from Greece, Italy and Hungary among 22 member states

entered Europe this year, many from conflict-torn Syria and Libya. "It's high time to act."

"We are fighting against Islamic State. Why are we not ready to accept those who are

fleeing Islamic State?" he said.

Juncker's new plan involves sharing 120,000 refugees from Greece, Italy and Hungary among 22 member states, on top of a proposal the EU's executive made in May to share 40,000 refugees from just Greece and Italy.

Britain, Ireland and Denmark are not legally bound to take part, due to exemptions they have negotiated previously. Greece, Italy and Hungary are not included.

The Czech Republic and Slovakia immediately rejected the idea that compulsory quotas might be imposed, while other nations had already criticized the new proposal even before it was made public. Its chances of success hang in the balance

because a solid majority of the 28 EU states must support the move for it to take place.

More than 378,000 migrants have entered Europe this year, including over 256,000 crossing the sea to Greece and nearly 120,000 braving the Mediterranean to reach Italy, according to the International Organization for Migration.

Hungary estimates that more than 160,000 people have crossed its borders alone this year. The latest proposals were drawn up as Budapest was busy building an anti-migrant fence on its border with Serbia. Tens of thousands have entered just in the last few months, many cramming into buses and trains bound for Germany.

Despite the urgency, the EU's first refugee plan never won full support, and only around 32,000 refugees have been

allocated. Hungary was among the countries to reject it, along with the Czech Republic, Slovakia and Poland.

Juncker wants both plans endorsed Monday at a meeting of EU interior ministers in Brussels. "This has to be done in a compulsory way," he said.

In Berlin, German Chancellor Angela Merkel backed the new immigration plan and also called for it to be made compulsory.

"We need a binding agreement on a binding distribution of refugees among all member states, according to fair criteria," Merkel said. Germany has taken in more migrants than any other EU country, and would have to accept more than 31,000 more under the scheme.

On Monday, France threw its weight behind the EU plan by saying that it would take in 24,000 refugees this year, exactly the figure proposed in the new scheme.

Britain, which is not taking part, announced separately that it would welcome up to 20,000 refugees currently in countries outside the EU over the next five years. Ireland is also taking 520 refugees from camps outside Europe.

CAMERAWOMAN IN HUNGARY FIRED AFTER SHOWN KICKING MIGRANTS

A HUNGARIAN camerawoman has been fired after she was caught on video kicking and tripping migrants entering Hungary across the border with Serbia. The N1TV Internet channel said their employee, widely identified in Hungarian media as Petra Laszlo, has been dismissed because she "behaved unacceptably" at a makeshift gathering point where police take migrants immediately after they enter Hungary near the village of Roszke. In videos posted online, Laszlo can be seen

kicking at least one migrant in a group trying to break through police lines and tripping a man carrying a small child while also running from police. N1TV editor-in-chief Szabolcs Kisberk said in a statement late Tuesday that the dismissal was immediate. Much of the channel's content centers on the activities of the far-right Jobbik party. The AP was unable to obtain a telephone number for Laszlo, and a Facebook page that she was previously said to have posted online, Laszlo can be seen

UK

Queen Elizabeth II surpasses Queen Victoria's long reign

Gregory Katz, London

QUEEN Elizabeth II reached a major milestone yesterday, becoming the longest-reigning monarch in Britain's history by passing Queen Victoria, who served for 63 years and seven months.

Prime Minister David Cameron said millions of Britons would celebrate the historic moment.

"Over the last 63 years, Her Majesty has been a rock of stability in a

world of constant change and her selfless sense of service and duty has earned admiration not only in Britain, but right across the globe," Cameron said.

The queen and her husband, Prince Philip, planned one public event, although it is not directly connected to the milestone. They are inaugurating a new train route along the Scottish borders.

Wearing a two-tone blue coat and matching

hat, the queen waved to crowds at Waverley Station in Edinburgh as she boarded a train bound for the opening ceremony. The arrival of her helicopter had been delayed by fog and poor visibility in Scotland.

Elizabeth, who is concluding her extended summer holiday in Scotland, was expected to speak briefly at the ceremony.

Former Prime Minister John Major praised the queen's long presence as

a tonic for Britons.

"Whilst prime ministers have come and gone, celebrities have come and gone, life has changed, she and the monarchy have been an absolute constant in their lives and I think that is very reassuring," he said.

British legislators planned to mark the milestone in Parliament and newspapers were filled with special souvenir tributes to the queen.

Praise also poured in from distant parts of the



Britain's Queen Elizabeth II

Commonwealth.

Australian Prime Minister Tony Abbott told the Australian Parliament that the queen has compiled an extraordinary record of service and is regarded with "respect and affection" by Australians.

Buckingham Palace

marked the event by releasing an official photograph of the queen taken by Mary McCartney, a photographer who is the daughter of former Beatle Paul McCartney.

Elizabeth came to the throne in 1952 upon the death of her father, King George VI. AP

Erica Werner, Washington

USA

Democrats clinch enough votes for Iran nuclear deal

THE White House and insistent U.S. Senate Democrats locked up the votes Tuesday (early yesterday, Macau time) to frustrate attempts by outraged Republicans to pass a legislative rebuke to the Iran nuclear accord.

Three previously undeclared Senate Democrats — Richard Blumenthal, Ron Wyden and Gary Peters — announced their support for the international agreement in a coordinated burst. That pushed supporters to the crucial 41-vote total that would allow them to block a Republican disapproval resolution with a delaying tactic and prevent a final vote.

The agreement struck by Iran,

the U.S., China, Russia, France, Britain and Germany in July would provide Iran hundreds of billions of dollars in relief from international sanctions in exchange for a decade of constraints on the country's nuclear program. The deal aims to keep Iran at least a year away from being able to produce enough nuclear material for a weapon.

"There is no better deal availa-



Demonstrators protest against the Iran nuclear deal

day if all 41 senators now on record in favor of the Iran deal would hold together on the procedural maneuvers necessary to delay debate. And the developments didn't change the ultimate outcome, which has been clear for days: Even if the disapproval resolution should pass the House and Senate this week, President Barack Obama would veto it, and Democrats have the votes in hand to sustain his veto.

But Obama and his Democratic allies now have within reach the possibility of stopping the resolution without a messy veto fight, despite the unanimous opposition of the Republicans who control both the House and the Senate.

"I think it's cleaner, simpler and much better for American credibility around the world if the motion to disapprove doesn't get past the Senate", said Democratic Sen. Chris Murphy, who's been involved in coordinating support for the agreement. **AP**

CLINTON ADMITS PRIVATE EMAIL WAS A MISTAKE, SAYS SHE'S SORRY

HILLARY RODHAM Clinton apologized for her use of a private email account as secretary of state after declining since last week to express remorse for the arrangement that has shaken her presidential campaign. Asked about setting up the private email account by ABC News, Clinton said early yesterday, "That was a mistake. I'm sorry about that. I take responsibility, and

I'm trying to be as transparent as I possibly can." The apology evolution is the latest chapter for an issue that has dogged Clinton's presidential campaign for months. Despite a big fundraising advantage and a slew of endorsements from party leaders, Clinton's standing with voters has slipped — multiple polls show a majority of Americans don't find her honest and trustworthy.

ble now," declared Blumenthal, one of the Senate's Jewish Democrats, announcing his support for an accord that is strongly opposed by Israeli leaders as well as Republican senators.

The three lawmakers were among just a handful of undeclared senators and were all considered possible "no" votes. Coming on the first day of Congress' fall session after a five-week summer recess, their announce-

ments were a dramatic start to what promises to be a bitter, partisan debate on the deal aimed at curbing Iran's nuclear program.

The debate was set to take on some of the trappings of a political circus early today with Republican presidential candidates Donald Trump and Sen. Ted Cruz preparing to headline an anti-accord rally outside the Capitol.

It remained uncertain yester-

AD

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what's ON



MACAU HANDOVER HISTORICAL DOCUMENTS
DONATED BY LAU SIN PENG
TIME: 10am-7pm
(Closed on Mondays, No admission after 6:30 pm)
UNTIL: December 31, 2015
VENUE: Multi-function Hall, Handover Gifts Museum of Macao
ADMISSION: MOP5
(Free on Sundays and public holidays)
ENQUIRIES: (853) 8791 9814

PHOTOGRAPHS OF MACAU OLD SHOPS
TIME: 10am-7pm
(Closed on Mondays, No admission after 6:30 pm)
UNTIL: December 31, 2015
VENUE: Macau Museum of Art, Av. Xian Xing Hai, s/n, NAPE
ADMISSION: MOP5
(Free on Sundays and public holidays)
ENQUIRIES: (853) 8791 9814

PATH AND ADVENTURE
— WORKS BY MIO PANG FEI
TIME: 10am-7pm
(Closed on Mondays, no admission after 6:30 pm)
UNTIL: November 22, 2015
VENUE: Macau Museum of Art, Av. Xian Xing Hai, s/n, NAPE
ADMISSION: MOP5
(Free on Sundays and public holidays)
ENQUIRIES: (853) 8791 9814

THE COLLECTION EXHIBITION
OF TAI FUNG TONG ART HOUSE
TIME: 2pm-6pm daily (Except Mondays)
VENUE: Tai Fung Tong Art House, Calçada da Igreja de S. Lázaro 7
ADMISSION: Free
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2835 3537 / 2834 6626

TRAVERSE: VIDEO INSTALLATION BY ROBERT CAHEN
TIME: 10am-7pm
(Closed on Mondays, no admission after 6:30 pm)
UNTIL: September 20, 2015
VENUE: Macau Museum of Art, Av. Xian Xing Hai, s/n, NAPE
ADMISSION: MOP5
(Free on Sundays and public holidays)
ENQUIRIES: (853) 8791 9814

Offbeat

CHINESE FARMER PRETENDED TO BE PRINCESS TO COMMIT FRAUD

A farmer who pretended to be a princess descended from the Qing dynasty to swindle people out of more than 2 million yuan (USD315,000) has been sentenced to 13 1/2 years in prison for fraud, a court said.

Wang Fengying and her co-accused Yang Janglin said she was called Princess Changping and persuaded people to lend them money to help them get back assets worth billions of dollars held by authorities, the Lianhu District Court in Shaanxi province said.

They promised high returns on the investments and the fraud lasted two years until a victim went to the police, the court said in a statement Tuesday. In the meantime, Wang had bought a sedan car and put a down payment on an apartment.

Police seized 41 gold bars, thousands of fake dollars and treasure maps that Wang offered to investors as collateral.

Co-defendant Yang was sentenced to 12 years' imprisonment and both were fined 500,000 yuan (\$80,000) in court Monday.

TV canal macau

13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:30	RTPi Live
18:20	Trail of Lies (Repeated)
19:10	Montra do Lilau (Repeat)
19:40	Soap Opera
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	TDM Talk Show
21:40	Miscellaneous
22:10	Trail of Lies
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Television Film
00:05	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)

cinema

CINETEATRO

10 SEP - 16 SEP

**MAZE RUNNER: THE SCORCH TRIALS**

ROOM 1

2.30, 4.45, 7.315 9.30 pm

Director: Wes Ball

Starring: IDylan O'Brien, Kaya Scodelario, Thomas

Brodie-Sangster

Language: English (Cantonese)

Duration: 131min

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

**ALL YOU NEED IS LOVE**

ROOM 3

2.30, 9.30 pm

Director: Richie Jen

Starring: Richie Jen, Shu Qi, Ti Lung

Language: Cantonese (Cantonese/English)

Duration: 104min

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

MACAU TOWER

10 SEP - 30 SEPT

MAZE RUNNER: THE SCORCH TRIALS

2.30, 4.45, 7.15, 9.30 pm

Director: Wes Ball

Starring: IDylan O'Brien, Kaya Scodelario, Thomas

Brodie-Sangster

Language: English (Cantonese)

Duration: 131min

this day in history

**1963 AMERICAN EXPRESS COMES TO BRITAIN**

American Express, one of the world's largest banking houses, has opened a credit card service in Britain.

Holders of the cards will be able to use them at nearly 3,000 hotels, restaurants, shops and hire-car agencies in this country and at more than 83,000 establishments abroad. The cards can also be used to obtain travel tickets.

This move by American Express is bound to give a powerful boost to the idea of credit cards in Britain, which have not, so far, spread very far.

Until now, American Express card holders have been able to use their cards in this country, but only if they could settle their accounts in dollars.

There will be an annual fee of £3 12s, but supplementary cards can be obtained at half price for immediate family members. Companies can also apply for cards and issue them to members of staff.

Customers use the card to pay for goods on credit. American Express then issues a monthly bill which covers all outstanding charges on the account.

The Bank of England has given permission for the scheme to go ahead - on condition users do not spend more than £75 on any one item purchased abroad.

American Express Vice President Maxwell Elliot said the people most likely to take up the new card would be managers and sales executives earning £2,000 a year or more.

He rejected suggestions the new scheme would be open to fraud and also said he expected little competition. Diners Club is the only other company operating a similar credit scheme.

Mr Elliot said: "There is only one (competitor) known to me and that covers about 2,000 hotels in this country alone. More than 83,000 establishments around the world now honour the American Express card."

Credit cards have been available in Britain since 1951 when Donald McCullough launched Finders Services after a trip to the United States. It merged with another company, Credit Card Services, to become Diners' Club last year.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

Diners Club was the first universal credit card, introduced in the United States in 1950. It became the first major credit card company in Britain in 1962 formed from the merger of Finders Services and Credit Card Facilities.

American Express was the next big company to launch into the credit business in 1958.

A report in the Financial Times in 1965 said the average Diners Club card holder was 41, male and married with a family, earning well over £3,000 a year as a senior commercial or business executive.

Switch and Visa debit cards were introduced in the 1980s.

Customers use the cards for payment of goods and the money is directly debited from their account. The cards can also be used to withdraw money from cashpoint machines and they act as cheque guarantee cards.

The Credit Card Research Group carried out a survey in 2001 and found there were 62 million credit cards in circulation in the UK, with many people owning more than one.

YOUR STARS

Aries
Mar. 21-Apr. 19
Things aren't looking as dire as they once were. You're able to meet your family obligations, even if you can't do it in style. That alone should be a big relief. Go ahead and allow yourself to feel it.

Taurus
April 20-May 20
So you're not eating out as much, but you're still enjoying socializing over food. Who knew the family table could be so satisfying. Chalk one up to the bad economy.

Gemini
May 21-Jun. 21
You can still be thrifty without feeling cheap. The difference is in your approach, not the bottom line. Don't let yourself get all shriveled up and miserly. But do continue being tight with money.

Cancer
Jun. 22-Jul. 22
You can't double your gains in this economy but you can inch forward, and that still beats going backward any day. Take a look over your shoulder and give yourself some slack as you tally your financial situation.

Leo
Jul. 23-Aug. 22
Persistence pays off, but you can try something new on the side. It's not admitting defeat as much as it is expanding your safety net. Start putting out some feelers.

Virgo
Aug. 23-Sept. 22
You may have a big social gathering to organize, and be sure not to delegate the spending. Rely on friends for some things but not others. You want to control the purse strings yourself, for obvious reasons.

Libra
Sep.23-Oct. 22
Profit isn't your only motive these days, simply because it's nowhere to be found. Stick with current projects, if only to keep yourself mentally healthy.

Scorpio
Oct. 23 - Nov. 21
Whether you were sitting in a foreign restaurant doodling on a napkin or sitting around a boardroom table going over the numbers, it's the right day today to get what you were aiming for then.

Sagittarius
Nov. 22-Dec. 21
It's the perfect time to be questioning your life, from the general to the specific. The fact that this need was brought on by forces beyond your control doesn't make it any less valuable. Be ruthless.

Capricorn
Dec. 22-Jan. 19
Changing your lifestyle has been hard, but issues at home are slowly being resolved, one way or another. Don't let being uneasy while things are still new lead you to believe you've made the wrong choices.

Aquarius
Jan. 20-Feb. 18
It will be quite a while before you move on from the upheaval you've been going through. In the mean time, try to make sense of more than just the numbers.

Pisces
Feb.19-Mar. 20
How your portfolio is performing used to be your biggest passion. These days it's worth ignoring altogether. Find new ways of keeping yourself entertained.

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Easy

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

Easy+

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

Medium

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

Hard

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

WEATHER

	MIN	MAX	CONDITION
CHINA			
Beijing	19	22	overcast/drizzle
Harbin	9	21	cloudy/clear
Tianjin	20	25	overcast
Urumqi	12	21	clear
Xi'an	18	20	moderate rain
Lhasa	11	22	overcast/cloudy
Chengdu	20	25	drizzle
Chongqing	25	30	overcast
Kunming	17	25	shower
Nanjing	20	28	clear
Shanghai	22	29	clear/cloudy
Wuhan	21	30	cloudy
Hangzhou	20	29	cloudy
Taipei	22	28	cloudy/overcast
Guangzhou	25	32	clear
Hong Kong	26	31	cloudy
WORLD			
Moscow	8	15	drizzle
Frankfurt	9	20	clear
Paris	10	23	clear
London	13	19	cloudy/drizzle
New York	24	24	cloudy/clear

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Mexican money; 6- Let's Make ___; 11- Sun. speech; 14- Nautical direction; 15- Sift; 16- "___ had it!"; 17- Domestic cat; 18- That is to say...; 19- Zip; 20- Former Fords; 22- ___ Kick Out of You; 24- Apparatus; 28- Passage between buildings; 30- Finally; 31- Flat surface; 32- Rubbish; 33- Card game for one; 37- Some MIT grads; 38- In front; 39- Far out!; 40- Fill again; 43- Muscat resident; 45- Tusks; 46- Scram!; 47- Implicit meaning; 50- Makes sorrowful; 51- More competent; 52- Broadway opening; 53- "The Bells" poet; 54- Muse of love poetry; 57- Skin openings; 62- Bad review; 63- Throat problem; 64- Deplete; 65- Pay stub abbr.; 66- Native American tent; 67- Kama ___;

DOWN: 1- Bit of butter; 2- Clean air org.; 3- Cry out loud; 4- Globe; 5- Smart; 6- Digression; 7- Dulls; 8- Shoebox marking; 9- Actress Gardner; 10- Not strict; 11- Tendon; 12- Madonna role; 13- Cooperative race; 21- Explosive initials; 23- Earth goddess; 24- Alma ___; 25- ___ Grows in Brooklyn; 26- Fastener; 27- Possesses; 28- The Merciful; 29- Sudden assault; 31- Flowery verse; 33- Tee, e.g.; 34- Steamed; 35- Arrested; 36- Prepares for publication or release; 38- Strong as ___; 41- Lo-cal; 42- Himalayan peak; 43- Legendary king of Thebes; 44- Deranged; 46- Dracula form; 47- Mawkish; 48- Lusitania sinker; 49- Mix smoothly; 50- Listerine alternative; 52- To ___ (exactly); 55- Numbered hwy.; 56- Dada pioneer; 58- Buckeyes' sch.; 59- Not emp.; 60- Where it's at; 61- Hot tub



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- PJ (Picket) 28 557 775
- PSP 28 573 333
- Customs 28 559 944
- S. J. Hospital 28 313 731
- Kiang Wu Hospital 28 371 333
- Commission Against Corruption (CCAC) 28326 300
- IACM 28 387 333
- Tourism 28 333 000
- Airport 59 888 88
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- Telephone - Report 1000
- Electricity - Report 28 339 922
- Macau Daily Times 28 716 081



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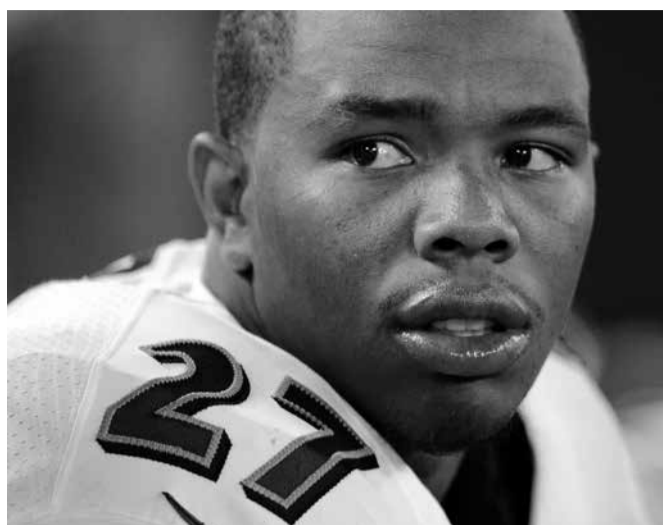
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<p>Fountainside Studio Apartment Macau 1 Bedroom Apartment New development HKD 12,800 / 567 sq ft Ref: 15070517</p>	<p>Lakeview Macau 3 Bedrooms Apartment Fully Furnished HKD 38,800 / 3,430 sq ft Ref: 15080524</p>	<p>Pacific Taipa 3 Bedrooms Apartment In The Heart of Taipa HKD 18,000 / 1,300 sq ft Ref: 15080525</p>	<p>Ginx Plaza Macau Center Of Macau Good Location HKD 22,000 / 403 sq ft Ref: 15010461</p>

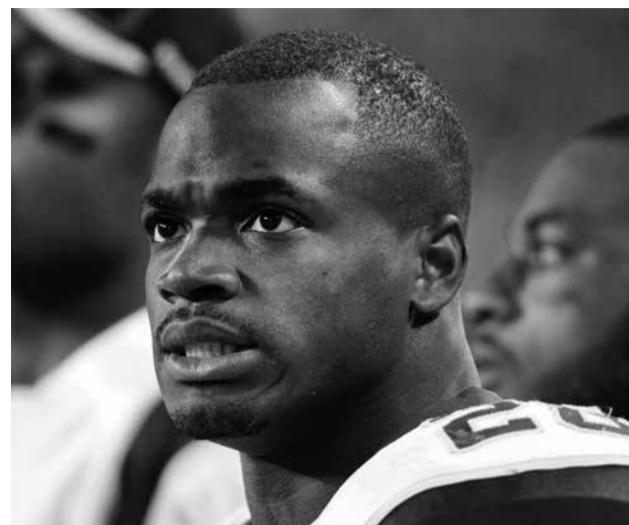
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New England Patriots quarterback Tom Brady



Baltimore Ravens running back Ray Rice



Minnesota Vikings running back Adrian Peterson

ANALYSIS

Where NFL scandals stand with 2015 season on tap

Eddie Pells

WITHOUT the games to distract from the issues, fans had more time to ponder the NFL's discipline policies, its commissioner and its overall credibility during an uncomfortable offseason.

Yes, the draft, the scouting combine and training camp were all designed to keep the league in the headlines long after the footballs stopped flying last February. But since the Patriots beat the Seahawks in the Super Bowl, those headlines have also been filled with news about scandals ranging from trivial ("Deflategate") to life-or-death (concussions and domestic abuse).

For those who've only checked back in, here's a quick rundown of where things stand with kickoff now less than 48 hours away. (Not in order of importance):

DEFLATEGATE: Last week, Tom Brady and the Patriots got a favorable ruling from a New York judge, meaning the quarterback will be available when New England hosts Pittsburgh in the league's opener tonight. The NFL has appealed the ruling — hoping another court will uphold Commissioner Roger Goodell's four-game suspension of the quarterback for a plot to deflate footballs before last season's AFC title game. The league claims it is appealing "to uphold the collectively bargained responsibility to protect the integrity of the game." Something to watch: What will the NFL do if an appeals court reinstates the suspension in, say, November, when the playoff chase is in full force?

RAY RICE: As has been the case since last November, the running back is eligible to play and available, after a jud-

ge overturned his season-long suspension following his arrest for punching his fiancée. There are a few teams in need of a veteran runner: Cleveland and Dallas come to mind. The NFL has always been a place of second chances, but not so much for a 28-year-old running back who was thought to be on the downside of his career before his suspension.

ADRIAN PETERSON: He is back with the Vikings after an offseason in which he wasn't initially eager to return, saying he felt a lack of support from the team and the state. The 30-year-old running back missed all but one game last year because of a child-abuse case and has been assured he'll make the USD13 million he's owed this season even if he gets hurt. Peterson pleaded no contest last year to a misdemeanor charge of reckless assault for using a stick to discipline

his 4-year-old son. Earlier this summer, a Texas judge reduced his probation from two years to nine months already served.

GREG HARDY: The linebacker missed all but one game with the Panthers last season after being convicted of domestic violence. The conviction was thrown out on appeal when his accuser failed to show up to testify. The Cowboys signed Hardy in March. A month later, Goodell suspended him for 10 games, but that penalty was reduced to four games by an arbitrator.

RAY McDONALD: Last week, the former 49ers defensive lineman was indicted on one count of raping an intoxicated person. He'll be arraigned Sept. 25 and faces up to eight years in prison. In March, the Chicago Bears signed McDonald to a one-year contract, but they released him two months later after his arrest in a separate case

— for allegedly breaking down a bedroom door to get to his former fiancée and their infant.

RICHIE INCOGNITO: The former Miami Dolphins guard sat out 15 months after being suspended as the primary offender in the bullying complaint made by Jonathan Martin. Incognito went unsigned last season, but is slated to start for the Buffalo Bills. Martin, 26, played for the 49ers last year, signed with the Panthers for this season, but then retired during training camp.

CONCUSSIONS: Not so much a scandal, as a widening crisis. Payouts on the potential \$1 billion concussion settlement between the league and former players are being delayed while as many as a dozen appeals are being heard. Other lawsuits from several former Chiefs and St. Louis Rams, including Neil Smith and Roy Green, are pending in Missouri, where it's possible team officials could have to testify about whether they hid the risk of repeated head injuries. How game officials handle head-to-head contact and return-to-play issues for players who may have suffered concussions will stay under the microscope. And then, there is the movie "Concussion," due out at Christmas.

AUSTRALIA'S two-match series in the United States to face the Women's World Cup champions has been called off as negotiations continue over a new collective bargaining agreement, the player's union said yesterday.

Professional Footballers Australia, a union representing male and female players, said the tour was called off late yesterday, a day after players refused to show up for practice in Sydney.

The previous agreement expired in July.

PFA chief executive Adam Vivian informed Football Federation Australia of the players' decision immediately after a meeting of the Matildas

FOOTBALL

Union: Australia's 2-match series in United States is off

earlier yesterday.

"The players are currently uncontracted, and are under no obligation to participate in any Matildas-related activities," Vivian said in a statement.

"The players feel they have been left with no option other than to take this course of action. They were hopeful that FFA's position would alter following yesterday's breakdown in negotiations. However, the interim letter agreement

offered to the players this afternoon, with a 6 p.m. deadline, proved this had not been the case."

FFA chief executive David Gallop earlier said the tour was "looking very unlikely" because of the players' actions.

Gallop said 60,000 seats were sold for the matches in Detroit on Sept. 17 and Birmingham, Alabama, on Sept. 20.

The union is seeking an increase in wages, international match paymen-

ts, improvements in accommodation, and other benefits for the women's team.

The men's national team boycotted community events before a World Cup qualifier in Perth last week.

Vivian earlier said each women's team player makes 21,000 Australian dollars (\$14,475) a year.

"They don't even have yearly contracts, they have six-month contracts," Vivian told Australian Broad-

casting Corporation radio Wednesday, adding the female players have not been paid in two months.

"When they were negotiated, it was because it was on the premise that they were part-time, only 120 days a year they would have to work, and clearly as we saw in the lead-up to the Women's World Cup," Vivian said. "While it was fantastic that they had a full-time program, the remuneration wasn't (great) ... they

ended up working 154 days in about six months, and so they fall into sort of that underpaid category very quickly."

The Matildas lost to Japan in the quarterfinals at the Women's World Cup in Canada.

The PFA is also negotiating for more pay for domestic A-League players, and an increase in each of the 10 team's salary caps.

"It's sad that the Matildas have been dragged into a dispute that's primarily about the A-League," Gallop said Tuesday. "The offer to the Matildas would basically double their pay over the next four years. The new demands are simply not affordable and the PFA knows it." AP

OLYMPICS

Plans for Tokyo games marred by stadium mess, logo fuss

Elaine Kurtenbach, Tokyo

JAPAN'S ambitions for a trouble-free 2020 Tokyo Olympics to showcase the country's economic revival are facing an unexpected obstacle course as planners lurch from one fiasco to the next.

The 2020 games were dubbed the clinching "fourth arrow" of Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's ambitious strategy to restore Japan's star stature after two decades of economic doldrums. But instead of burnishing the country's image, the glitches so far have tarnished it.

Last week, organizers scrapped their Olympics logo, saying it was withdrawn by the designer due to allegations of plagiarism. That followed Abe's decision in July to drop a gargantuan new national stadium design that critics likened to a bicycle helmet, reducing the project to cut its cost by over a third, to a still-whopping 155 billion yen (USD1.3 billion).

Some say the embarrassments show Japan has yet to adapt its idiosyncratic, opaque ways of decision-making and planning to 21st century expectations for transparency and accountability.

"Tokyo 2020 is so symbolic of their lagging behind in globalization," said Nancy Snow, a professor emerita in communications at California State University at Fullerton. "This is a disaster in terms of communication and image management."

The setbacks coincided with mediocre economic data and with massive public protests against legislation that will give the military, which

Tokyo 2020 is so symbolic of their [Japan] lagging behind in globalization

NANCY SNOW
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY
AT FULLERTON



Workers dismantle Japan's National Stadium for the renovation as Japan hosts the 2020 Tokyo Olympics

has been constrained by the country's post-World War II pacifist constitution, more leeway for involvement in armed conflicts.

Even the Yomiuri newspaper, which usually cheers Abe and his policies, described the scandal over the logo as a "big blunder." In an editorial, it urged the government and organizing committee "to brace themselves up and to recover lost time for preparation."

Abe set the bar high in touting Tokyo's status as an affluent, orderly, ultramodern city where safety, cleanliness and meticulous organization can be taken for granted. After all, the last Tokyo games, in 1964, were praised as a great success.

"The perception from outside is the Japanese are perfectionists and are very good planners. They run a tight ship. This is the leakiest ship," said Snow, who is writing a book about Japan's branding efforts.

The Tokyo organizing committee, the committee that chose the logo and designer Kenjiro Sano all shared responsibility for the logo mess, Olympics Minister Toshiaki Endo told lawmakers.

The Tokyo organizers said Sano had asked that his "T" shaped logo, which a designer in Belgium alleges resembles one he created for a theater there, be withdrawn following fresh complaints over works unrelated to the

Olympics logo.

Reports said Sano had superimposed his logo on banners and signposts in a photo of an airport that allegedly was taken from a website without permission. He also faced allegations that his design for a zoo and for a museum closely resembled other artists' published works.

Ultimately, Abe shares responsibility for having appointed those in charge, said Michael Cucek, an adjunct professor of politics at Tokyo's Sophia University.

"The person who put those people where they are is Abe," Cucek said. "It's really a question of having people who can execute this at the top."

Anything involving the Olympics, sponsorships or construction in Japan involves huge sums of money. Given Japan's tradition of awarding public works contracts via a collusive system known as "dango" that spreads the largesse mainly among a top tier of major contractors, with plenty of extra padding built in, many have questioned how the decisions were made.

"The debacle has implications that extend far beyond the 2020 Olympics. It embodies structural problems endemic to the Japanese government as a whole," Hideki Kato of the think tank Japan Initiative, wrote in a commentary in the website Nippon.com.

That includes the custom of adopting and planning costly major projects with little transparency or accountability, he said.

Tokyo Gov. Yoichi Masuzoe, who chafed at the projected costs for the new stadium, complained on Twitter that both the logo and the stadium issues showed "lack of clarity over responsibility and information disclosure."

The about-face on the design means the new National Stadium likely won't be ready for the 2019 Rugby World Cup, as initially promised. Given shortages of construction workers and other constraints, organizers and builders will be struggling to meet the revised deadline of January 2020 set by the International Olympic Committee.

New proposals for the stadium, which will seat 68,000 instead of the original 80,000 and lack air conditioning and the roof included in architect Zaha Hadid's original plan, face a Nov. 16 deadline, three years after her design was first chosen.

Hadid announced Monday she is still hoping to find a contractor to work with her company and its partner, design and engineering company Nikken Sekkei, to meet the lower cost ceiling.

Whatever design is chosen and built, the changes to Tokyo's skyline will be minor compared with those brought by the 1964 Games, which marked Japan's reemergence as an industrial power from the ruins of its defeat in World War II.

Rivers and canals were paved over or topped by towering expressways to minimize the cost of land purchases. The city rushed to finish its shinkansen "bullet train," the world's first. Tens of thousands of city residents were relocated to make way for dozens of new sports venues and other facilities, but public complaints were muted for the sake of national pride.

Ultimately, it all went more or less like clockwork. Today, 56 years on, Japan's image is on the line.

"We need to treat the stadium fiasco as a wake-up call and stop this runaway train before it is too late," said Kato. AP

GOLF

Inbee Park eyeing golf career Slam at Evian Championship

SERENA Williams isn't the only woman in sight of a Grand Slam this weekend.

Inbee Park can achieve a career Grand Slam in golf by winning the Evian Championship starting on today near the French Alps.

Park won the Evian on the edge of Lake Geneva in 2012, but it came a year before the U.S. LPGA Tour made it the fifth and final major on its calendar.

To mark the occasion, the tour has gone into hyperbole. When Park won the Women's British Open last month, becoming the seventh woman to win four different majors, the tour called that the "career Grand Slam." Adding the Evian will give her a "Super Career Grand Slam."

Regardless of how it's described, Park says it's already been a great year.

Such has been her dominant form that she has already wrapped up the Rolex Annika Major Award, which rewards the player with the best record in the five majors. Even if she misses the Evian cut, she has an unassailable lead in the standings and will succeed Michelle Wie, who won the inaugural award last year.

Park has won six of the last 14 majors. She has seven to her name, and two this year. And her appetite for them hasn't dimmed.

"I've got my name on every major championship trophy, but I won Evian before it became a major," the South Korean said. "So it would be really good to win it again this year."

The other major winners this year were Brittany Lincicome and In Gee Chun.

Still with a shot at becoming the youngest major winner is 18-year-old Lydia Ko of New Zealand.

The No. 2-ranked Ko, who tied for third at the British Open, had her confidence boosted by victory at the Canadian Pacific Open, where she claimed her third title of the year. AP



Inbee Park

opinion

World Views

Pankaj Mishra, Bloomberg

A NATION OF REFUGEES OPENS ITS DOORS

“Europe’s biggest migration emergency since the Second World War” – that’s how most British newspapers described a massive influx of Syrian refugees last week. The accompanying stories criticized the callous response of political classes in the U.K. and Eastern Europe to the unfolding tragedy. Even sensationalist British tabloids that had previously blurred the distinction between economic immigrants and refugees fleeing war and persecution took up the self-righteous cry.

In addition to its hypocrisy, the headline is notable for its sheer historical illiteracy. The world’s greatest refugee crisis, of course, predated the Second World War and extended well beyond 1945. Its most visible victims were hundreds of thousands of Jews, who faced vicious anti-Semitism in Eastern Europe long after the discovery of Nazi concentration camps. But the overwhelming majority of refugees after 1945 were Germans booted out of Eastern Europe.

In what may be the most underreported tragedy of the 20th century, an estimated 12 to 14 million Germans lost their homes in Germany’s former eastern areas and the Sudetenland after the war. (A similar number of Hindus and Muslims were uprooted by the 1947 partition of British India, in what’s more often claimed as the world’s biggest forced migration.) Vengeful atrocities against German civilians were committed in Eastern Europe, especially Hungary, where a 1920 law stigmatized Jews as a separate race rather than “Hungarians of the Mosaic faith.”

Today Hungary’s far-right Prime Minister Viktor Orban claims to be saving Christian Europe. His is the only European country to host a major fascist political movement with anti-Semitism as its stock-in-trade. But then Hungary, like other relatively homogenous Eastern European countries, is a product of ethnic cleansing. Unlike its Western European counterparts, it has had little experience of foreigners in the postwar period. Its xenophobia can be explained, if not condoned.

What explains the hysteria in the U.K., which prides itself on its traditional openness to political refugees? Five months ago, the right-wing Sun tabloid saw fit to run a column that claimed, “Show me pictures of coffins, show me bodies floating in water, play violins and show me skinny people looking sad. I still don’t care. ... Make no mistake, these migrants are like cockroaches.”

David Cameron, swayed by populist passions against immigration, seemed to be echoing Donald Trump’s rhetoric a few weeks ago when he referred to the “swarm” of refugees beating at British doors. Widespread shock, grief and revulsion caused by the picture of a drowned Kurdish boy have now forced Cameron to offer to take in 20,000 Syrian refugees over five years.

That’s still a measly figure compared to the 800,000 applications for refugee status that Germany expects to process this year, though. While the British public has responded much more generously than its political establishment and media, the damage to the U.K.’s reputation has been done.

Victory over Nazi Germany helped clarify the U.K.’s postwar national identity, aided occasionally by feel-good fantasies about a benevolent British empire that apparently spread democracy and free trade across the world. Germany’s overwhelming welcome extended to the Syrian refugees, along with Chancellor Angela Merkel’s tough stance against the anti-immigrant German hard right, has, in one stroke, cancelled British claims to moral superiority. (Conveniently, it’s also obscured the bad press Germany received over the Greek Euro crisis.)

The world, faced with the unexpected emergence of Germany as Europe’s conscience, is now discovering some of the ways in which the country remade itself after the Second World War. Its millions of refugees were crucial to the country’s rapid reinvention as an economic and intellectual powerhouse after 1945. And Germans, unlike the Japanese or the British, had no choice but to undertake a moral reckoning with their imperialistic project.

It remains to be seen how well Germany will accommodate the refugees it’s welcoming; a backlash from the country’s anti-immigrant thugs is surely in the cards. But the country’s manifest empathy and compassion has already contributed a great deal to rescuing Europe’s reputation, which years of economic crises and policy confusion had seriously damaged.

As its old adversaries, the Anglo-Americans, falter, Germany has assumed – briefly perhaps, and for both better and worse – the moral leadership of the West.

THE BUZZ ZETAS DRUG CARTEL LEADER DIES IN MEXICAN PRISON

A leader of the Zetas drug cartel who ordered a 2008 attack on a U.S. consulate has died at a maximum-security prison in central Mexico.

The federal security commission said yesterday that Sigifredo Najera Talamantes died Monday of a heart attack.

Najera Talamantes was known by his nickname “El Canon,” or the Big Marble, apparently for his stocky build.

He allegedly ordered the killing of six federal police and the torture and murder of nine soldiers in 2008. He also allegedly ordered an attack in which one man fired on the U.S. consulate in Monterrey and another threw a grenade that failed to explode. Nobody was hurt.

He was on the same cellblock in the Altiplano prison as Joaquin “El Chapo” Guzman, who escaped on July 11.

New anthology includes poem by white man using Chinese name

Hillel Italie, New York

FACING sharp criticism in the literary world and beyond, Sherman Alexie is defending his decision to include a poem by a white man writing under a Chinese pen name in “The Best American Poetry 2015.”

Alexie, an award-winning poet and fiction writer, wrote a long blog post over the weekend in which he acknowledged his anger and embarrassment upon learning that Yi-Fen Chou’s “The Bees, the Flowers, Jesus, Ancient Tigers, Poseidon, Adam and Eve” was in fact composed by Michael Derrick Hudson. Alexie was guest editor for the anthology, published this week, and news of Hudson’s ruse set off a lengthy online debate.

Many called Hudson a racist, and a reminder of times when actors ranging from Katharine Hepburn to Mickey Rooney played Asian characters.

“Folks, if there is such a thing as employing yellow-face in poetry, this has to be it,” Phil Yu wrote on his blog Angry Asian Man.

Alexie, alerted to Yi-Fen’s real identity by Hudson himself, wrote on blog.bes-



Sherman Alexie

americanpoetry.com that personal embarrassment would have been the only reason for removing the poem.

“I would have pulled it because I didn’t want to hear people say, ‘Oh, look at the big Indian writer conned by the white guy.’ I would have dumped the poem because of my vanity,” he wrote. “If I’d pulled the poem then I would have been denying that I gave the poem special attention because of the poet’s Chinese pseudonym.”

“If I’d pulled the poem then I would have been denying that I was consciously and deliberately seeking to address past racial, cultural, social, and aesthetic injustices in the

poetry world.”

Alexie’s acceptance of the “The Bees,” one of just 75 poems chosen from hundreds of submissions, seemed to justify Hudson’s reason for pretending he was Chinese. He acknowledges in the book’s biographical notes that he called himself Yi-Fen Chou because the poem had been rejected 40 times under his own name.

“I realize that this isn’t a very ‘artistic’ explanation of using a pseudonym,” wrote Hudson, a resident of Fort Wayne, Indiana, whose work has also appeared in numerous publications under his own name.

Last fall, “The Bees” and three other poems under the name Yi-Fen Chou appeared in Prairie Schooner, a quarterly based at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. “The Bees” is a 20-line poem, with philosophical asides and sexual and bathroom humor, in which the poet confesses: “My life’s spent/running an inept tour for my own sad swindle of a vacation/until every goddamned thing’s reduced to botched captions/ and dabs of misinformation in fractured/not-quite-right English.” AP

THE DECISIVE MOMENT

AP Photo/Alessandra Tarantino



Touching. Pope Francis waves as he leaves at the end of his weekly general audience in St. Peter’s Square at the Vatican, yesterday.

Station	Air quality
Roadside	35-55 Moderate
High Density Residential Area	60-80 Moderate
Ambient	60-80 Moderate

SOURCE: D5M6G

WORLD BRIEFS

USA-N KOREA The U.S. is urging continued worldwide pressure on North Korea to force it to renounce its nuclear arms. The demand at the 35-nation board meeting of the International Atomic Energy Agency comes after the agency cited satellite imagery indicating that Pyongyang is “further developing its nuclear capabilities.” Chief U.S. IAEA delegate Henry S. Ensher told the meeting yesterday that “enhanced pressure remains essential to compel North Korea to correct course.”



LEBANESE demonstrators returned to the streets yesterday to protest government dysfunction as politicians failed to make progress in the first round of talks to resolve a trash crisis and address other longstanding problems. Activists near the parliament building, which was closed off by security forces, shouted “thieves!” and hurled eggs as politicians’ convoys drove by. A much larger anti-government protest was planned last night.

SYRIA After a two-year siege, al-Qaida’s affiliate in Syria and other insurgents yesterday captured the one remaining Syrian army air base in Idlib province, a development that activists said effectively expelled the last of President Bashar Assad’s military from the northwestern province.

USA Secretary of State John Kerry says the United States is committed to increasing the number of refugees it is willing to take in as U.S. allies in Europe struggle to accommodate tens of thousands of refugees from the Middle East and Africa.

USA Salty fare from sandwiches to salads will soon come with a first-of-its-kind warning label at chain restaurants in New York City. The city Board of Health voted unanimously yesterday to require chain eateries to put salt-shaker symbols on menus to denote dishes with more than the recommended daily limit of 2,300 milligrams of sodium. That’s about a teaspoon.