



'CINEMATHEQUE' IN TRIAL OPERATION

The venue will begin experimental operations today by holding a special screening of the film "Guia in Love"

P2



SINGAPOREANS FALL BACK ON TESTED PARTY

The victory of the People's Action Party was never in doubt — it has won every election since 1965

P12 ANALYSIS



MAYWEATHER REMAINS UNBEATEN IN LAST FIGHT

P19

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WORLD BRIEFS

CHINA-USA A physics professor who had been accused of scheming to provide secret U.S. technology to China said he's grateful and relieved prosecutors dropped the case against him, and is thankful to friends and colleagues who supported him. Xi Xiaoxing released a statement Saturday calling the case a nightmare in which he "suffered professionally, mentally, physically, and financially." The U.S. attorney's office in Philadelphia declined to comment on the motion the office filed Friday seeking to drop four counts of wire fraud against Xi.



USA The company that managed Hillary Rodham Clinton's private email server says it has no knowledge that the server was "wiped," which could mean that more than 30,000 emails Clinton says she deleted from the device could be recovered, according to a report in The Washington Post.

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FINANCIAL TIMES

US-China: High-tech diplomacy

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Huge theft from junket sparks investor protest

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Tough competition during Hac Sa rugby event

P2

Real estate mortgage loans decrease 23.9 pct

The new real estate mortgage loans (RMLs) approved by Macau banks decreased 23.9 percent year-on-year in July, according to figures released by the Monetary Authority of Macau. New RMLs increased 6.6 percent month-on-month, reaching MOP4.2 billion in value, and 96.6 percent of them were granted to residents. In terms of value, new RMLs to residents and non-residents increased 6.3 percent and 13.8 percent respectively month-on-month. New RMLs collateralized by uncompleted units (equitable mortgages) increased by 185.6 percent month-on-month to MOP806 million, while the equitable RMLs collateralized by uncompleted units decreased by 25.2 percent year-on-year. New approvals of commercial real estate loans dropped 27.8 percent year-on-year.

'Macau Original Melodies Vol. 2' launched



The charity music album "Macau Original Melodies Vol.2" (MOM Vol. 2) has been launched by a group of local singers, including David Chan, Anabela Iong, Fanny Cheong, Hyper Lo, Cherry Ho, Phineas Cheong, AJ, Josie Ho and Jose Rodrigues. Last year, "MOM Vol. 1" raised MOP108,000 for the Macau Deaf Association. This year, the nine singers will donate all of the proceeds to the Association of Parents of the People with Intellectual Disabilities of Macau.

Migrant worker group cleans Hac Sa

A group of Filipino migrant workers initiated a cleanup campaign yesterday on Hac Sa beach, Coloane. The promoters say that the event is aimed at contributing to the local community's efforts in ensuring environmental protection. "There is a lot of rubbish, especially in the A-Ma temple behind the statue - they made it a garbage area. Hac Sa is not so dirty. A-Ma temple is more dirty than this place," Elsaud Labro, president of Greens Macau Partido Kalikasan-OFW, told TDM.

HK University and Taipei Baboons win beach rugby event

HAC-SA Beach in Coloane has once again hosted its already traditional annual beach rugby event in Macau.

Organized by the Macau Rugby Union, the 2015 edition of the Macau Beach Rugby Tournament was played on Saturday with a line-up of 14 teams competing for 4 trophies in both male and female competition draws.

The home team took the kick-off as they faced the Taipei Baboons in the ladies' tournament. This was one of the highlights of this year's tournament, considering that it's been a long time since a local ladies' team was able to participate in this competition, which, according to the organizer Ricardo Pina, anticipates a "bright and positive future" in this sport.



As for the competition, the Cotai Dealers, one of the local male teams, faced and defeated a team invited from Cambodia, taking a close win that was only decided in an overtime tiebreaker.

In the men's competition draw, Hong Kong's University Unicorns 1 defeated the Shenzhen Dra-

gons after a tiebreaker in a very intense game that saw three tries scored by each team.

The Cotai Dealers relegated to second place the Phom Phen Minions, winning the men's Plate Competition.

The Best Male Player Award of the Tournament went to Julien

Morel of the Shenzhen Dragons.

For the female competition, the Taipei Baboons were crowned this year's winners, showing great effort and skills in their victory against the Shenzhen Dragons Ladies.

The Best Female Player Award went to Suzanne, also from the Shenzhen Dragons.

In the Ladies' Plate Competition, the Guangzhou Rams fought hard against the Hong Kong Police Sirens team but were not able to keep the pace against the stronger contender.

For the 2016 edition of the Macau Beach Rugby Tournament, a special event is already being prepared, since it will also celebrate the Macau Rugby Union's 20th Anniversary. **RM**

ARTS

'Cinematheque - Passion' starts trial run

LOCATED at Travessa da Paixão, right beside Macau's World Heritage-listed the Ruins of St. Paul's, the Cinematheque - Passion will be running a trial period of operation from today to 31st December.

Aiming to promote the local film culture by cultivating local film appreciation and providing a diversified choice of movies, the venue will begin operations by holding a special screening of "Guia in Love" for the film industry.

Simultaneously, the cinemateque's "Temporary Venue Booking Program" will also kick-off from this evening, and will be available for reservations from film industry workers and film associations.

During its trial period, the three-storey building will be open to the public for several workshops and seminars. It is equipped with

multiple functions, including video storage, a film journal and a book loan service.

The ticketing lobby, screening room and control room occupy the ground floor, and will be primarily used for screening cultural and art films. Local film materials, periodicals and magazines are available for residents in the film information room on the first floor (still in its preparatory stage), while the offices are located on the building's second floor.

Supported by the Macau Government Tourist Office, the Cultural Affairs Bureau and the Macau Foundation, the film "Guia in Love" is a romantic comedy set against Macau's historical background, directed by Leong Tak Sam and co-starred by actors and actresses from Hong Kong and Macau, including singers Vivian Chan and Terence



The revamped building lies in Macau's historical center

Chui. Macau musician Joe Lei also composed the theme song "Goodbye My Love."

Details on the Temporary Venue Booking Program and activities will be available on both the Cultural Affairs Bureau's website (www.icm.gov.mo) and the Macau Cultural and Creative Industries' website (www.macaucultural.com).

SINGAPORE-BASED Ascott's first residential property in Macau is officially inaugurated today, making it one of a list of seven that the company plans to open across China in the next 18 to 24 months.

Known to be the world's largest international serviced residence owner-operator, the company currently operates over 26,000 serviced residential units across the globe.

Ascott's properties can be found in cities including London, Paris, Brussels, Berlin and Barcelona in Europe; Singapore, Bangkok, Hanoi, Kuala Lumpur, Tokyo, Seoul,

Ascott's luxury serviced apartments open



RENATO MARQUES

Shanghai, Beijing and Hong Kong in Asia; Melbourne and Perth in Australia; Bangalore and Chennai in India; as well as Dubai, Doha and Manama in the Gulf region.

The Ascott Macau, located in the center of the city's business district (NAPE area), will present 110 serviced apartment rooms, ranging from 30sq m to 75sq m. According to information provided by Ascott, the kitchens in each unit will be equipped with a coffee machine, electric kettle, cutlery, microwave oven and refrigerator among other amenities.

As for the common areas, there will be a gym, indoor heated and outdoor swimming pools, Jacuzzi, sauna room, residents' loun-

ge, and three restaurants serving Japanese, Chinese and Western cuisines.

Another of the services provided by the company will be a scheduled shuttle bus to the Macau Ferry Terminal, and resident programs for guests.

Aiming at mostly business travelers, Ascott's concept is based on "homes away from home", allowing both short and long stays but essentially focusing its services and conveniences to fit the needs of frequent travellers. **RM**

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WYNN Macau casino shares have suffered a fall in light of reports of an alleged theft by a VIP room operator. According to the Financial Times, which cites a note from Daiwa Capital Markets released last Thursday, “Staff at Dore Holdings, a VIP room operator in Macau, have allegedly fled with between HKD200 million and HKD2 billion.”

Dore Holdings, the VIP room operator mentioned in the report, operates within Wynn Macau. The company has already stated that the incident bears no direct relation with the company and its operations.

A Wynn spokesperson was quoted by the Financial Times as saying: “The current reported concerns with respect to Dore, one of Wynn Macau’s junket operators, have no direct financial impact on Wynn Macau. Dore owes no money to the company and continues to operate in Wynn Macau,” adding that the company will continue to monitor the situation.

Although Wynn claims that no direct financial impact will result from this episode, the fact is that the indirect impacts were felt immediately. Shares in Wynn, a Hong Kong-listed company, declined by 3.55 percent on Friday, reaching their lowest point since July 2010.

VIP room staff accused of fleeing with millions



A person named Jean-Christophe Scolari was the first junket representative appointed by Wynn Macau, according to a Hong Kong Stock Exchange

disclosure dated August 2006. Scolari initially wholly owned and was the sole director of Dore Entertainment Company Limited, which he founded.

During the mid-to-late 2000s, Dore Entertainment’s operations were affiliated with a Hong Kong-listed firm called Teem Foundation Group Limited, which was later renamed Dore Holdings Limited. According to documents from September 2006, which are cited by Macau Gaming Watch’s website, Teem Foundation Group invested HKD539 million in Dore Entertainment’s VIP room profits at the Wynn Macau. Around three years later, the listed firm, now called Dore Holdings, agreed to sell back its interests in Dore Entertainment profits to Mr Scolari for HKD500 million.

Around that time, Hong Kong resident Kelvin Kam acquired Mr Scolari’s ownership stake in Dore Entertainment, as well as the firm’s directorship.

Mr Kam, who was also the sole owner of another Macau junket (Eight Elements Entertainment Limited) with operations at the Hotel Lan Kwai Fong, has established several other Macau-based private companies in different business fields over

recent years. This included a partnership with the VIP operator SunCity Group Limited, owned by Alvin Chau and Cheng Ting Kong, as cited on the Macau Gaming Watch website; there the firm held three “Dore” named VIP clubs in September 2013, totaling 44 gaming tables.

This episode’s shockwaves have come after a similar report released in April 2014 when the local gaming industry was rocked by reports that an agent at another VIP room operator, named Kimren, fled with between HKD8 billion and HKD10 billion, creating a situation that allegedly scared away some of the investors who provided financing to junkets.

In the same note from Daiwa, analyst Jamie Soo said, “As a whole, the junket segment never recovered from this liquidity squeeze since,” referring to the Kimren incident. “We are already seeing signs of this today, with individuals purportedly rushing to the junket (Dore) in an attempt to withdraw funds.”

According to official figures, in 2013 there were 235 registered junkets, but within only the last year, more than one fifth of them have closed their operations in wake of Beijing’s anti-graft campaign, which has resulted in a drastic reduction in both VIP and mass-market gamblers.

Until June 2015, VIP turnover at Wynn Macau sank by 47 percent to HKD254 billion. Year-to-date gaming revenue is down 36.5 percent, according to official figures through August. This has dragged down share prices of the six big Macau casino operators by about two-thirds since their last peak back in January 2014. **MDT/Agencies**

Dore Group investors protest outside Wynn Macau

AROUND 30 Dore Group investors protested last Saturday afternoon outside the Wynn Macau resort. They were demanding an early release of their investments from the junket group after a cage manager allegedly embezzled HKD2 billion.

The protesters, with masks over their mouths, also sought to hold a face-to-face dialogue with managers of the junket operator, which owns two VIP rooms on the American gaming company’s premises, over the theft and the situation of their investments.

According to their rough estimate, the total sum of investments held by around

60 investors – 60 percent of them locals – might amount to HKD700 million, which could have been compromised by the embezzlement that surfaced late last week.

As one of the leading junket groups in the region, Dore Group is estimated to account for around four to five percent of the entire industry volume, estimates UBS. It was also said that the two troubled VIP rooms operating inside Wynn Macau held between 10 and 25 percent of the casino’s junket volume.

The Apple Daily in Hong Kong reported, citing its source, that the junket has already suspended its operation in the casino and stared down the barrel of per-

manent service suspension therein.

Some protesters told journalists that the Dore Group was established a long time ago and has built its reputation over the years. However, the embezzlement, which was confirmed by Dore last Friday through a statement, came as startling news to them.

The theft prompted a wave of immediate withdrawal requests from the group’s clients. Those attempts were met with denials. So far, the protesters received no official response over the fate of their deposits. The Judiciary Police launched a probe into the issue after complaints starting pouring in last Wednesday.

Root Planning pushes for Estoril Hotel preservation

A group named Root Planning has mobilized its supporters to petition to keep the Estoril Hotel on its current site. This action comes amid the government’s plans to totally revamp the aged complex into a recreational and cultural center.

The Urban Planning Concern Group seeks to press the authorities to initiate a heritage evaluation on the hotel to determine its potential cultural value before they



Hotel Estoril seen from the Tap Seac Square

swing into action on the revamp.

“According to Article 19 and 20 of the Cultural Heritage Law, every local citizen is entitled to turn in suggestions to the Cultural Bureau to rate real estate of significant cultural value,” the group’s petition invitation on its Facebook page reads.

If the Estoril Hotel is assessed as a cultural heritage building, the possible revamp plan would end up in tatters.

Last Saturday, on the sidelines of a graduation ceremony, the Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture, Alexis Tam, said that he “supported” and “respected” the group’s move and had ordered the Cultural Bureau to follow up on the request accordingly.

Nonetheless, he noted that the prevalent voices in favor of the renovation had dominated the 20-plus previous consultations. Furthermore, the

education sector suggested removing the fresco depicting a nude woman from the hotel’s façade, which he agreed could exist in another venue.

According to the government’s revamp blueprint, the new complex will consist of not only arts facilities for youths, but also additional sports facilities and an all-season swimming pool. Roughly 1,000 underground parking bays would also be available in the new plans. **AU**

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Prizes: Students will be divided into two groups, namely Junior Secondary Group and Senior Secondary Group. Each group will have a Champion, 1st runner-up, 2nd runner-up, two Merit Awards and a Most Popular Video Award.

Contest rules and application form: Both are available at the CCAC' s Headquarters and its Branch Offices in Areia Preta and Taipa. They are also downloadable from the CCAC' s website (www.ccac.org.mo).

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"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN' "

Catarina Pinto

PORTUGUESE language professors teaching at universities across Southeast Asia gathered in Macau last week to exchange ideas and develop a common communication platform, as they acknowledge the growing interest in learning the Portuguese language within the region.

João Soares, who currently teaches at Universitas Indonesia in Jakarta, said that Portuguese language teaching has developed there, with a growing number of students enrolling in his courses.

Soares met with other Portuguese language teachers in town, attending a meeting between representatives of the Portuguese language teaching network in Asia – an event put on by the Portuguese Institute of the Orient (IPOR).

“Students see Portuguese as an exotic language, which for us is rather interesting because we are used to thinking the same of Asian languages,” he recalled.

Having taught Portuguese in Jakarta for the past two years, Mr Soares acknowledged that more and more students are now interested in learning the language, which has enabled the university to build up a dynamic Portuguese learning and teaching community.

“We are trying to train local teachers to provide them with tools to teach Portuguese at the university in the future. We are also looking to establish a Romance languages department, which would then allow students to major in Portuguese studies,” he added.

Soares said that students have shown a great interest in learning foreign languages; they’re specifically interested in Portuguese, mostly because they’re curious about it. “I think most of the time it’s curiosity; either they have already studied Spanish, Italian or French, and now have a curiosity toward Romance languages,” he explained.

Furthermore, João Soares said that students in Indonesia are particularly interested in the Brazilian culture; others are drawn to Portuguese because of football; and some seek to



The Portuguese flag is hoisted over the Parliament, in Lisbon

EDUCATION

Growing interest in Portuguese learning across Southeast Asia

explore business opportunities within Portuguese-speaking countries.

Delivering a talk on Friday at the Portuguese Consulate’s auditorium, the teacher stressed the need to establish a commu-

More and more students are now interested in learning Portuguese

nication platform, which would enable Portuguese language teachers in Asia to share ideas and teaching materials.

One of the challenges faced by his students, he acknowledged, is indeed to find ways to actually practice and speak Portuguese outside the classroom.

Also attending the meeting was Delfim Correia da Silva, who has been teaching Portuguese at the University of Goa, India, since 2008.

The Department of Portuguese and Lusophone Studies offers students the opportunity to enroll in pre-PhD and Master’s programs. Delfim Silva said that the department and other teaching communities across Asia are trying to turn Portuguese into a global language.

“This is also one of the goals of this meeting here in Macau. It’s quite useful to discuss ideas here so that we can also produce learning materials,” he explained.

He recalled that Portuguese teaching and learning in Goa has developed over recent years, with the government now providing further support.

“We have been working with people in Goa to improve the use of the Portuguese language. We don’t want to see it as just a product but also a tool able to unite

people from different cultures, while helping to connect India and the Portuguese-speaking countries,” he explained.

However, they’re still facing challenges relating to a lack of human resources, and difficulties in providing high-quality teaching materials.

Mr Silva was sure that the meeting here would enable Portuguese language teachers to work on a joint strategic plan, designed to develop common Portuguese learning tools.

The professor said that students’ interest in Portuguese has also shifted in recent years: some years ago, students might have enrolled in Portuguese classes because they had a personal interest in the language; now they’re actually coming from other parts of India because they’ve discovered that Portuguese could be useful in the job market, and also for teaching.

Professor Luís Pires, who teaches Portuguese in Shanghai,

also delivered a talk on Friday focusing on e-learning and how digital tools could help students engage with the language and culture.

He acknowledged that more and more Portuguese courses have been made available in recent years in mainland China. Having produced a thesis on the matter, Mr Pires concluded that e-learning by itself wouldn’t be enough to engage students, but he suggested that learning tools and content should be provided on a wide range of platforms, including digital tools, since many young students use mobile phones and other electronic devices daily.

The meeting was attended by professors of Portuguese as a foreign language who had come from places such as Beijing, Goa, Seoul, Bangkok, Hanoi, Shanghai, Jakarta and Macau. The meeting, organized by IPOR, took place between last Thursday and Saturday.

USJ Ilha Verde campus ready to open next year

CONSTRUCTION of the University of Saint Joseph’s new campus, to be located in Ilha Verde, is expected to be completed this year, according to the rector Peter Stillwell. Speaking on the sidelines of the university’s graduation ceremonies, Father Stillwell revealed that, after several construction delays, the main



facilities of the new campus should be handed over by the developers before the end of the year. After this, the university will seek the several permits necessary to operate. The new campus should be ready for use from the beginning of the next academic year, starting in September 2016.

Fr Peter Stilwell also

mentioned that USJ needs funds for academic research in order for them to contribute to the development of Macau. “We are running on a very tight budget. We haven’t really very much funding for something which is needed for our next step of development, which is the research. We think we could provide interesting research for Macau, and for that, we need funds,” he said, as cited by TDM.

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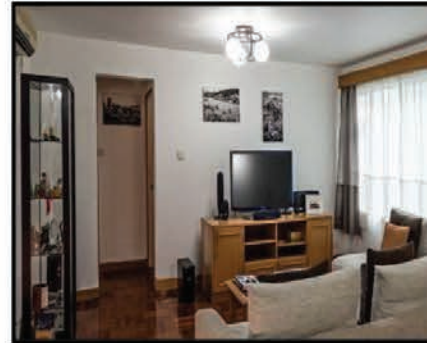
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Stunning One Bedroom Apartment. Well appointment property in Coloane village. Views across the water to China. One king size bedroom with built in storage. Good size en suite toilet & shower room. Furnished & upgraded last month (painted throughout. Air con gased & serviced, new bathroom fittings). Modern open plan kitchen & living area. Small private outdoor area.



One Oasis, Tower 3, Coloane

(Ref: 15070515)
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Chong Fok

(Ref: 15070520)
1,300sq. ft. HKD 12,900

Great family home or possible flat share option this 3 bedroom, 2 bathrooms apartment comes furnished. It has a well equipped kitchen, plenty of built in storage throughout the apartment. Located close to the old Macau University in Taipa, it takes a minute to walk to the closest bus stop, and five minute walk to the shops, hotels and banks. The complex has a swimming pool and a lovely community feel amongst its residents.



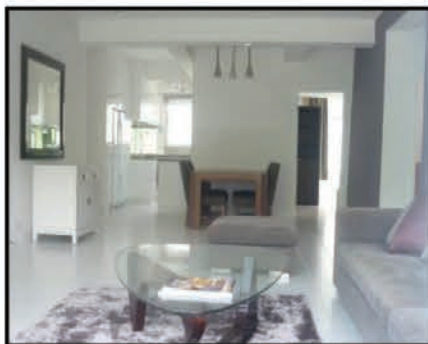
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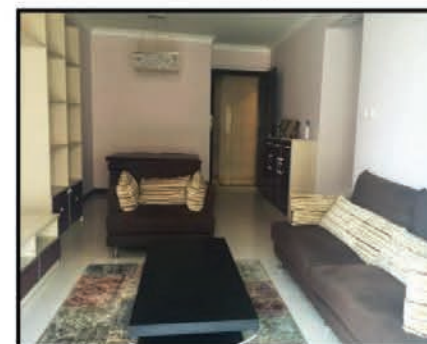
Kinglight, Taipa

(Ref: 15090529)
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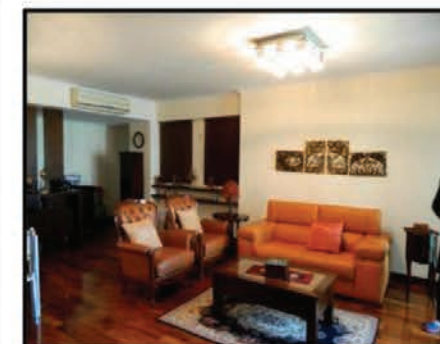
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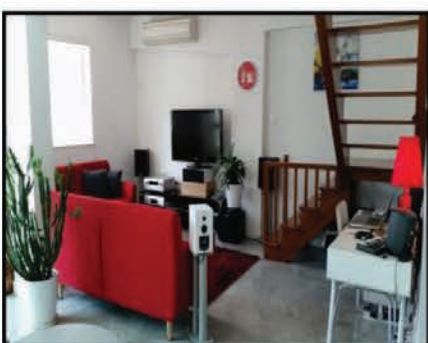
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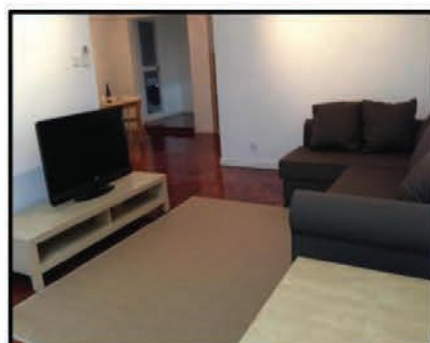
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Office: (853) 2835 2699



Jou Fai Kuok, St Pauls Ruin's Macau

(Ref: 15075447)
627 sq. ft. HKD 4.198M
Rate: HKD 6,695sq ft

One bedroom apartment in Heritage Area of Macau. A five minute from the Ruins of St Pauls. Renovated 3 years ago. Good size master bedroom with built in wardrobes. Modern shower room with built in under counter cabinet. Well equipped kitchen. S shaped living / dining area with small nook for desk.

Email: Info@JMLProperty.com



Va Fu, Old Taipa Village Ref

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CRIME

HK man arrested over drug trafficking

A Hong Kong resident has been arrested for drug trafficking, according to a TDM report. After receiving a tip-off pointing to a 25-year-old man from Hong Kong, the Judiciary Police put the suspect under surveillance. Police authorities were able to seize 22 packs of cocaine worth about MOP24,000.

The suspect admitted to selling drugs to teenagers and night-club goers for about MOP800 a pack.

“He claimed that he has been trafficking drugs into Macau for over a month already. He usually contacts a drug dealer via phone and sells him some drugs. He will then smuggle it into Macau,” said Leong Sau Chan, PJ’s spokesperson, as quoted by TDM.

The police also seized a scale and other drug-related products from the suspect’s flat. He is facing drug trafficking charges, and the police have referred his case to the Public Prosecutions Office.

Tourism promotion campaign launched in HK

THE Tourist Office rolled out a roadshow in Hong Kong over the weekend to promote upcoming events including Macau Grand Prix and the “Parade through Macau, Latin City,” both to be held later this year.

The “Experience Macau Carnival” roadshow features three highlight exhibitions - “Step Out, Experience Macau’s Community”, “10th Anniversary of the Inscription of ‘The Historic Center of Macau’ on the World Heritage List” and “Macau Grand Prix.”

A Classic Formula 3 racing car along with a race car to be used by actress Chrissie Chau Sau Na in the upcoming MGP Celebrity Cup Race were on display. The roadshow promoting the “Step Out, Experience Macau’s Community” travel routes is to encourage the public to explore the city through interactive photo booths.

Chrissie Chau, Wilfred Lau Ho Lung and Alex Fong Lik Sun, who will be racing in this year’s Celebrity Cup Race this year, at-



tended the stage on Saturday to share their experiences preparing for the Guia race.

Due to its geographical proximity, Hong Kong has been Macau’s second largest tourist source market. Hong Kongers accounted for more than 20 percent of the total visitors. MGTO has cooperated with six travel agencies

in Hong Kong to offer special travel packages during the roadshow carnival, encouraging Hong Kong locals of to visit Macau.

As regional visitor arrivals saw a 3.5 percent year-on-year decline in the first seven months, Macau has taken promotional measures to enhance tourist attractions by diversifying tou-

risms products and promoting travel packages with discount.

The MSAR government said it will deepen regional cooperation with Guangdong province and Hong Kong to introduce new multi-destination tour routes, and work with the local tourism industry to put forward strategies to accommodate market changes. **MDT/Agencies**

AD

LIFELONG LEARNING PROGRAMMES

HUMANITIES	Portuguese Language and Culture - Basic I SCHEDULE 18/01/2016-13/04/2016 (44 Hours) LANGUAGE Portuguese (w/ English) CODE 1507070006 TUITION MOP 2,000 MON WED 19:00-21:00	HUMANITIES	French - Basic I SCHEDULE 23/09/2015-23/11/2015 (30Hours) LANGUAGE French (w/ English & Cantonese) CODE 1504290107 TUITION MOP 1,800 MON WED 19:00-21:00
	Portuguese Language and Culture - Basic II SCHEDULE 18/01/2016-13/04/2016 (44 Hours) LANGUAGE Portuguese CODE 1507070007 TUITION MOP 2,000 MON WED 19:00-21:00		French - Basic II SCHEDULE 24/09/2015-17/11/2015 (30Hours) LANGUAGE French (w/ English & Cantonese) CODE 1504290108 TUITION MOP 1,800 TUE THU 19:00-21:00
	Administrative Portuguese SCHEDULE 16/10/2015-04/12/2015 (30Hours) LANGUAGE Portuguese CODE 1507010362 TUITION MOP 1,800 TUE FRI 19:00-21:00		Latin - Basic I SCHEDULE 06/10/2015-24/11/2015 (30Hours) LANGUAGE English CODE 1504200001 TUITION MOP 1,800 MON WED 19:00-21:00
	Legal Portuguese SCHEDULE 10/10/2015-02/12/2015 (30Hours) LANGUAGE Portuguese CODE 1507010363 TUITION MOP 1,800 WED SAT 19:00-21:00 / 10:00-12:00		Latin - Basic II SCHEDULE 07/10/2015-30/11/2015 (30Hours) LANGUAGE Latin (w/English) CODE 1504200002 TUITION MOP 1,800 TUE THU 19:00-21:00
	Cantonese for Foreigners -Basic I SCHEDULE 07/10/2015-02/12/2015 (30Hours) LANGUAGE Cantonese (w/ English) CODE 1507010360 TUITION MOP 1,800 MON WED 19:00-21:00		Religious Teacher Training Programme SCHEDULE 05/10/2015-04/12/2015 (54Hours) LANGUAGE Cantonese CODE 1507070004 TUITION MOP 3,125 APPLICATION FEE MOP 100 MON WED FRI 18:30-21:30
CREATIVE INDUSTRIES	Cantonese for Foreigners -Basic II SCHEDULE 06/10/2015-24/11/2015 (30Hours) LANGUAGE Cantonese (w/ English) CODE 1504220004 TUITION MOP 1,800 TUE THU 19:00-21:00	SCIENCE ENVIRONMENT	Scientific Writing and Communication SCHEDULE 21/09/2015-29/10/2015 (30Hours) LANGUAGE English CODE 1504170362 TUITION MOP 1,800 MON WED THU 19:00-21:00
	Mandarin for Foreigners - Basic I SCHEDULE 08/10/2015-26/11/2015 (30Hours) LANGUAGE Mandarin (w/ English) CODE 1507010358 TUITION MOP 1,800 TUE THU 19:00-21:00		Sound Design for Cinema SCHEDULE 16/11/2015-27/11/2015 (18Hours) LANGUAGE English CODE 1507070002 TUITION MOP 1,200 MON WED FRI 19:00-22:00
	Mandarin for Foreigners - Basic II SCHEDULE 30/09/2015-25/11/2015 (30Hours) LANGUAGE Mandarin (w/ English) CODE 1504220002 TUITION MOP 1,800 MON WED 19:00-21:00		Web Design // How to become a Web Designer? SCHEDULE 08/10/2015-26/11/2015 (30Hours) LANGUAGE English CODE 1507070001 TUITION MOP 1,800 TUE THU 19:00-21:00
	Effective Conversational English SCHEDULE 14/10/2015-09/12/2015 (30Hours) LANGUAGE English (w/ Cantonese) CODE 1504200007 TUITION MOP 1,800 MON WED 19:00-21:00		Innovation with Design Thinking SCHEDULE 02/12/2015-25/01/2016 (30Hours) LANGUAGE English CODE 1507020087 TUITION MOP 2,000 MON WED 19:00-21:00
	HOW TO APPLY 1. Applicants should visit the Office in person with a copy of valid Identification Document 2. Application Fee: MOP 200 (non-refundable and cannot be subsidised by the PDAC fund)		Remarks: Applications by phone, fax or e-mail are not accepted. Application is closed 3 days prior to the commencement of a course. To be registered in the DSEJ system for the PDAC subsidy, applicants must present their valid Macao Resident ID Card during application. Applicants will be notified through SMS and phone 3 days prior to the commencement of a course. No refund of tuition and application fees except when a course is cancelled or postponed. Information is subject to change. Please visit USJ's website for updates.

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Wednesday, 30/09/2015

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Boss of state-owned conglomerate facing prosecution for graft



Former chairman of China Resources (Holdings) Ltd., Song Lin

THE former boss of one of China's biggest state-owned conglomerates has become the latest senior figure snared in a wide-ranging anti-corruption crackdown.

Song Lin, former chairman of China Resources (Holdings) Ltd., was expelled Friday from the ruling Communist Party and turned over to prosecutors, the party's discipline agency announced. It said he is accused of embezzlement, adultery and taking bribes.

China Resources has 450,000 employees and owns China's biggest beer brewer and supermarket operator as

well as businesses in electric power, finance and real estate. The company reported profit of USD6.7 billion last year and \$145 billion in assets.

Song was fired last year in the midst of an anti-corruption campaign that has snared a former member of the ruling party's inner circle, Zhou Yongkang, and executives at oil and other state-owned companies.

The crackdown was launched by President Xi Jinping after he came to power in mid-2013. He has promised to pursue senior officials as well as lower-level violators.

An aide to former President Jiang Zemin, former generals and the head of the national volleyball program also have been detained.

Investigators believe Song took bribes in exchange for promotions and business decisions, spent company money on playing golf and committed other "serious violations of political discipline," the Central Commission for Discipline Inspection said. It said the proceeds of illegal acts would be seized. **AP**

Beijing fines Nissan venture in anti-monopoly case

A Nissan joint venture has been fined 123 million yuan (USD19.3 million) by Chinese regulators on price-fixing charges in a long-running probe of the auto industry that has snared global automakers.

Dongfeng Nissan Auto Sales Co. violated anti-monopoly law by improperly enforcing minimum prices, according to the economic planning agency of the southern province of Guangdong. The company is a joint venture between Nissan Motor Co. and Dongfeng Motor Co., one of China's biggest automakers.

Other foreign auto brands including Mercedes Benz and Chrysler have been fined for similar infractions after customers complained they charged excessively high prices for vehicles and repla-

cement parts.

Setting minimum retail prices is common in other countries but Chinese regulators reject it as a violation of free market competition.

Business groups say the secretive and abrupt way the investigations are conducted is alienating foreign companies. Regulators deny foreign companies are treated unfairly.

Anti-monopoly regulators also have investigated technology suppliers and dairies over the past two years in an apparent effort to force down prices.

In February, U.S. chipmaker Qualcomm Inc. was fined 6 billion yuan (\$975 million) on charges it abused its dominance in wireless technology to charge "unfairly high" licensing fees. **AP**



Boeing Co. is exploring plans to open a China factory

Boeing said to study first China plant for work on 737 jetliner

Julie Johnson

BOEING Co. is exploring whether to open a factory in China to complete work on its top-selling 737-model jetliners, the first facility of its kind outside the U.S., according to a person familiar with the plans.

The facility would perform tasks such as painting aircraft built at Boeing's single-aisle plant outside Seattle, said the person, who wasn't authorized to comment publicly.

Moving some tasks to China would free up production capacity for the 737, the world's most widely flown airliner, as

Chicago-based Boeing plots an increase to as many 60 planes a month from the current 42. The 737 competes with the A320 jet family from Europe's Airbus Group SE, which is poised to inaugurate its first plant in the U.S. today in Mobile, Alabama.

Boeing's plans for China are under the spotlight because Chinese President Xi Jinping is planning a stop in Seattle later this month on his initial trip as a head of state to the U.S. Such official visits frequently yield a haul of aircraft order announcements from China's carriers.

"To succeed in today's competitive environment, Boeing is always

looking for opportunities to support our growth plans and productivity improvements,"

Boeing said in response to queries about the new 737 facility. While Boeing said its overseas partners include China, "we do not comment on options we may be exploring."

Boeing has responded to growing demand for single-aisle jets with the accelerating tempo at the factory in Renton, Washington, that now builds all its 737s. Airbus's Alabama plant will be its fourth making the A320.

Boeing's talks for a 737 completion and delivery center were first reported by Flightglobal in May. **Bloomberg**

corporate bits

AUSTRIAN AIRLINES TAKES UP VIENNA-SHANGHAI ROUTE



Austrian Airlines will launch flight service to a new long-haul China destination next year. Starting on April 4, 2016, Austria's national carrier will operate a Boeing 777 to Shanghai throughout the entire year. In April 2016 the flights will be offered five times a week, as of May 1, 2016 on a daily basis. This is the airline's second destination in China in addition to Beijing. The flight time from Vienna to

Shanghai at a distance of more than 8,500 kilometers from Vienna will be about 10 hours 20 minutes. The destination is not only interesting as a point-to-point route but also for transfer traffic. About two-thirds of passengers will transfer at the Vienna hub and continue their journeys, flying particularly to Western and Eastern European destinations.

At present Austrian Airlines

offers a total of 26 weekly non-stop flights to Asia in its summer flight schedule. In addition to 5 flights per week to Beijing, the airline also offers up to 7 flights per week to Delhi operating a Boeing 767. Bangkok and Tokyo are serviced with daily flights on a Boeing 777. Furthermore, it is launching flight service once per week to the tourist destination of Colombo, the capital city of Sri Lanka, starting October 27, 2015. "Shanghai will complement our offering to the most important cities of Asia very well", explains Andreas Otto, Chief Commercial Officer of Austrian Airlines. "In this way we are resolutely expanding flight service on long-haul routes." "Shanghai once again offers potential thanks to the significantly improved market environment and increased local demand", CCO Otto adds.

MACAO WATER LAUNCHES "LITTLE WATER STEWARD" FREE MOBILE APP

The "Little Water Steward" mobile app developed by Macao Water for Android and iPhone is available for free download this month. The app can be downloaded from both iOS and Android platforms. Through an easy-to-use interface, app users will be able to receive the latest information on their water consumption anytime, anywhere. In addition to the launch of the new mobile app, Macao Water – in order to draw more attention to water leakage and water conservation – is also holding a lucky draw for all users who use the app's incident reporting function. All lucky draw participants stand a chance to win a set of commemorative stamps and a souvenir sheet



themed "Water and Life", or a shopping voucher for water-saving devices.

Furthermore, a series of mobile services relating to water consumption are also available. Customers can manage their water use issues on a smartphone, including balance check or bill payment, electronic water bill and SMS reminder service applications. In addition, by clicking the news function, users can obtain up-to-date information, water quality testing reports and project notices. More importantly, the app is equipped with a new incident reporting function. Users can report any cases of burst pipes, water leakage or illegal water use via this platform to Macao Water, upload photos and videos for more detailed information, and even detect the location of the incident by using the built-in global positioning system to reduce the response time.

Who are Uighurs? A look at group from restive Xinjiang region

ARRESTS made and details revealed about the Aug. 17 Bangkok bombing that killed 20 people have raised the question of whether members of an ethnic and religious minority from China's far west were involved. A primer on the Uighurs, the repression they face in China and their presence abroad:

WHO ARE THE UIGHURS?

The Uighurs (pronounced WEE-gurs) are a Turkic-speaking Muslim ethnic group native to China's far western region of Xinjiang, which was sporadically controlled by Chinese dynasties over the centuries. They have long complained of ethnic discrimination and religious restriction under the Chinese government, which is dominated by members of the Han ethnic group. Several decades of economic development have brought an influx of Han people into the Uighurs' oil-rich home region. Uighurs have felt marginalized in the region's economic boom, sparking ethnic tensions that erupted in the late 1990s and then again about a decade later, culminating in rioting that left nearly 200 dead in the regional capital of Urumqi in 2009.

RECENT UNREST

Since 2009, there have been frequent attacks on police stations, military checkpoints and government buildings in Xinjiang. The violence has spilled into other regions with Uighur militants accused of mounting attacks in train stations, markets and even a public square in Beijing. In March 2014, a group of Uighurs — including two women — slashed indiscriminately at crowds at a train station in the southwestern city of Kunming, killing 31. In May of 2014, a bomb assault on a market in Urumqi left 43 people dead.



Uighur ethnic minority worshippers take part in Friday noon prayers in Urumqi

ghurs — including two women — slashed indiscriminately at crowds at a train station in the southwestern city of Kunming, killing 31. In May of 2014, a bomb assault on a market in Urumqi left 43 people dead.

BEIJING'S RESPONSE

Beijing has long been wary of independence-minded militants in Xinjiang and has kept tight controls over the region. Beijing began labeling the militants terrorists in 2001 in a bid to win international support for the struggle against the militants. Scholars have argued that China's stifling policies in the region — including restrictions on beards and veils — have marginalized the Uighurs and fueled militancy. Last year, well-known Uighur economist Ilham Tohti, who had urged Beijing to review its policies in Xinjiang to foster reconciliation, was convicted of inciting separatism and sentenced to life in prison. In response to the 2014 attacks, Beijing launched a one-year crackdown on terror cells in Xinjiang, executing and jailing hundreds of people on terrorism-related charges.

FLEEING CHINA

Uighurs have been fleeing China in recent years, often by way of Southeast Asia. Rights advocates say they are escaping repressive rule, but Beijing says many are leaving to join jihad with the intention of returning to China to carry out terrorist attacks. Courts in Xinjiang cities of Hotan, Kashgar and Karamay recently jailed Chinese smugglers who

helped Uighurs cross illegally into Vietnam, as well as several Uighurs who unsuccessfully tried to emigrate illegally. While there are large Uighur diasporas in Europe and the United States, Turkey is the destination of choice for most seeking to leave China. Turkey's government is under intense public pressure to support the Uighurs, leading to tensions in Ankara's relationship with Beijing.

THAILAND'S REPATRIATION

In late 2014, the Thai government detained hundreds of migrants believed to be Uighurs in refugee camps, including women and children. Many refused to speak to Chinese officials, claiming to be Turkish, and many ob-

tained legitimate Turkish passports and later settled in Turkey. However, on July 9 of this year, Thailand repatriated more than 100 of the Uighurs — mostly men — who were wanted by China as terror suspects. This drew criticism from Uighur advocates, human rights groups, the U.S., the United Nations and others, all concerned that the returnees would be persecuted. Video footage by Chinese state media showed the men hooded and under tight security. Chinese authorities have granted no independent access to any court proceedings for the returnees, allowing the government to control the narrative about them.

BOMBING CASE

Though there have been many theories about perpetrator and motive, speculation about a Uighur connection to the Bangkok bombing came almost immediately, in part because the bomb went off at a shrine popular with Chinese tourists.

Police have arrested two foreigners, confiscated bomb-making materials from two apartments on the outskirts of Bangkok and are looking for 10 other suspects. The first suspect arrested was found at one of the apartments and possessed a fake Turkish passport. The second, arrested near the Thai-Cambodia border, carried a passport that indicated he was from Xinjiang. Police say they believe the bomber has left the country.

Authorities have intentionally avoided calling the bombing an act of terrorism for fear of hurting Thailand's reputation. **AP**

'Monster Hunt' is country's biggest grossing film

A Chinese live-action animation film has knocked "Fast & Furious 7" off the perch of the country's biggest grossing movie of all time — the first homegrown film to do so since the mainland reopened its market to Hollywood movies in 1994.

"Monster Hunt," a movie about a baby monster whose life is under threat, had earned 2.428 billion yuan (USD382 million) by Friday since its debut on July 16, according to



the official Xinhua News Agency on Saturday.

The latest in the fast car "Furious" franchise had pulled in a total of 2.426 billion yuan (\$381 million) in the mainland market by May.

Xinhua said "Monster Hunt" is the first domestic film to reach the top spot since 1994, when the Communist authorities lifted a ban on Hollywood movies.

"Fast & Furious 7," called "Furious 7" in the U.S., had taken the highest

grossing movie accolade in China from "Transformers: Age of Extinction." Before "Transformers," the 2010 film "Avatar" held that distinction.

China's rapidly growing box office continues to make records. The State Administration of Press, Publication, Radio, Film and Television said earlier this month that China's box office so far this year has already outstripped the total for 2014.

By Sept. 5, box office revenue had reached

30.09 billion yuan (\$4.73 billion), up 48 percent compared with the same period last year, and higher than 2014's total of 29.639 billion yuan (\$4.66 billion).

Domestic films have already made 18 billion yuan (\$2.9 billion) this year, up 73 percent on last year, according to the administration. They are helped by authorities limiting the number of screens for foreign movies during prime movie-going holiday periods. **AP**

Natasha Khan

HONG KONG

Official says Chief Executive above judiciary, legislature

CHINA'S top official in Hong Kong has dispelled the notion of a separation of powers in the city and says the chief executive has authority over the executive, judiciary and legislature branches.

In a speech titled "the correct understanding of Hong Kong's political system," Zhang Xiaoming, head of the city's central government liaison office, said he picked a controversial issue to discuss in order to tackle the issue head on.

"It should be clear that Hong Kong does not implement the political system of separation of powers," said Zhang, at an event commemorating the Basic Law, the city's mini-constitution. "It didn't before the reunification, nor does it after the reunification."

Zhang quoted former Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping as saying in a 1987 speech that it would be inappropriate for



Hong Kong Chief Executive Leung Chun-ying

Hong Kong to adopt a Western approach to its political system, such as the concept of separation of powers, according to a transcript of Zhang's comments posted on the liaison office website.

Zhang's speech prompted criticism from the city's pan-democratic figures. Civic Party leader Alan Leong said the comments elevate the leader's status to that of an emperor; while Labour Party chairman Lee Cheuk-yan questioned the changing interpretation of the Basic Law, the South China Morning Post reported.

Zhang's comments are not new, Chief Secretary Carrie

Lam said in a release from the Hong Kong government. The chief executive is accountable both to the Central Government and to Hong Kong, Lam said.

Differences over political reform set off almost three months of protests last year. Hong Kong pro-democracy lawmakers rejected a China-backed election plan for the city in June, leaving in place the current system where the chief executive is chosen by a 1,200-strong committee of Hong Kong's mostly Beijing-friendly political and economic elites, rather than by the city's voters. **Bloomberg**

Final death toll set at 173 in Tianjin warehouse explosion

Christopher Bodeen, Beijing

CHINESE authorities ended the search for the remaining eight missing in a massive chemical warehouse explosion last month, setting the final death toll at 173 in China's worst industrial disaster in years.

The announcement on the Tianjin city government's microblog said there was no hope of finding the eight people, and the court will now start issuing death certificates.

"After thorough investigations by all parties, it is certain that there is no possibility of survivors," said the statement, posted late Friday night.

The eight include five firefighters, underscoring the explosion's status as the worst ever disaster for Chinese first responders, more than 100 of whom were killed, including police officers. Among firefighters, a total of 104 were killed.

Investigations into the Aug. 12 blasts at the Ruihai International Logistics warehouses showed they were located closer to homes than permitted, and stored much more hazardous material than authorized, including 700 tons of highly toxic sodium cyanide.

A series of massive explosions late at night sha-



In this Aug. 13 photo, firefighters in protective gear watch as smoke continues to billow out after an explosion at a warehouse in northeastern China's Tianjin municipality

tered windows and tore facades off buildings for kilometers around, while launching debris including heavy steel storage canisters into nearby communities with the force of an artillery shell. Disgruntled homeowners have held numerous angry protests demanding the government buy back their apartments, saying they are unlivable.

The disaster has raised questions about corruption and government efficiency, potentially tarnishing the communist government led by President Xi Jinping, who has made those two issues a hallmark of his administration.

Authorities are investigating malfeasance in the issuing of permits and regulation of the company, and have detained 12 of

its employees and executives. They include the primary owner, who was on the board of a state-owned company and kept his ownership of Ruihai hidden as a silent partner.

Also detained as part of the investigation are 11 government officials, while the head of the government body in charge of industrial safety, Yang Dongliang, has been placed under investigation for corruption.

Yang had previously worked for 18 years in Tianjin in state industry and local government, rising to executive vice mayor.

Authorities say they have sealed all waterways leading out of the blast zone to curb cyanide contamination as teams in hazmat suits clean up hazardous debris. **AP**

Authorities name and shame 4 tourists over Thai airport incident

CHINESE authorities have named and shamed four travelers over an incident at Bangkok's airport in which they vented their frustration by belting out the Chinese national anthem.

The four were part of a group of Chinese tourists whose flight home had been delayed by eight hours until 3:00 a.m.

When the plane arrived, they refused to board until their compensation demands were met, then broke into the national anthem amid hooting, shouts and general chaos in the departure lounge.

A 57-second clip of the incident recorded on a mobile phone circulated widely on the Internet in China, prompting an investigation by the China National Tourism Administration, which said Saturday it had added their names to its list of those accused of "uncivilized behavior."

The four "incited other travelers to disrespect public order in the airport, spoke and acted hysterically, seriously harmed the image of Chinese travelers abroad," the administration said in a statement. Their names will remain on the list for between two and three years.

While inclusion doesn't ban them from flying, the list can be checked by airlines and travel agencies, who then have the option of refusing them service. The list is public and can also be viewed by police, customs and border security agents, banks and others issuing credit.

Numerous incidents of bad behavior by Chinese tourists

abroad, from fighting with air crews to defacing cultural artifacts, have drawn widespread derision in China. That prompted the administration last year to create the list, which now contains 11 names.

Others named and shamed have included a couple who poured instant noodles soaked in hot water onto flight attendant and made insults and threats in a dispute over seating. Another opened emergency doors on a domestic flight during a delay and still another had climbed onto statues of revolutionary heroes to have his photo taken.

Rising incomes and cheap flights have permitted record numbers of Chinese to travel domestically and abroad, touring scenic and cultural spots around the world. Among other complaints are line-cutting, smoking in public, littering and fouling public toilets. **AP**



A tour guide holds a flag as mainland tourists gather

SINGAPORE

Analysis: Citizens fall back on tried and tested party



In this photo taken on Saturday, Singapore's Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong of the ruling People's Action Party (PAP) celebrates a win in his constituency

Vijay Joshi and Annabelle Liang, Singapore

EVERY four or five years, Singaporeans vote in general elections without ever asking the question: Which party can best run the government? That's a no-brainer. It's the same party that's been ruling the wealthy Southeast Asian city-state for a half-century. The questions most ask instead is how much voice should they give the opposition.

That explains the overwhelming majority that the People's Action Party has won in every election since independence in 1965, including the last one on Friday, which returned it with an even greater share of the votes than before. It was a result that any political party in the world would salivate over — 83 of 89 seats in Parliament and 70 percent of all votes cast.

In some ways, it was the direct outcome of the PAP's relatively poor showing in the 2011 elections, when even though it won 81 of the 87 seats at stake, it garnered only 60 percent of the votes.

There was clear anger among the voters against the rising cost of living. Singapore is

among the most expensive cities in the world while being the ninth-richest nation on an annual per capita income basis, one spot ahead of the United States. An open immigration policy promoted by the government to keep the economy robust had led to overcrowding and resentment against foreign workers seen

■ The People's Action Party has won in every election since independence in 1965, including the last one on Friday

to be stealing local jobs.

Restrictions on the media and freedom of speech — although less than in the early years after independence — remain in place. Income disparities are stark. On the one hand, executives are earning

six-figure salaries, driving expensive cars, living in magnificent homes, and on the other, old retirees are eking out a living on meager pensions of about USD1,000 a month while doing odd jobs.

All this gave the opposition fodder to launch an invigorated attack. Its campaign rallies attracted tens of thousands of people compared to a few hundred or 3,000 at the most for the PAP. Social media — the only alternative voice in a country where the mainstream newspapers, radio and TV stations are controlled by the government — were abuzz with talk of the opposition flexing its newfound muscles.

Some even began to talk about the possibility that the nine opposition parties combined would unseat the government, because for the first time in history they were together contesting all seats.

That, for many Singaporeans, was unacceptable. They wanted to give the opposition some voice — but not enough to take charge.

In a country that does not allow opinion polls, it is hard for voters to judge the strength of the opposition, and how much votes it should get without upsetting the apple cart. Unwilling to fall into the trap

of over-voting for the opposition, the traditionally risk-averse Singaporeans always end up going for the safe option. This time, the risk seemed larger. The fear that they could lose a government that they trusted and relied on tipped the undecided on the PAP's side.

"There was a certain palpable concern that the PAP may come out of the election severely weakened. That resulted in the middle ground, the group of undecided voters, to rally behind the PAP, going back to a tried and tested party," Eugene Tan, an associate professor of law at Singapore Management University, told The Associated Press.

Even the opposition acknowledged that.

"One of the things which I think probably did loom in people's minds ... is the fact that for the first time, all 89 seats are contested, and perhaps some people did feel that there was some risk (of the PAP faring poorly)," Workers' Party chairman Sylvia Lim said at a victory parade in Aljunied. The party retained five seats by a slim margin.

"There is a perception that the opposition movement is growing strong. There cou-

ld be a pushback on that, because I think people still feel comfortable with the PAP as a government," she added.

So why do Singaporeans trust the PAP so much?

For one, it is the party's track record. After a period of British colonial rule, Singapore became part of the Malay Federation in 1963, whose other giant member was neighboring Malaysia. However, Singapore was kicked out of the union in 1965, with Lee Kuan Yew as the prime minister of the newly formed nation.

A fiery orator, master strategist and a no-holds-barred street fighter, Lee led the PAP to decisive victory in the 1968 general elections, and every one since, until his death in March.

Lee and other founding leaders in the PAP created a unique system of development for Singapore. Lee promoted meritocracy, attracted foreign investment through tax incentives, introduced English-language education, raised productivity and brooked no corruption. He also brooked no dissent and treated the opposition with contempt. Most opponents could not match his fighting skills — some were thrown in jail and others taken to court for defamation, leading to bankruptcy. Soon the opposition was emasculated.

Meanwhile, Singapore's spectacular development continued amid restrictions on free speech. In many ways, Singapore became a nanny state, with the government masterminding social policies, including the racial mix among Chinese, Malays and Indians in public housing where a majority of its 5.6 million people live, how much they should save, what they could read and what they could watch on TV. Singaporeans seemed willing to pay that price for the economic gains.

After disenchantment became deeply evident in the 2011 elections, the government made amends. It cut back on immigration. The annual growth of foreign professionals, managers and executives fell from 45,000 a year to 13,000 last year. It made reforms to the pension scheme and the medical insurance. The government also reached out to the youth on hot-button issues — and the results paid off.

Ultimately, it was the people's choice — even if forced by a set of circumstances unique to Singapore — that strengthened the ruling party at the expense of producing a more representative Parliament.

"I guess Singaporeans get the government they deserve, so I don't want to hear any more complaints," said opposition leader Kenneth Jeyaretnam. **AP**

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RENAULT
Passion for life

THAILAND

'Rebel' female Buddhist monks challenge status quo

Denis D. Gray, Nakhon Pathom

ON a rural road just after daybreak, villagers young and old kneel reverently before a single file of ochre-robed women, filling their bowls with rice, curries, fruits and sweets. In this country, it's a rare sight.

Thailand's top Buddhist authority bars women from becoming monks. They can only become white-cloaked nuns, who are routinely treated as domestic servants. Many here believe women are inferior beings who had better perform plenty of good deeds to ensure they will be reborn as men in their future lives.

Yet with the religion beset by lurid scandals, female monastics or "bhikkhunis" are emerging as a force for reform, not unlike activists in the Christian world seeking gender equality including ordination of women as priests in the Catholic Church. They are growing in numbers and appear to be making headway.

Thailand has some 100 bhikkhunis who were ordained in Sri Lanka, where women are allowed to become monks. They and their monasteries are not legally recognized in Thailand, and don't enjoy state funding and other support the country's 200,000 male monks are granted.

Living spartan lives, the women are governed by 311 precepts from celibacy and poverty to archaic ones like having to confess after eating garlic. Their ranks and those of hundreds of aspirants — there are five stages before ordination — include a former Google executive, a Harvard graduate, journalists and doctors, as well as village noodle vendors.

"It is our right, our heritage, to lead a fully monastic life. We are on the right side of history," says Chatsumarn Kabil Singh, an author, former university professor and the first bhikkhuni in Thailand from the Theravada branch of Buddhism, which is dominant in Southeast Asia and Sri Lanka. Using her religious name of Venerable Dhammananda, she contends that the Buddha 2,500 years ago built the religion as a four-legged stool — monks, nuns, laymen and laywomen — but "we are now sitting on just three legs."

The male-dominated religion has been blighted in recent years by crimes and gross violations of vows, just as widespread sex abuse and Vatican fi-



Women Buddhist monks pray at the Songdhammakalyani Monastery in Nakhon Pathom

nancial scandals have damaged the Roman Catholic Church.

Monks in Thailand have been convicted of everything from murder to wildlife trafficking. Sexual depravity is frequently reported. One former abbot, fugitive Wirapol Sukphol, fa-

Thailand's top Buddhist authority bars women from becoming monks... Yet female monastics or "bhikkhunis" are emerging as a force for reform

ces charges of drug use, money laundering, fathering a child by an underage woman and illegally amassing millions of dollars. A photograph shows him seated in a private jet wearing aviator sunglasses.

The Supreme Sangha Council, the religion's ruling body, is under fire over the mishan-

dling of corruption allegations against prominent abbots, including one of its own members. The allegations include embezzling funds intended for the cremation of an abbot's predecessor and the investment of USD1.2 million from donations into the stock market.

With Buddhism so intimately tied to Thai identity — more than 90 percent adhere to the faith — these misdeeds and what is termed "checkbook Buddhism" have spurred calls in Parliament for curbing the almost total authority the council wields over the clergy and the corruption-stoking \$4 billion in annual donations to monasteries. A proposed Patronage and Protection of the Clergy Bill would impose stiff penalties for those who break the religion's cardinal rules and set up a panel to monitor donations. Corruption within Buddhism may also be dealt with in Thailand's next constitution, now being drafted.

The role of women in Buddhism has also aroused national-level debate.

The Sangha council has urged the government to ban Sri Lankan clergy from coming into the country following what Dhammananda calls a "rebel ordination" in Thailand of eight bhikkhunis last November by Sri Lankans. That drew broad

criticism of the council itself.

"The clergy can no longer insist on operating in a closed, feudal system that violates universal norms and values," said an editorial in the English-language Bangkok Post. Instead of trying to crush women's aspirations, it said the "clergy should concentrate on cleaning up its own house to restore declining public faith."

No scandal has emerged among Thailand's female clergy. Dhammananda said she has seen no misbehavior in her monastery beyond a few nuns who had used their mobile telephones to excess.

"I think that many nuns see themselves as exemplary. They are, and they're carving a new role for themselves that didn't exist," said Juliane Schober, an expert on Southeast Asian Buddhism at Arizona State University. "That that puts pressure on the Sangha doesn't surprise me."

Women clergy interviewed at three monasteries said it was essential to maintain a high moral ground so as not to give opponents an excuse to stop their movement. Some cast them as Western-educated feminists out to undermine traditional Buddhism.

"They can be a force for change in Buddhism," said Phra Maha Boonchuay Doojai, a leading activist monk at Chiang

Mai Buddhist College.

"If everything is in the hands of men, it is as if Buddhism was just the way of a father, not mother. But you need both," he said. "Mothers have some unique feelings that men do not share. They may have more loving kindness."

Proponents of ordination like Boonchuay say bhikkhunis originated with Buddha himself; the first was an aunt who raised him. Opponents argue that the lineage of the Theravada bhikkhuni order, under which women could be ordained, died out long ago and cannot be restored. The Mahayana branch of Buddhism practiced in East Asia has historically ordained women.

"We simply follow the rules. The ordination of female monks was allowed in the Lord Buddha's time. But as time passed, the lineage of bhikkhuni disappeared," Phra Tepvisutthikawee of the Buddhism Protection Center has said.

Despite conservative opposition, bhikkhunis are gaining ground with the general public in Thailand.

"It is a movement now. When I was struggling by myself it was just this crazy woman who wanted to be a monk," says Dhammananda, who was ordained in 2003. "Now people don't feel strange when they see a female monk in the streets. We don't have problems with people, with society."

Aside from spiritual pursuits, the 15 monastics at her Songdhammakalyani Monastery visit prisoners, aid the poor and infirm and maintain other links with the surrounding community near Nakhon Pathom in central Thailand. Regularly they make alms rounds, a timeless tradition of food offerings by the faithful who are then blessed by the monks.

To the north, in the shadows of the country's highest mountain, hundreds of civil servants, businessmen, villagers and others regularly flock to an idyllic monastery to hear talks by Venerable Nandanyani, a bhikkhuni and onetime mathematician. Families attend a weekend religion "camp" on the monastery grounds. A bhikkhuni leads a group of men and women in the slow motions of walking meditation.

Seated below a statue of the Buddha, the abbess energetically explains why ordination of women is vital, punctuating her words with thumbs-up gestures. It enables individuals to probe Buddhism's depths and live the full monastic life, she says, and also allows intimate communication between female clergy and laywomen unhindered by the barriers of sex and traditional propriety between women and monks.

"We must wait," she says. "Slowly but surely it will come." AP

SAUDI ARABIA

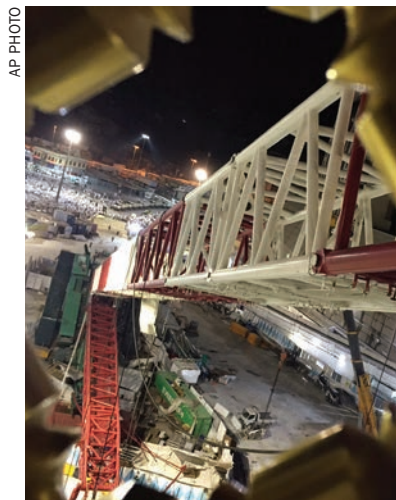
Authorities blame Mecca Grand Mosque crane collapse on high winds

Abdullah Al-Shihri and Adam Schreck, Riyadh

HIGH winds were to blame for the toppling of a massive crane that smashed into Mecca's Grand Mosque and killed at least 107 people ahead of the start of the annual hajj pilgrimage, the head of Saudi Arabia's civil defense directorate said Saturday.

The disaster during a violent thunderstorm that roared through Islam's holiest city late Friday afternoon was the deadliest incident in years surrounding the hajj, which gets underway in full later this month.

Images shared on social media showed a horrifying scene. The crane boom pierced through the roof of the mosque, bringing down slabs of reinforced concrete and leaving bodies lying amid pools of blood on the polished mosque floors as frightened survivors screamed in panic.



A towering construction crane is seen collapsed over the Grand Mosque, in Mecca

The director general of civil defense, Suleiman bin Abdullah al-Amro, told satellite broadcaster Al-Arabiya that the unusually powerful winds that toppled the crane also tore down trees and signs as a storm whipped through the area.

He denied reports that lightning brought down the red-and-white crane, which was being used for the mosque's expansion, or that some of those killed died in a stampede.

"The speed of the wind was not normal," he said. "There was no way for people to know that the crane was about to collapse for them to scramble," he added.

An amateur video circulating online, however, appeared to show a frantic scramble in the moments after the crane collapsed as scores of people pushed and jostled one another in a struggle to get out.

At least 238 people were injured in the accident, according to civil defense figures.

Authorities did not provide details on the victims' nationalities, but it was likely that the tragedy will touch several countries.

U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry expressed his condolences and said the U.S. stands with Saudi Arabia and "all Muslims around

the world in the aftermath of this dreadful incident at one of Islam's holiest sites."

The Grand Mosque and the cube-shaped Kaaba within it draw Muslims of all types from around the world throughout the year, though numbers increase significantly in the run-up to the hajj. The mosque is Islam's holiest site, and Muslims the world over pray in the direction of the Kaaba, which is also at the heart of the hajj rituals.

Performing the pilgrimage during one's lifetime is a duty for all able-bodied adult Muslims. This year's pilgrimage is expected to start around Sept. 22.

Nearly 910,000 pilgrims have already arrived in the country for this year's hajj season, according to official figures.

Ahmed bin Mohammed al-Mansouri, the spokesman for the presidency of Mecca and Medina mosque affairs, said in a statement carried by the official

Saudi Press Agency that the crane struck a circular area around the Kaaba and a nearby walkway.

The crane was one of several surrounding the mosque to support an ongoing expansion of the sanctuary.

Steep hills and low-rise traditional buildings that once surrounded the mosque have in recent years given way to shopping malls and luxury hotels — among them the world's third-tallest building, a giant clock tower that is the centerpiece of the Abraj al-Bait complex.

The construction giant Saudi Binladin Group is leading the mosque expansion and also built the Abraj al-Bait project.

The Binladin family has been close to the ruling Al Saud family for decades and oversees major building projects around the country. The Binladin family disowned one of its many members, late al-Qaida leader Osama bin Laden, in the 1990s. AP

AD

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what's ON

OX WAREHOUSE CHILDREN'S ARTLAND 2015
- JOLLY JOINT EXHIBITION

TIME: 12pm-7pm

(Closed on Tuesdays, open on public holidays)

UNTIL: November 1, 2015

VENUE: No Cruzamento da Avenida do Coronel
Mesquita com a Avenida Almirante Lacerda Macau

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2853 0026

MACAU SCIENCE CENTRE

TIME: 10am-6pm daily (Except Thursdays)

ADDRESS: Avenida Dr. Sun Yat-Sen

ADMISSION: Exhibition Centre: MOP25

Planetarium (Dome/Sky Shows): MOP50

Planetarium (3D Dome/3D Sky Shows): MOP65

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2888 0822

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TIME: 10am-6pm daily

(Except Wednesdays, open on public holidays)

VENUE: 76, Rua Almirante Costa Cabral

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8399 6699

MACAU GRAND PRIX MUSEUM & WINE MUSEUM

TIME: 10am-8pm daily (Except Tuesdays)

VENUE: Rua Luis Gonzaga Gomes, 431, basement

(Tourism Activities Centre-CAT)

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8798 4108 / 2833 3000

INSTALLATION 'VALKYRIE OCTOPUS'

BY JOANA VASCONCELOS

TIME: 24 hours

UNTIL: October 31, 2015

VENUE: MGM MACAU, Av. Dr. Sun Yat Sen, NAPE

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8802 8888

EXHIBITION 'FOAM TIP BY ARLINDA FROTA
AND TRANSMUTATION BY CAROL KWOK'

TIME: 12pm-8pm (Closed on Tuesdays)

UNTIL: September 30, 2015

VENUE: SIGNUM Living Store, Rua do Almirante

Sérgio, no. 285, R/C, Macau

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2896 8925

Offbeat

INDONESIAN POLICE ARREST GUARD
IN JAPANESE WOMAN'S MURDER

Indonesian police investigating a Japanese woman's murder said Friday they have arrested a security guard of her apartment building in the capital.

Jakarta police chief Maj. Gen. Tito Karnavian told reporters that the Cassa Grande apartment's security guard Mursalim, 25, was caught in Pringsewu neighborhood of Lampung province late Thursday, and flown to Jakarta on Friday for investigation.

Yoshimi Nishimura, 28, had been living in the building for three months and was found dead Monday. She was found in her bed with strangulation marks on her neck.

Her driver, her friend and another building security officer went to check on her after efforts to contact her had failed.

Karnavian said Nishimura was robbed and that autopsy results suggest she was killed three days before being found.

"The suspect has confessed that he killed her for (the purpose of) stealing her belongings," Karnavian said.

Nishimura's body was cremated shortly after a forensic autopsy completed Thursday and her family and the Japanese Embassy in Jakarta have been notified.

Mursalim, who uses a single name, has not yet been formally charged but Indonesian police were investigating possibility of premeditated murder, which carries a maximum death penalty.

The suspect allegedly inserted paper into the lock of her apartment door so that Nishimura had to ask him for help anytime she wanted to open the door. AP

TV canal macau

13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:30	RTPi Live
17:50	Trail of Lies (Repeated)
18:40	Non-Daily Portuguese News (Repeated)
19:40	Soap Opera
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	TDM Sports
22:10	Trail of Lies
23:00	TDM News
23:30	UEFA Champions League 2015/2016 Magazine Programme
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



1982 HOLLYWOOD PRINCESS DEAD

Princess Grace of Monaco has died of the injuries she sustained in a car crash near Monte Carlo yesterday. The Hollywood actress Grace Kelly - who starred in the Alfred Hitchcock hits Dial M for Murder and Rear Window - suffered a brain haemorrhage.

A statement issued by the royal palace said she died at 2130 GMT after her conditioned worsened throughout the morning and become irreversible by the afternoon.

It also said the former film star's husband, Monaco's head of state Prince Rainier, and her three children were at her bedside when she died. The US-born princess' youngest daughter Stephanie was in the car at the time of the accident, but suffered only light bruising.

The news of her death was unexpected as previous reports from the palace had indicated that despite broken ribs, leg and collarbone she was in a stable condition.

The Monaco royal family also released an account of yesterday's accident and said the princess had lost control of the car when the brakes failed. After leaving the road her 10-year-old Rover tumbled 100 ft (30.5 m) down a ravine, turning over several times before coming to rest in a garden.

But a witness who was driving behind the two princesses said the car began zigzagging erratically some time before the crash happened. Two engineers from British Leyland are on their way to Monte Carlo to examine the wreckage.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

Princess Grace was given a full royal funeral at the Cathedral of St Nicholas in Monte Carlo. Her daughter Stephanie - who was later reported to have suffered a serious cervical fracture rather than slight bruising - was too ill to attend. The Leyland engineers who were sent to the crash scene said the car had been in a perfect state before the accident. It was later determined the princess had probably suffered a minor stroke which had caused her to lose control of the car.

YOUR STARS

Aries Mar. 21-Apr. 19 It used to be exciting, but now it's just so routine. It's amazing what a big power booster money was. In fact, it was almost critical. For now, you'll have to settle for the more plebeian jolt of caffeine.

Taurus April 20-May 20 Just as all blossoms eventually fade, so your romance with excess cash has lost its bloom. But you still have everything you need to feel safe and sound, so start thinking of regular old stability as attractive.

Gemini May 21-Jun. 21 It seems like you should have an intellectual grip on the facts, but just how you ended up in the situation you're in is beyond your comprehension. Join the crowd, and tell yourself you're in good company.

Cancer Jun. 22-Jul. 22 You got yourself into a big mess. Being analytical will only get you so far. For this kind of clean up, you need an old fashioned mop and bucket, of the figurative variety. Start by balancing your check book.

Leo Jul. 23-Aug. 22 No more complaining. Being more thrifty than usual is character building, and that alone has value. So stop thinking of all you can't have and start planning for a more impulsive future.

Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22 If you're the type who likes to keep busy no matter what, then you'll have no trouble with the day. But if you need something of substance, then you'll have to settle for a less than stellar day.

Libra Sep.23-Oct. 22 That nagging voice in your head has you seeing only in negative numbers. You may not be living in the lap of luxury, but look at the bright side: at least you're still self sufficient.

Scorpio Oct. 23 - Nov. 21 Being flamboyant is a problem. In fact, it's downright inconsiderate. The general doom and gloom is the new black, so don't stick out like a sore thumb, no matter what your bottom line is.

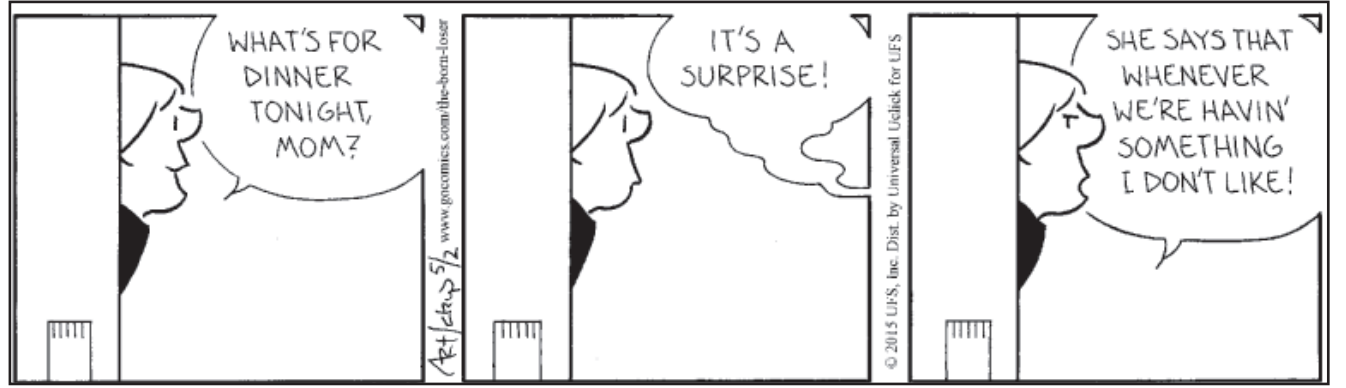
Sagittarius Nov. 22-Dec. 21 Some cost cutting measures don't bother you at all, but others drive you crazy. If cutting coupons is beneath you, then don't force yourself to stoop, but it would be like giving yourself a small raise to use them.

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19 It may seem like all of your plans are grounded, but there is still a lot you can achieve, even in this climate. Work on closing some gaps. Spend time doing research or connecting with people long distance.

Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 18 You have to be even more grounded and sensible today than ever before. Not only are there plenty of hungry wolves out there, but you have less money to make mistakes with. Go over all the finer details.

Pisces Feb.19-Mar. 20 You're projecting your own situation onto someone else. They may or may not be in the same financial boat. Spend some time figuring out who you're really dealing with, rather than making assumptions.

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Easy

9x9 Sudoku grid for 'Easy' difficulty with some numbers pre-filled.

Easy+

9x9 Sudoku grid for 'Easy+' difficulty with some numbers pre-filled.

Medium

9x9 Sudoku grid for 'Medium' difficulty with some numbers pre-filled.

Hard

9x9 Sudoku grid for 'Hard' difficulty with some numbers pre-filled.

WEATHER

Table with columns: MIN, MAX, CONDITION

CHINA

Table listing weather conditions for various Chinese cities like Beijing, Harbin, Tianjin, etc.

WORLD

Table listing weather conditions for world cities like Moscow, Frankfurt, Paris, London, New York.

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Actress Patricia; 5- Message symbols; 9- Listerine alternative; 14- Roy's 'singin' pardner'; 15- Perlman of 'Cheers'; 16- One giving in; 17- Official records; 18- Piercing places; 19- Entertain; 20- Cotton fabric; 22- 'Wild Thing' rapper; 24- Very small quantity; 25- Bear witness; 26- Hans Christian Andersen's birthplace; 29- Capital of Japan; 31- Proverb; 32- Bundle; 33- Half a fly; 36- Sailor; 37- Brother or sister; 40- '___ and hers'; 41- Thesaurus wd.; 42- 1963 role for Liz; 43- Some horses; 45- Consecrate; 47- Gaming tile; 48- Mariner; 51- Planted; 52- In any case; 54- Duet for Tony and Maria in 'West Side Story'; 58- Enamel; 59- Dutch export; 61- Seizures; 62- Mountain spinach; 63- Primo; 64- Division preposition; 65- Nouveau ___; 66- Funny Foxx; 67- Hats;

DOWN: 1- Mont. neighbor; 2- Apiece; 3- Neighbor of Sask.; 4- Directing; 5- Bring into being; 6- Scarlett of fiction; 7- Rosenkavaller; 8- Compass direction; 9- Insufficient; 10- Regained consciousness; 11- Little egg; 12- Mexican money; 13- Construct; 21- Prescribed amounts; 23- Like some furniture; 26- Cereal grain; 27- June 6, 1944; 28- Merit; 29- Stories; 30- Potpourri; 32- OPEC units; 33- Bangkok native; 34- ___ Fein; 35- Canadian gas brand; 38- Champagne buckets; 39- Adult; 44- Creating all things; 45- Flinch; 46- Feel intense aversion; 47- Damned; 48- Flavor; 49- Video game pioneer; 50- Of a pelvic bone; 51- Rise to one's feet; 53- Eye drop; 55- Actress Lollobrigida; 56- URL starter; 57- General ___ chicken; 60- Female deer

Friday's solution crossword grid with filled-in words.

Large crossword puzzle grid with numbers indicating starting points.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

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



AD

FOR SALE/RENT advertisement for JML Property with contact information.

Real estate advertisement for 'The Manhattan Unit E Taipa' and 'Ieng Kok, Unit A Macau'.

Real estate advertisement for 'The Studio Macau' and 'Chong Fok Taipa'.

Real estate advertisement for 'Dahlia Court, Ocean Gardens Taipa' and 'One Oasis, Tower 3, Unit B Coloane'.

Real estate advertisement for 'Jou Fai Kuok, St Pauls Ruin's Macau' and 'Houston Court, Coloane Village'.

JML Property logo and branding with '卓雅物業' and 'since 1994'.

FOOTBALL | SPANISH LEAGUE

Ronaldo hits 5 for Madrid, Messi lifts Barca over Atletico

Joseph Wilson, Barcelona

CRISTIANO Ronaldo netted five goals to become Real Madrid's all-time leading scorer in the Spanish league, while Lionel Messi scored as a substitute to give Barcelona a 2-1 win at Atletico Madrid on Saturday.

Ronaldo recorded his second career five-goal game to lead Madrid's 6-0 rout at Espanyol, taking his tally to 231 goals in 203 matches and eclipsing Raul Gonzalez's mark of 228 goals in 550 games.

In the clash between the last two champions, Fernando Torres put Atletico ahead in the 51st minute, only for Neymar to equalize from a free kick four minutes later.

Messi was on the bench following the recent birth of his second son. But he went on for the final half hour and immediately changed the match, scoring the 77th-minute winner from Luis Suarez's pass.

"When we have the best player with us, we all play better," Neymar said.

Barcelona manager Luis Enrique said he spoke with Messi before the match and decided it was better not to start him to avoid a risk of injury, after Messi also played two friendlies with Argentina in the United States before the birth of his son.



Real Madrid's Cristiano Ronaldo, center, shoots towards Espanyol goalkeeper Pau Lopez

"Leo is very, very important for us and his level of fitness is key," Luis Enrique said. "We know the importance of these points, but there is a long way to go."

Barcelona moved to the top of the standings after the defending champion's third win in as many rounds. Madrid was two points behind, and Atletico three behind.

Suarez had the first scoring chance of the match at Vicente Calderon Stadium when he redirected the ball from a corner kick headed on by Rafina off the crossbar in the 24th.

Barcelona's thin defense was playing already without the suspended Gerard Pique and the injured Dani Alves before it took another hit two minutes

Ronaldo recorded his second career five-goal game to lead Madrid's 6-0 rout at Espanyol

later when injury-prone Thomas Vermaelen pulled a leg muscle and needed to be replaced by Jeremy Mathieu

After a first half dominated by Barcelona but lacking in pace and scoring opportunities, Tor-

res scored on Atletico's first shot on goal. He scored his 10th goal in 14 career appearances against Barcelona by sending the ball in off the post after a series of quick passes led to Tiago Cardoso sending the ball forward for the veteran striker.

Atletico's celebrations were cut short when Neymar earned a foul and converted it into a beautiful goal by striking a free kick over the barrier and beyond the diving reach of goalkeeper Jan Oblak.

Messi then put Barcelona in charge, as Atletico dropped any plans of going forward and concentrated on trying to keep the star in check.

It didn't matter because Messi almost set up Neymar before he found his first goal of the sea-

son to finish off a team buildup completed by Suarez's assist.

"We didn't play a good match," Atletico coach Diego Simeone said. "When they scored the equalizer we lost our control on the game. Messi is used to breaking open games and, once again, he was the difference."

Also held scoreless in the first two rounds of the season, Ronaldo exploded with a blistering hat trick by the 20th minute, scoring from passes by Luka Modric and Gareth Bale in between a penalty kick earned by the Welshman.

Ronaldo passed for Karim Benzema to make it 4-0 against Espanyol's demoralized defense before halftime, and he scored twice more to record his 32nd game with three or more goals for Madrid. Besides his two five-goal games, he has achieved four goals in a match on three occasions for Madrid.

Ronaldo's latest scoring feat also moved the Ballon d'Or holder into fourth place on the Spanish league all-time scoring list. Messi holds the record with 286.

"In this case, the numbers speak for themselves," Madrid coach Rafa Benitez said. "He could have scored even more today."

At both games players wore T-shirts before the match in support of aid efforts to help the thousands of refugees arriving in Europe.

Elsewhere, Paco Alcacer headed in Valencia's injury-time winner for 1-0 at Sporting Gijon, its first win in three league matches.

Real Betis edged Real Sociedad thanks to Ruben Castro's goal before halftime for the promoted side's first win. **AP**

EPL

Defiant Mourinho shrugs off Chelsea's latest defeat

CHELSEA manager Jose Mourinho shrugged off his side's 3-1 loss to Everton on Saturday, saying there was no one better than him to coach the Premier League champions despite their bad start to the season.

Outsmarted by hat-trick scorer Steven Naismith, Chelsea slumped to a second consecutive defeat in a season that has brought just four points from its opening five games.

Against every pre-season prediction, Mourinho's side already risks being cut adrift by Manchester City in a title race which has only just begun.

However, the Portuguese coach remained defiant that what he called



Mourinho checks his watch as five minutes of stoppage time is shown to be played during the EPL football match between Chelsea and Crystal Palace

the worst run of his career would end, and that his player's luck would turn.

And he was no less certain about his own position.

"I don't think there is a better manager than me to come to Chelsea and to do my job. That's so simple as that. I'm the man for the job," he told BT Sport. "I'm the man that

gives so many good things for Chelsea, so now I'm the man with the bad results.

"I'm responsible for that ... but I feel that I'm the man."

Mourinho famously dubbed himself a "Special One" at the start of what became a hugely successful first spell with Chelsea from 2004-2007.

That self-confidence has clearly not faded. And he dismissed any idea that he was struggling to meet expectations in what has always been an ambitious, big-spending club under Russian owner Roman Abramovich.

"I'm not feeling under pressure," he said. "I'm feeling that the resul-

ts are the worst results ever in my career, I'm not adapted to what I feel is my quality, is my status, I'm not happy. But I'm coping well with the situation."

If anything, Mourinho was more concerned about his team coping with the run of poor results when, according to him, they are all doing their job properly.

"The way they are playing is not so bad as the results. But in every game everything goes against (us). Even today (...) We are dominant — we dominate, we dominate — they go on a counterattack and score the third goal.

"The priority is to keep

doing what we are doing," he insisted. "I cannot put more pressure on the players — the players are feeling enough sadness and enough frustration, and lack of confidence... the last thing they need now is for me being critical of them. Let's wait for better days, let's wait for better results and I trust they will do that."

Despite the demanding situation, with the Champions League and a London derby against Arsenal looming, Mourinho still found a moment for irony.

"I think that Championship people can be calm," he said, "that Chelsea next year is not playing in the Championship." **AP**

Tim Dahlberg, Boxing Writer

BOXING

Mayweather decisions Berto in last fight to remain unbeaten

HIS career winding down to its final seconds, Floyd Mayweather Jr. took a victory lap around the ring, his fist raised in triumph. After 19 years of perfection in the ring, he deserved one final bow.

Mayweather capped a remarkable career with a typical Mayweather fight Saturday night, using his defensive wizardry to frustrate Andre Berto on his way to a decision so lopsided one judge gave him every round.

The USD32 million he earned was pocket change compared to what he got for Manny Pacquiao in his last fight. But the more important number was win No. 49 in the final fight of his unblemished career, tying the mark of the late heavyweight champion, Rocky Marciano.

"You gotta know when to go. I've had a great career," Mayweather said. "I'm leaving with all my faculties. I feel like I'm smart and sharp."

Mayweather wasn't about to change what he does best in his last fight.

Both dominant and defensive, he used all the tricks learned in a pro career that began in 1996 to take a unanimous decision over Berto and retain his welterweight titles in what he insists was his final fight.

Mayweather won yet again in a fight where he was chased but never really tested. He piled up points with a sharp jab and quick counter punches, leaving Berto swinging at air most of the night.

"What can I say, I was the better man tonight," Mayweather said.

By the late rounds, Mayweather was both talking to Berto (30-4) and taunting him, secure in the knowledge he was winning big against the 18-1



Floyd Mayweather Jr., left, throws a left at Andre Berto

underdog. In the final seconds of the fight he took a victory lap, as the crowd of 13,395 stood and cheered at the MGM Grand arena.

The ringside scorecards reflected Mayweather's dominance, with one judge scoring a 120-108 shutout. The other scores were 118-110 and 117-

111, while The Associated Press had Mayweather winning 119-109.

Mayweather added to his pay-per-view riches once again, and once again he didn't seem to have to work too hard to make it. Berto, who had lost three of his last six fights, tried to make it a fight but his punches were wide and mostly missed their marks.

"I pushed him to the limit," Berto said. "But he was just better."

Mayweather did what he's done best in his long career, fighting defensively and picking his shots against Berto. He was especially effective when Berto

rushed at him, using his counter punching skills to keep Berto away.

It was a winning combination once again, just as it had been in his 48 previous fights.

Mayweather had vowed to give fans an action fight in his last bout, after being criticized for fighting defensively in his win over Manny Pacquiao. He did trade punches with Berto on several occasions, but never stayed in the pocket long enough for Berto to find his mark.

Mayweather complained to his father in the corner during the fight that he hurt his hand, but said since he is retiring it didn't matter.

Ringside punch stats showed Mayweather's defensive wizardry. Mayweather was credited with landing 232 of 410 punches, while Berto landed only 83 of 495.

"I was in great shape but it was difficult to fight him," Berto said. "He was really, really slippery."

Mayweather weighed in at 146 pounds, a pound more than Berto.

Mayweather, in his 26th title fight, controlled the action all night, now allowing Berto to land more than one punch at a time. He was never able to hurt Berto, though, and passed up chances to engage him in exchanges.

Berto was surprisingly passive early, doing little in the opening rounds but throw punches that hit nothing but air. He picked up the pace beginning in the fourth round, but Mayweather had little trouble ducking and moving away from his wild punches.

By the 10th round were talking so much trash that referee Kenny Bayless called a halt to the action and told both fighters they needed to shut up.

If Mayweather retires it will end a career that saw him become a pay-per-view star and earn more money than any boxer before him. Though most in boxing believe he will some day fight again, the 38-year-old said he had plenty of money and his health is more important than chasing records.

"I've accomplished everything," Mayweather said. "I've done everything in my sport." AP

I've done everything in my sport

MAYWEATHER

Ogier wins Rally Australia, notches 3rd world title in a row

SEBASTIEN Ogier joined some select company on the world rally circuit yesterday and enhanced France's long dominance of the sport.

Ogier clinched his third World Rally Championship in a row yesterday after winning Rally Australia for the third year running, taking the 2015 title with three events remaining.

It was Ogier's seventh win of the season and 31st WRC victory of his career that began in 2006. He be-

came just the fourth driver to win the world title three times, behind nine-time winner, countryman and former teammate Sebastien Loeb. Juha Kankkunen and Tommi Makinen, both of Finland, have each won four world titles.

Loeb won his nine titles in consecutive years from 2004, meaning French drivers have won the WRC title 12 years in a row.

Ogier had a .03-second lead over Northern Ire-

land's Kris Meeke to begin yesterday's final five stages, and won the opening speed stage by 2.5 seconds. That stretched his lead over Volkswagen teammate Jari-Matti Latvala, the driver closest to him in the overall standings, to 5.1 seconds. Going into the final stage, Ogier led Latvala by 11.2 seconds.

The 31-year-old Ogier finished the 17-stage, 311.36-kilometer rally in 2 hours, 59 minutes, 16.4 seconds; 12.3 seconds

ahead of Latvala. Meeke, in a Citroen, was third, 32.6 seconds behind Ogier.

Ogier and co-driver and fellow Frenchman Julien Ingrassia won eight of those stages, including the final seven.

"So far an amazing season, the best I have ever done," Ogier said as he jumped out of his car after winning the final stage. "And this rally win is very significant. For sure it was the most difficult rally to open the roads on.



France's Sebastien Ogier races on a stage of Rally Australia

On paper it was impossible to win but I was determined. It's the perfect way to secure the title."

Latvala had some alternator issues during the final few stages.

"I'm happy to have been so consistent and to

have made no mistakes," the Finnish driver said. "Maybe on Friday and Saturday morning I was missing a little spark to fight for the victory. It wasn't enough. Seb has done an amazing job. He has been better than me." AP

opinion

Rear Window

Severo Portela



SIDE EFFECTS

Amidst a serious decline in gaming revenue, 'all' Macau is waiting for the soon to be disclosed mid-term review of the casino industry. Understandably, given the cooling measures blowing in from the mainland, collateral damage has been piling up, making the outlook gloomier by the day. This is a business (an industry, they call themselves) of a resilient kind; however so resilient it has long defied each attempt to diversify from it...! We are talking about odd games, aren't we?

And the odds are that from the grey zones of the industry bad news is rising as the plunge deepens to levels beneath the red line, also named as the new normal. Slightly obsessed with the Macau underworld, the prestigious South China Morning Post informed us about a new trend in the insurance business: Casinos and hotels are buying insurance policies against the kidnapping of guests, that is to say gamblers incurring bad debts. Although kidnapping seems to be a technical exaggeration, since illegal detention or private confinement would better serve the description of this emerging threat. The reality is that in spite of the surge in the number of police, the Secretary for Security set to work around casinos. In the first semester of the year the number of illegal detentions or private confinements increased more than 100%. Macau hopes dearly it won't return to a cycle of bad debts/bad blood.

But the damage brought by the gambling slowdown has now spilled into the public budget. The government announced, through its Economy and Finance Secretary, Lionel Leong, a MOP 1,400 million haircut, roughly a 5% decrease in the procurement budget of each department. Well, almost every department!

Immediately after Secretary Leong's announcement, his executive colleague, Alexis Tam from the Social Affairs and Culture portfolio, explained that the spending cuts would not be extended to Wealth, Education and Welfare... precisely the areas on his watch. One would not be surprised to know that a social association evaluating the performance of the Chui Sai On team of secretaries gave top marks to Secretary Tam and the worst spot to Secretary Leong. Not a big gap though, so no hard feelings! Nonetheless, a second spending cut may be in the pipeline.

Finally, to close this brief encounter with the shortening of the casinos chiffre d'affaires, we would like to recall's CLSA Hong Kong gaming analyst Aaron Fischer main concern about the industry: "The Galaxy expansion hasn't grown the market to the extent that we expected."

Fresh ideas are now badly needed to address the "problem" of 20 thousand more new hotel rooms being built or already in the planning stage. Although an absurdity, one could bet visitors will arrive in waves to see that 391-meter footbridge now installed at the Istmo Roundabout. Walking in circles is suggestive of a spinning wheel.

Anyway, the gaming industry long overcame its rude awakening... but it is comforting to know that the adjustment is ongoing to the new realities left behind by those carpet baggers selling holy water.

Note one: Regarding the immediate future of the MSAR's casino industry, Desmond Lam, the author of "Chopsticks and Gambling," probably got it right: everything will remain the same. However, it takes work to achieve that same same but different!

Note two: In the meantime, the true democrats surrounding Jason Chao – on his way to accusing old democrats Ng Kwok Cheong and Au Kam San of becoming a split runway faction – are voicing their concerns about Personal Data Protection and on the upcoming extradition treaty between Macau and Hong Kong.

THE YOUNG MIGRANTS APPLAUDED
BUZZ BY 75,000 FANS

Young migrants accompanied Bayern Munich players onto the pitch and took center stage to the applause of 75,000 fans before a Bundesliga game on Saturday. The players each held hands with a German child on one side and a migrant child on the other for what the club described as "a symbol

for the integration of refugees." Some of the kids waved shyly to the crowd, while others simply soaked it all in, the culmination of trips fraught with danger. The children, whose nationalities were not disclosed, were applauded by fans of Bayern and opponent Augsburg alike.

Catalan separatists rally in Barcelona to secede from Spain

Joseph Wilson, Alan Clendenning, Barcelona

HUNDREDS of thousands of separatist-minded Catalans swarmed Barcelona on Friday, giving enthusiastic backing to independence advocates who are hoping to elect a majority of secessionists in the regional parliamentary election this month.

The campaign for the Sept. 27 ballot began on the same day as the Catalan National Day holiday, which separatists have used for years to rally hundreds of thousands to call for the creation of a new European nation.

Barcelona police estimated that almost 1.4 million people participated but the Spanish Interior Ministry said the demonstration attracted between 520,000 and 550,000 protesters.

The top candidate on a list representing a block of pro-independence parties told reporters that separatists wanted to stage an independence referendum so Catalonia's voters could directly express their sentiment.

But since the central government in Madrid refused, "the only way we can know what the people want is to use the elections on the 27th," said the candidate, Raul Romeva.

Pro-independence parties need 68 seats in the 135-member parliament to push forward their agenda. Polls show them on track to win a slim majority.

Independence backers say a win would give the lawmakers a mandate to start drafting a Catalan constitution and attempt secession negotiations with the central government.

A unilateral declaration of independence for the highly industrialized northeastern region, which has a population of 7.5 million and about 18 percent of Spain's economic output, could be made by



A man applauds with a pro-independence Catalan flag known as the Estelada flag tied to his neck during an electoral rally for the Catalan regional elections in Barcelona, Spain

the parliament by 2017, separatists say.

"I am willing to go to the end of this process if we have the majority of seats in parliament," said Artur Mas, Catalonia's regional leader. But Mas said independence aspirations must be put on hold if backers fail to win a majority in the regional parliament.

The central government in Madrid has consistently insisted that independence for the region is unconstitutional. Spanish officials have also said they won't let citizens who live in Catalonia be stripped of their Spanish citizenship.

Deputy Prime Minister Soraya Saenz de Santamaria told reporters Friday that a regional parliamentary majority for separatists won't help them pull the region away, because Spain's autonomous regions don't have the legal power to do so.

Polls have shown Catalans overwhelmingly support the right for a secession referendum but are evenly divided over whether they actually want the region to be independent. Polls show they are against it if it means a Catalan state would be outside the 28-nation European Union.

Protester Noelia Godoy, 25, a transportation company worker, said she would vote for a pro-independence party because she believes Catalonia doesn't get back what it

pays in taxes.

"(We) have our own language, a culture, customs. We share many things (with Spain), but there are other very different things. We feel like a nation and that's why we want to be independent," Godoy said.

Carme Sanchez, a 54-year-old warehouse worker, arrived in Barcelona with a pro-independence flag from the town of Torello.

She used to be against independence but changed her mind after the central government would not allow Catalans to hold a secession referendum like the one last year in Scotland, when Scottish voters rejected breaking away from the United Kingdom.

"I thought that all of us, Spain and Catalonia, could live freely together," she said. "But ... the party that now governs us has made me turn pro-independence because even though the Catalan people want to vote on independence, they are always saying no."

Catalans who favor maintaining centuries-old ties with the rest of Spain have yet to hold any significant pro-union rallies. Some complain that the Catalan National Day has morphed from a patriotic celebration like July 4th in the United States into an annual political rally for separatists.

Isabel Coixet, a film director from Barcelona, wrote in Spain's leading El Pais newspaper Friday that she counted herself among Catalans who don't want independence and are secure in their double identity of being both Catalan and Spanish.

"We are those Catalans who are extremely bored by independence and everything it means," said Coixet. "The idea of Spain doesn't repulse us, but it doesn't enthrall us either." AP



People wave "Estelada" flags, that symbolize Catalonia's independence, during a demonstration calling for Catalan independence

Station	Air quality
Roadside	50-70 Moderate
High Density Residential Area	95-125 Bad
Ambient	90-120 Bad

SOURCE: DSI/MG

WORLD BRIEFS



USA A growing divide has emerged in the Republican Party's unruly presidential contest, as the race bid farewell to a once-powerful contender. On one side stands billionaire businessman Donald Trump and his allies, on the other are those who oppose him. A day after Rick Perry, Texas' longest-serving governor, ended his second Republican presidential run with a whimper, Trump marked the shake-up by embracing his role as his party's 2016 bully on Saturday.

USA An explosive wildfire raced across several rural communities in Northern California, charring more than 155 square kilometers over a matter of hours, chasing thousands of people from their homes and sending four firefighters to the hospital with second-degree burns.

THAILAND The good news for the Chinese visitor to Bangkok was that a doctor had successfully removed a foreign object from her large intestine that could have damaged her digestive system. The bad news: It was a 10 million baht (USD278,000) diamond the woman was accused of stealing from a jewelry fair, adding a piece of rock-hard evidence to the case against her.



UK A veteran anti-war campaigner known for his unapologetically socialist views has won a landslide victory to lead Britain's opposition Labour Party – an outcome that delighted supporters and dismayed others who never imagined he could be elected. The overwhelming support for far-left lawmaker Jeremy Corbyn, 66, was one of the biggest shake-ups in British politics in decades.

YEMEN's internationally recognized president will not participate in U.N.-brokered talks later this week with Shiite rebels who control the capital and much of the country's north, his office said yesterday.