



COUTO LEADING SUPER GT
Currently leading the Japanese Super GT Championship, local driver André Couto has big expectations for the Macau GP
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"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN'"

WORLD BRIEFS

SRI LANKA The U.N.'s top human rights official is urging the creation of a special court to look into atrocities committed during Sri Lanka's long civil war, which left tens of thousands dead.
More on p12

INDIA As India's capital struggles with its worst outbreak of dengue fever in five years, officials threaten to cancel private hospitals' licenses if they turn away patients.

AFGHANISTAN Taliban insurgents say the family of late Taliban leader Mullah Mohammad Omar has announced their support for Mullah Akhtar Mohammad Mansour as his successor.

NEPAL A set of small explosions at two churches and a police station lead Nepal to step up security amid parliamentary voting on a new constitution that has sparked weeks of protests and left more than 40 people dead.



AUSTRALIA New Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull says more women will be included in his first Cabinet to be sworn in Monday.

AUSTRALIA The Australian government says it will pass a law that would withhold child care and other payments from families that fail to immunize their children.

PHILIPPINES A popular Philippine senator and adopted daughter of one of the country's most famous movie couples announces she will run in next year's presidential election.

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Dore investors enraged by junket heist

■ Gaming stocks rebound in HK

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Malaysian police fire water cannons at pro-government protesters

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Couto (2nd from right) celebrates with teammates

Q&A ANDRÉ COUTO
LOCAL MOTOR RACING DRIVER

‘I’m leading and I want to keep that position’

AS the door opens on the sixth round of the Super GT – GT300 Championship, to be raced this weekend in Sugo Japan, we talked with Macau driver André Couto about his achievements this season and his expectations for the coming 62nd Macau Grand Prix in November. The local driver currently leads the Japanese Super GT Championship.

Macau Daily Times (MDT) – So far we have seen 5 rounds of the Super GT Championship, how is the competition running so far?

André Couto (AC) – The championship this year is running quite well, the team is good and the car is great. I’m very pleased to be racing with Gainer, they have a good project and the results are showing that, too.

MDT – You are currently occupying poll position in both the drivers’ and teams’ rankings – what has been your biggest achievement

so far this year?

AC – Well, I’m currently first with a 15 point margin between myself and second place, who is in fact my teammate Katsumasa Chiyo, and 29 points ahead of the third, who is also

ted, the competition is fierce and it’s very rare for someone to win more than one race per year. I think our biggest achievement so far has been winning two races, whose victories happened exactly in the

All of the races draw huge crowds of fans that really follow with interest

another of my teammates in Gainer (Ryuichiro Tomita). So I can say that my most direct opponents are Kazuki Hoshino and Mitsunori Takaboshi, both with 38 points (-31 points). I can say that this gives me a certain amount of confidence but in the Super GTs nothing can be taken for gran-

most difficult rounds, which are the 500km section in Fuji and the 1000km in Suzuka, where I also achieved a personal milestone, my 100th race in Super GT. I’m very pleased with these results.

MDT – What can we anticipate for the coming three rounds before the end of the championship?

AC – It is very difficult to make any accurate predictions. I’m leading and I want to keep that position and will work for that. At this moment I think the best strategy is not to think too much about the final rankings but to focus on

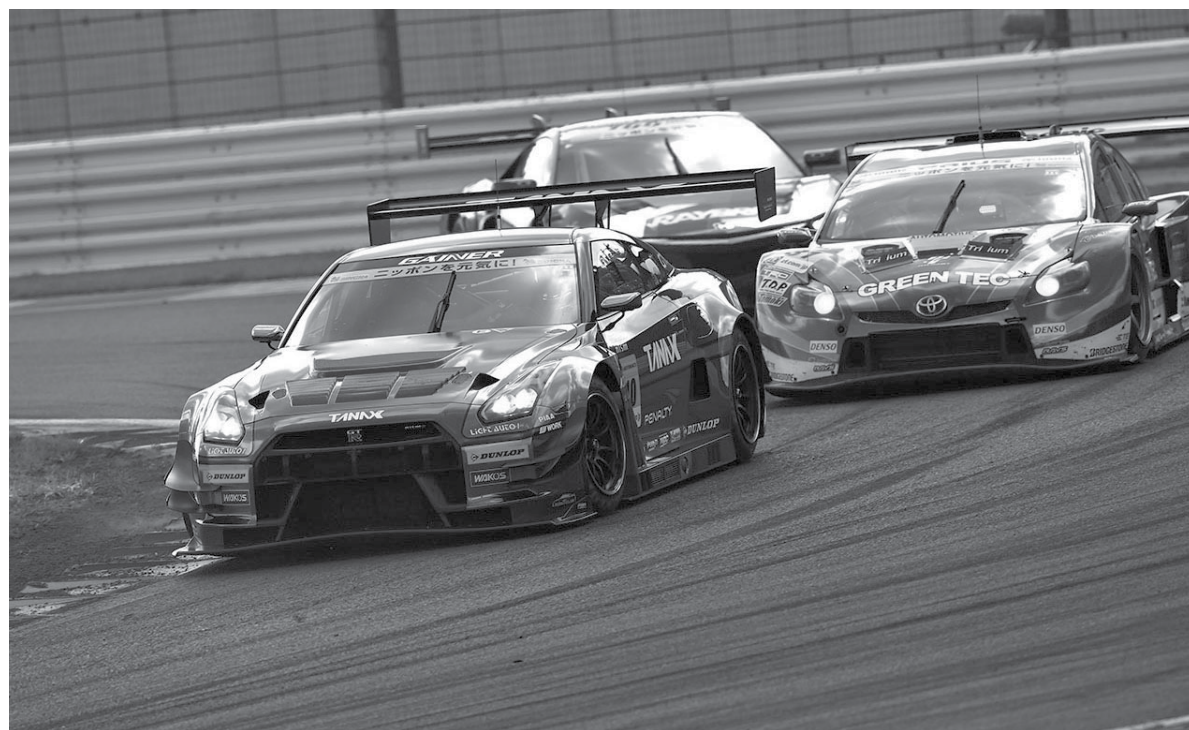
each race one at a time, trying to do the best in all of them. Naturally I’ll try to avoid heavy contacts and risky moves that might put me out of the race as much as possible, but that is always the theory when we are out of the car. Once the helmet is on what matters is the race and the best performance possible. Regarding this next race in Sugo, the team was there before for practice and I have got the second best time. The only difference for the race will be that I will carry a lot of ballast in the car, but still I’m hopeful for a good result.

MDT – How do you see your next season? Do you plan on continuing with the Super GTs?

AC – My wish is definitely to continue racing in the Super GT Championship, it is an amazing championship, probably the best in world in this category and the ambience and the fans are really great. All of the races draw huge crowds of fans that really follow with interest and know almost as much as we do about our performances. It is really special and a privilege to race in this championship.

MDT – Will you take part in this year’s edition of the Macau Grand Prix?

AC – At this moment I cannot reveal any details yet, but I can say that I have been talking with a few teams. The final agreement has not been signed yet but I can reveal that I will be racing in the Macau Grand Prix this year and that I will be in the line-up of the Macau GT World Cup. **RM**



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Junket fraud case may amount to at least HKD330 million

THE Judiciary Police (PJ) is investigating complaints from several parties including a junket operator on funds they were cheated out of, amounting to HKD330 million (USD43 million), spokesmen confirmed when asked about the Wynn Resorts Ltd. junket theft.

Apart from the junket operator Dore Entertainment, 30 other people including from Macau and mainland China have filed complaints. Authorities are probing areas including the use of blank cheques and breach of trust, according to the police statement, without naming the junket or casino involved.

The sum was less than previous speculation that put the total as high as USD258 million. Some individuals have indicated they lost money with Dore Entertainment, an independent company that operates high-end gambling rooms at the Wynn Macau casino, Grant Govertsen, an analyst at Union Gaming Group, wrote in a research note Tuesday, citing local police. Some also protested in front of the property over the weekend.



Dore Group investors petition outside China's liaison office in Macau

News of the loss prompted a drop in Wynn Resorts shares last week, as analysts and investors speculated the incident may reduce the amount of money Dore and other junket

operators have to lend to their customers. The shares have recovered the past two days, gaining 2.8 percent Tuesday to close at \$70.35 in New York. Wynn Macau gained yesterday

4.2 percent to HK\$10.90 in Hong Kong, joining a rebound of the gaming stocks led by Galaxy (+6.3%) and Sands China (+4.7%).

Wynn Resorts has said it di-

dn't lose any money and isn't owed any by Dore, while Govertsen wrote that the losses will probably be limited to the junket operator and its investors. Wynn, based in Las Vegas, said in an e-mail it hadn't heard any concrete numbers.

Dore confirmed last week that a former employee had stolen money from the company and said it filed a police report. The company's VIP rooms at Wynn were still operating as usual, Govertsen wrote.

Junket operators have played a major role in turning Macau into the largest gambling hub in the world. They bring high-rollers from the mainland to the casinos and lend them money to play, a critical role in a market where money transfers and debt collection are restricted. **MDT/Bloomberg**

Dore Group investors petition liaison office

Aries Un

ROUGHLY 30 enraged Dore Group investors petitioned outside China's liaison office in Macau yesterday afternoon following the protestors' failed efforts to initiate a dialogue with the junket over possible losses.

The petitioners chanted slogans, accusing Wynn Macau of collusion with the junket over the embezzlement.

In spite of a statement released by Wynn Macau dismissing any role in the case, the protesters firmly asserted that the episode was actually a result of a "conspiracy" involving both companies.

"They too are partners with the profits shared every quarter. Wynn Macau is even the biggest shareholder," claimed the picketers representative, surnamed Chan. Nearly all of the protesters were wearing shades and surgical masks.

The protester claimed that he invested more than HKD20 million into the troubled junket operator's account.

The investors' attempt to pressure the two groups through the authorities started on Tuesday at the same time, when they appealed for an intervention at the government headquarters.

"Many people here are locals, while others are our mainland compatriots," said the representative, referring to the petitioners. "I hope the government can help us get back our hard-earned money."

Last Saturday evening, an initial protest was staged outside the gaming operator's property after news of the theft surfaced days ago. The investors demanded an immediate response from the Dore Group, which, they pro-



The representative of the protesters, surnamed Chan, was interviewed wearing a mask and sunglasses

fessed, has been stonewalling over the issue.

Asked if he previously considered the possible risks associated with such a barely regulated investment model, Chan dodged the issue but kept raising the question of how the authorities should be responsible for their plight given their role as concession granter.

Furthermore, he expressed his anger at the government for its poor oversight over the junket operation inside casinos.

Alongside the petitioners was lawmaker Pereira Coutinho, who was also with the crowd for the Tuesday petition. Coutinho said that the episode laid bare the Gaming Inspection and Coordination Bureau's inability to live up to its role in supervising the gaming industry. "The government has long neglected works to close loopholes and optimize its oversight," he said.

As of yesterday, the government was yet to comment on the ongoing dispute.

US trade union links mainland enterprises to junket groups

THE International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE), based in the United States, says it has identified enterprises in mainland China that have been set up by individuals linked to Macau junket groups.

On its website - Macau Gaming Watch - the U.S. trade union released comprising a catalogue of 29 companies based in mainland Chinese cities, including Zhuhai, Shenzhen and Beijing. The list also includes 29 companies established in Hong Kong.

The trade union said in a press statement that many of the companies are involved in the financial lending and investment consulting sectors.

"A set of Beijing-based companies linked to the 'Cui' family behind Macau's Heng Sheng junket group operate as jewelry, pawnshop and loan outfits," the union stated. IUOE added that the list also includes companies controlled by Macau's most influential junket groups, such as SunCity Group, David Group, Tak Chun Group and Meg-Star International.

"We are aware of no

existing research efforts to systematically identify the corporate assets of Macau's junket operators in the Chinese mainland and other locations outside of Macau. This list represents, we believe, the first glimpse of junket interests to scale inside of China," said IUOE representative Jeff Fielder in a statement.

Mr Fielder believes that the list, compiled by IUOE, could serve as a good starting point for government agencies in China, the United States and other jurisdictions who wish to further scrutinize Macau's junket networks, probing their corporate infrastructures and their ability to handle cross-border capital movement.

The trade union said that it also sent copies of the list to the Chinese Communist Party's Central Commission for Discipline Inspection, as well as to government agencies in Macau and the United States.

Last week, Wynn Macau spearheaded declines in Macau gaming stocks after an analyst's report revealed that a junket group operating out of the company's

casino in the city lost millions of Hong Kong dollars due to embezzlement. The junket group Dore later confirmed it had been the victim of internal fraud committed by a former employee.

The IUOE, which represents some Wynn employees, called for greater transparency from casino companies regarding their dealings with junket operators, Bloomberg reported.

"What should be troubling to investors in casino stocks is that casinos don't disclose to the public what junkets they're doing business with," Mr Fielder explained in an e-mail. Casino revenue could be affected if Dore has trouble raising money from lenders to provide credit for gamblers, he added.

"This lack of transparency makes it impossible right now for investors to adequately assess risk in Macau casinos," he stated. He concluded by saying, "If the shareholding public had access to better information, then there may not be these confused market panics like what we saw this past week." **CP**

MGTO attends UNWTO assembly in Columbia

The 21st Session of the UNWTO General Assembly is being held at Medellín, the second largest city in Colombia, from September 12-17. Macau is being represented by the deputy director of the Macau Government Tourist Office (MGTO), Cheng Wai Tong, who will attend the assembly and the related activities.

Cable TV compensation paid

The government said that it respects a court verdict and has already paid MOP200 million in compensation to Macau Cable TV. In July, the Court of Second Instance confirmed the ruling of the Administrative Court, as the authorities were found to have failed in carrying out their duties to prevent public antenna firms from retransmitting copyright-protected TV signals.

Legal experts call for improvements to junket regulations

Catarina Pinto

LEGAL experts Fernando Vitória and Óscar Madureira, who on Tuesday launched a book entitled "Gambling Law in Macau," believe that the city's gaming laws remain up to date, but also that regulations on junket promoters could be improved.

Speaking on the sidelines of the book launch at the Rui Cunha Foundation, Mr Vitória said that junkets, who act as middlemen for high rollers, should work under an Ethics Code.

"There are obviously aspects that could be perfected, namely regarding junkets. There's indeed a need to have more up-to-date regulations, or even the drafting of an ethics code for [junket] professionals," he told reporters.

Mr Vitória clarified that such an ethics code should be a document drafted specifically for junket professionals that could also be ratified by the government. "The government could participate in its drafting, but



Fernando Vitória, Rui Cunha (center) and Óscar Madureira

should outline something for the junkets. All professions have an ethics code, which is equally or sometimes even more important that current legislation in force," he added.

Mr Vitória, who serves as the legal adviser to the Macau Gaming Inspection and Coordination Bureau, stressed that Macau's gambling law and regulations remain up to date, but could be subject to improvements, namely when it comes to the means by which junkets access funding sources.

"[Regarding junkets] There's a couple of things that could be improved. One aspect that could be perfected relates to how the

law foresees access to funding sources that they need. With an economic downturn, there's a need to safeguard that aspect, ensuring that they're not left without regular funding sources – for instance, access to the stock exchange," he recalled.

The co-author of the book, Óscar Madureira, shares a similar opinion, stating that current legislation could be improved to better regulate junkets.

"But of course the framework of that improvement needs to be thoroughly assessed, as it's better not to amend [a law] at all than making bad amendments," he recalled.

Mr Madureira acknowledged

that the gaming promoters' financing scheme is a pressing issue.

A junket group operating out of Wynn's casino in Macau may have lost as much as HKD2 billion from embezzlement, Bloomberg reported last week. The case has sparked controversy and furthered debate regarding junket regulation.

The junket operator Dore, which acts as a middleman for high rollers, has confirmed that it has been the victim of internal fraud by a former employee.

Asked if Macau's gaming middlemen industry is particularly vulnerable to fraud and money-laundering, Madureira said, "This type of crime could be perpetrated within any professional activity, be it banking, a shop, a restaurant (...)."

The "Gambling Law in Macau" book is available in Portuguese, and, according to Mr Vitória, was intended to assist not only legal professionals, but also anyone looking for information on gaming regulations in an accessible compilation.

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EDUCATION

IFT and HKU sign cooperation agreement

THE Institute for Tourism Studies (IFT) signed a cooperation agreement with the University of Hong Kong's Faculty of Architecture on Tuesday, seeking to enhance students' knowledge and learning experiences.

IFT said in a statement that it hopes to promote further international academic exchange opportunities through this agreement. Student exchange programs are a key



IFT's president Fanny Vong signed the cooperation agreement with the HKU's dean of the Faculty of Architecture, Chris Webster.

part of the arrangement. The institute said that other forms of cooperation will be put into motion between the division of Architectural Conservation Programs at HKU's Faculty of Architecture and IFT's Bachelor of Sciences in Heritage Management program.

IFT said that the agreement is part of the institute's celebratory events to mark both its 20th anniversary and the Heritage Management program's

tenth anniversary.

In a statement, IFT stressed that the University of Hong Kong "is a renowned higher education institution with a long history," adding that "in addition to providing a high quality of tourism education, IFT has been expanding its global network, in order to enhance its level of internationalization."

The institute said that it maintains close partnerships with 85 institutions and tourism organizations from 27 countries and regions. IFT said that such a policy enables students to enroll in exchange programs abroad for at least one semester, as well as to take part in overseas internship programs for six months. **CP**

DSPA pledges to open wastewater treatment plant tender

THE Environmental Protection Bureau (DSPA) has pledged to open a public tender for the industrial park's wastewater treatment plant operation service following the expiration of the current contract.

On Monday, it was announced that the consortium Waterleau-ATAL was granted a new contract, which would enable the company to continue providing maintenance and operation services in the Wastewater Treatment Plant of the Concordia Industrial Park. From 2015 until 2016, the government will pay Waterleau-ATAL a total of MOP3.2 million.

DSPA told Radio Macau that awarding a new contract to the consortium was in the public's best interests, as this would therefore ensure that the service will no longer be disrupted.

The bureau said that the new contract's conditions and rules are similar to those featured in the previous contract.

The next contract, said DSPA, will be awarded through a public tender, in order to choose "a qualified operator."

One of Waterleau's contracts was under investigation during the corruption case involving Macau's former Secretary for Transport and Public Works, Ao Man Long.

CRIME

Elderly man knocked unconscious after anti-smoking comment

A local senior citizen was struck unconscious by two men on Tuesday afternoon inside a Chinese teahouse near the Cinema Alegria after he tried to convince them not to smoke.

The 66-year-old victim was consuming a meal inside the non-smoking

café with his daughter at around 5 p.m. while the aggressors, whose identities remained unknown, were smoking at another table.

The victim's daughter told the police that the aged man merely reminded the pair of the anti-smoking sign, but was

met with a squabble that escalated into physical violence against him.

Angered by his alleged "friendly remarks", one of the men grabbed a bottle and struck it across the victim's head, resulting in extensive bleeding. He was immediately rushed to the hospital and regained consciousness that night after medical treatment.

The bloody scene prompted immediate shock among other teahouse patrons, while the attackers escaped the scene. A probe is currently underway and no arrests have been made.

AD

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Facebook ready to test 'dislike' button



Facebook may finally be getting a button that lets you quickly express something beyond a "like." Founder and CEO

Mark Zuckerberg said Tuesday that people have been asking for a "dislike" button on the social media site for years. Speaking at an event at Facebook's Menlo Park, California, headquarters that was streamed live online, Zuckerberg acknowledged that "like" isn't always appropriate for some posts — about a tragic news event, for example — when people might want to express empathy. Zuckerberg said the company, however, has veered away from making a "dislike" button, which could be used to vote down other people's posts. He said the new button is ready to be tested soon and could be rolled out broadly depending on how it does.

Spanish owner of Zara posts 26 pct rise in half-year profit



The Spanish owner of the Zara clothing store chain says profit for the first half of 2015 rose 26 percent, boosted by growth in all its markets around the world. Inditex Group said in a statement yesterday that profit for the January-June period was 1.2 billion euros (USD1.4 billion). Revenue for the period was 9.4 billion euros (\$10.6 billion), up 17 percent compared with the same six months last year. Inditex says it opened new stores in 35 markets during the first six months of the year, lifting its total store count to 6,777 in 85 markets. The company says more than 10,000 jobs were added and about a quarter of them were in Spain. Inditex shares were up 3.1 percent yesterday morning in Madrid.

HP to jettison up to 30,000 jobs as part of spinoff

Michael Liedtke, Technology Writer, San Francisco

HEWLETT-PACKARD Co. is preparing to shed up to another 30,000 jobs as the Silicon Valley pioneer launches into a new era in the same cost-cutting mode that has marred much of its recent history.

The purge announced Tuesday will occur within the newly formed Hewlett Packard Enterprise, a bundle of technology divisions focused on software, consulting and data analysis that is splitting off from the company's personal computer and printing operations.

The spinoff is scheduled to be completed by the end of next month, dooming 25,000 to 30,000 jobs within HP Enterprise. The target means 10 to 12 percent of the 252,000 workers joining HP Enterprise will lose their jobs as part of the company's effort to reduce its expenses by USD2 billion annually.

Roughly 50,000 workers will remain at HP Inc., which become the new name for the company retaining the PC and printer operations.

The cuts expand upon austerity measures that HP has been pursuing for years to offset the damage caused by acquisitions that haven't panned out and a technological shift from PCs to mobile devices that reduced demand for many of the company's key products.

HP has already jettisoned 55,000 jobs during past few years under CEO Meg Whit-



An exterior view of Hewlett-Packard Co. headquarters in Palo Alto, Calif.

man, who will be the leader of spun-off HP Enterprise. In an illustration of how far HP has fallen, its job cuts are being made while many other technology companies better positioned to take advantage of the mobile evolution have been on hiring sprees.

For instance, Google's workforce has swelled by 25,000 employees, or 77 percent, during the past four years.

HP's layoffs have been demoralizing blow to a company that provided a template for future Silicon Valley entrepreneurs when William Hewlett and David Packard founded it 76 years ago in a Palo Alto, California, garage. Hewlett and Packard later embraced an employee-friendly philosophy that became known as the "HP Way."

Things began to change at the outset of this century under former CEO Carly Fiorina, now a candidate for the Republican Party's nomination in the 2016 race for president. Fiorina engineered a \$25 billion acquisition of PC maker Compaq that angered many shareholders, including heirs of the company's founders. She cut more than 30,000 jobs before she was fired a decade ago.

Fiorina's successor, Mark Hurd, also lowered expenses through much of his tenure and orchestrated an acquisition of technology consultants EDS that many analysts believe did more harm than good. Hurd stepped down in 2010 in a dispute over his expenses and his involvement with an HP contractor.

Despite the upheaval, HP remains one of the world's biggest technology companies. HP Enterprise expects to have more than \$50 billion in annual revenue.

Whitman is touting the splintering of HP as a way to breathe new life into two companies that will be better suited to innovate in their own product areas and take care of their customers.

HP Enterprise focuses primarily on businesses and government agencies, while the PC and printing divisions depend on the consumer market for a significant chunk of their revenue.

"Hewlett Packard Enterprise will be smaller and more focused than HP is today," Whitman promised in a Tuesday statement. **AP**

corporate bits

MGM PRESENTS MACAU'S FIRST 'RED MANSION FEAST' IN OCTOBER

This October, MGM's two signature Chinese restaurants will collaborate with Yechun Teahouse, a century-old restaurant in Yangzhou, in preparing a Huaiyang Feast and an inaugural Red Mansion Feast in Macau featuring cooperation between chefs from Yangzhou and MGM's chefs.

The hotel is introducing Huaiyang cuisine to locals and tourists alike. This year marks the 2,500th anniversary of Yangzhou City, and makes the perfect occasion to celebrate the city's heritage with its culinary offerings. The cuisine is known of its use of fresh seafood and seasonal ingredients, while also putting emphasis on the



carving skills. Most dishes are paired with clear broths, consommé and dumplings

which are light in taste with a lingering aroma.

In addition to signature Huaiyang dishes, MGM is introducing a Red Mansion Feast to Macau. The Feast is a recreation of different banquets described in details in the "Dreams of the Red Mansion", one of the four great classical novels in China. Following years of research, investigation, analysis of historical documents and ancient recipes by top Huaiyang chefs and a number of historians, the "Red Mansion Feast" combines the costume, stories, music and dishes described in the novel to take guests back in time to the bygone Qing dynasty. For optimum guest experience, the Red Mansion Feast is limited to four tables per night and reservation is required.

LAS VEGAS SANDS TO BUILD 200,000 HYGIENE KITS WITH CLEAN THE WORLD



Las Vegas Sands Corp. and international non-profit Clean the World are holding a 24-hour global volunteer effort to build 200,000 hygiene kits that will improve the health and well being of vulnerable populations worldwide. The company is calling on the Macau community to join Sands

China team members at The Venetian Macao's Cotai Expo from 2-9 p.m. on Sept. 26.

The Las Vegas Sands Global Hygiene Build with Clean the World will be both organizations' largest volunteer effort to date. The build will be held at LVS' Singapore, Macau, Bethlehem and Las

Vegas properties sequentially and all within a 24-hour period. The effort is part of LVS's global corporate citizenship program, Sands Cares, and its ongoing partnership with Clean the World.

"For the first time ever, Las Vegas Sands properties are joining in a single and united Sands Cares event to help communities across the globe," said Ron Reese, senior vice president of corporate communications at LVS. "This global kit build with Clean the World will help thousands of impoverished and homeless people who can't afford or lack access to simple basics like soap or shampoo — including those in need in our local communities. These kits help prevent disease and promote good health and dignity."

Daiwa: China risks financial crisis

Robert Carroll, Hong Kong
MDT Correspondent

WHILE the world waits anxiously for the Fed to raise interest rates (or not) this week and the memory of China's recent stock market crashes and yuan devaluation remains fresh, Daiwa predicts worse is to come for the world's second largest economy.

"The debate right now is not between the soft landing or the hard landing; it is not relevant anymore. The debate should be between a hard landing or a possible financial crisis in China," analyst Kevin Lai said.

Mr Lai, who has a bearish track record for accurate prediction, sees an ever-strengthening US dollar, over-leveraged China debt - as well the tapering off of the US's quantitative easing and money outflows from the mainland - reasons to believe China must allow the yuan to come down significantly more. If not, there will be two grim "end game scenarios". The first: staunchly defending the yuan "will be hugely deflationary". The second, printing money to avoid a credit crunch, could bring the currency "down quite massively possibly 30 to 40% - a currency crisis."

Lai estimates the probability of the last two outcomes at around 30% each. He believes the possibility of the first scenario is 40%, where the yuan is allowed a lightly controlled float down. "I believe the government will try to manage an orderly downward adjustment. There will be some intervention from time to time. He added, "In that case there will be some monetary easing,



A Chinese investor monitors stock prices at a brokerage house in Beijing this week

some further interest and reserve ratio cuts; the pace could not be too rapid but here won't be any massive stimulus program because the PBOC cannot do that under that scenario." Meanwhile, "the government quietly tightens capital controls." The choice is very clear. If China wants to counteract inflation as well as recession it has to ignore the currency and start to be more aggressive on its monetary policy.

Lai warns that under the se-

cond end game scenario where "lines in the sand" are drawn, he argues, 6.40 yuan and 7.40 to the dollar, "of course if they try to defend it, it will be painful; it will be costly." This because BOP surpluses indicate the quantity of US dollars converted into yuan over time between the inter currency rates of 6.40-7.20 and 7.40-8.30 to the dollar would lead to where the majority of long covering is found: "Most of the CNY (yuan) longs (USD1,740 billion and USD 1.293 billion) respectively "are concentrated in these two ranges".

If the first line of defense at 6.40 "is broken we would expect more aggressive CNY long covering and any FX intervention would be a lot more difficult and costly". He added that the "PBOC will sell the US dollar; the treasury to defend it, leading to massive money or credit contraction... little currency depreciation but the effects will be severe, will be a domestic credit crisis". If the second rate defending point at 7.40 is breached, "we would expect even more covering. By then FX reserves would have run down and any further intervention would be a lot more difficult and costly". If however the 6.40 to the dollar is successfully defended, "the rest of the world should be OK because (they) will be happy to see the yuan

staying at 6.40".

Going back to the other end game scenario that Daiwa considers undesirable, "By printing money and taking interest rates down to zero to protect the monetary base" and thereby "save credit" China, along with "massive fiscal stimulus, a lot of bailouts a lot of bank

■ The Chinese economy has become vulnerable because of the stronger dollar and the likelihood of Fed interest rate hikes

recapitalization, will ignore the currency. But "it will not just be down by 5 to 10%, it will down quite massively possibly 30 to 40%, a currency crisis. In fact many emerging markets' economies in the past have chosen this scenario." In that case, the cost of fallout looks like "the rest of the world will be in a state of shock because the pressure will be on

everybody else".

According to Daiwa the Chinese economy has become vulnerable because of the stronger US dollar and the likelihood of Fed interest rate hikes. While the dollar had been allowed to fall to help American exporters and the economy recover from the global financial crisis of 2007-8 there have been many calls in the US to normalize interest rates from an unhealthy, prolonged - and artificial - historic rock bottom. Excessive liquidity and easy credit has spread around the globe in terms of unsustainable leveraged debt. That will be a "big problem" when rate hikes come said Lai.

"If somebody's leverage is ten times 1%, increase in interest rates will be about 10%. The world outside the US has over USD9 trillion leverage up from 3 trillion ten years ago. China's leveraged debt according to Lai is far more that usually estimated "close to \$US3trillion, 3 trillion leverage compared to 3.5 trillion in foreign reserves, the balance is already quite tight".

He added the underestimation stems from "hidden" debt being taken out in Hong Kong, Singapore and the Cayman Islands as well as in the EU on behalf of China and Chinese companies, not included in regular assessments.



Kevin Lai, analyst, Daiwa



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Fosun looks for new deals in Portugal

CHINESE group Fosun International, one of the candidates for the purchase of Novo Banco, said that Portugal “continues to show growth prospects and very interesting investments,” according to a statement issued in Lisbon.

“Fosun therefore remains committed, not only to develop and support existing investments, but also to seeking out new investment opportunities in Portugal,” said the Chinese group in a statement cited by the Portuguese press.

Reacting to the report issued by the Portuguese central bank that announced the end of the sales process of Novo Banco, the group claimed to understand and accept, without reservation, the decision of the Bank of Portugal, “guided by the need to reduce uncertainty about the bank’s capital needs.” It also noted, “the high level of professionalism,



Billionaire Guo Guangchang, chairman and chief executive officer of Fosun Group, pauses during an interview in New York, U.S.

transparency and rigour demonstrated by the teams of the Bank of Portugal and Novo Banco.”

The Bank of Portugal also announced that it wants to resume the sales process after the main

factors of uncertainty concerning Novo Banco are taken out of the equation. According to sources cited by the press a new sales process is expected to be launched in late 2015 or early 2016. **MDT/Macauhub**

ANGOLA

Emirates airlines takes over Taag management

THE four executive directors appointed by Emirates airlines to serve on the board of the Angolan flagship air carrier Taag arrived Sunday in Luanda, reported Angolan National Radio (RNA).

The Chairman of the Board of Directors of Taag, Joaquim Cunha, told the radio station that the new executive directors should take office soon, under the terms of an agreement signed in Dubai in 2014 between the government of Angola and Emirates.

Under the agreement Emirates will appoint the Chairman of the Board of Directors of TAAG and three executive directors, of a total of nine members, but day to day management will be carried out by an Executive Committee composed of the executive directors appointed by Emirates for the commercial, operational, financial and administrative departments.

Speaking to RNA, Cunha ruled out the possibility of redundancies at Taag following the instatement of the new directors of the national flagship airline, although he acknowledged that the company has a large number of workers. **MDT/Macauhub**



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“ THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN’ ”

CORRUPTION
Officials warned over 'dark side of the moon cake'



Chinese officials have been warned not to succumb to the dark side of the moon cake festival, also known as the Mid-Autumn Festival, and break frugality rules. The frugality campaign prohibits officials from accepting luxury gifts or using public money to fund trips or banquets. In addition, government departments are banned from distributing bonuses in name of holiday celebrations. These rules will be a priority in the next few weeks, said Huang Shuxian, deputy head of the Central Commission for Discipline Inspection (CCDI) at a meeting yesterday. The CCDI is encouraging the public to inform on any wrongdoing, and promised severe punishment to anyone found to have breached its rulings, Huang said. This year's Mid-Autumn Festival falls on Sept. 27, three days ahead of the week-long National Day holiday.

92 kindergartners hospitalized after fire

More than 100 people, mostly children, have been hospitalized following a fire at a flower shop in Fujian Province, east China, yesterday. The fire broke out around 11:27 a.m. in Juchi Plaza commercial complex in Ningde City. Firefighters and residents rescued all the children attending a kindergarten on the second floor of the building, however, many sustained injuries. Witnesses reported seeing hundreds of people crowding the site of the incident at around 3 p.m. and all the windows of the kindergarten had been smashed. People flocked to help the rescuers, according to Liu, a witness. "Several children were dropped out of the windows into the arms of people on the ground below," he said. A total of 104 people - 92 children and 12 adults - were taken to hospital. All are in stable conditions. The fire was extinguished by midday.

Party probes official at stock regulator after market rout

A senior official at China's securities regulator has been placed under investigation in the latest step authorities have taken to punish those they say contributed to a USD5 trillion stock rout.

Zhang Yujun, an assistant chairman for the China Securities Regulatory Commission, is being investigated for "severe disciplinary violations," the Communist Party's top disciplinary body said in a statement on its website. Zhang, 52, is one of three assistant chairmen at the CSRC and previously served as general manager of both the Shanghai and Shenzhen stock exchanges.

The statement by the Central Commission for Discipline Inspection provided no details on the nature of the investigation. The CSRC declined to comment.

The investigation comes as the government vows measures against "malicious" short sellers and attempts to "purify" capital markets. On Tuesday, authorities announced a probe into Cheng Boming, the president of Citic Securities Co., China's biggest brokerage, over allegations of "insider trading."

"The government is sending a strong signal," said Ronald

XINHUA



China's Securities Regulatory Commission assistant chairman Zhang Yujun gives an address at a forum in Rio de Janeiro, August 2012

Chan, chief executive at Partners Capital International in Hong Kong. "In a sense, they are saying that the government won't allow any profit taking activities while they are supporting the market. Stronger policies and a cleanup of market irregularities is under way."

In December, CSRC said its investor protection bureau head, Li Liang was being probed for alleged law and discipline violations. Four executives at Citic

recently admitted to insider trading, the official Xinhua News Agency reported last month. A journalist from business magazine Caijing, whose report was alleged to have caused market panic, was also targeted.

The CSRC's Zhang became an assistant chairman in September 2012. He is a native of Sichuan province and holds PhD degrees in economics and law.

In addition to regulatory actions and investigations, the

government has cut some of the leverage that fueled the stock boom and intervened in the market by buying shares.

The Shanghai Composite Index jumped 4.9 percent to 3,152.26 at the close of the trading day yesterday, halting a two-day, 6.1 percent loss. Only 12 stocks out of the more than 1,100 traded in Shanghai fell as trading volumes slumped 28 percent below the 30-day average. **Bloomberg**

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Hung Hsiu-chu

Debra Mao and Argin Chang

TAIWAN presidential candidate Hung Hsiu-chu urged expanded trade ties to re-energize the economy, as the ruling-party lawmaker attempts to make up a deficit in the polls.

The island faced strong competition from emerging markets and needed to increase access to the economy, including easing restrictions on foreign workers, Hung, 67, told a Bloomberg LP forum in Taipei. Taiwan - led since 2008 by President Ma Ying-jeou, a member of her own Kuomintang - had let opportunities for growth slip by, she said.

TAIWAN

Presidential hopeful calls for more economic openness

Taiwan "didn't grasp the essence of opening our markets and society's opposition to it, and thus didn't actually open up," Hung told financial industry professionals gathered for the event. "International talent and funds couldn't connect with Taiwan's markets and caused us to miss out on many economic drivers."

Hung's attempting to trim a wide lead in the polls by opposition chief Tsai Ing-wen, 59, before January, when Taiwan will select its first new executive in eight years. While Ma has overseen a flourishing of ties with Taiwan's one-time civil war foe China, his handling of the economy and a series of scandals has battered the KMT's popularity.

Hung, the vice president of the Taiwanese legislature, was selected as the ruling party's nominee in July after Tsai's Democratic Progressive Party won big in local elections and other leading KMT politicians declined a presidential run.

With four months until the elections, Hung trails Tsai 28.5 percent to 44.2 percent, according to a poll of almost 1,300 respondents released Wednesday by the Apple Daily newspaper. Ex-Taiwan provincial Governor James Soong, a former

KMT member, received support from 14.6 percent.

The next president will face the challenge of energizing the economy at a time of slowing growth in China, which now represents almost one-third of Taiwan's overseas commerce. The government last month slashed its annual growth forecast to 1.56 percent from 3.28 percent after seven consecutive months of declining exports.

Hung supports participation in international trade alliances such as the Trans-Pacific Partnership and further expansion of ties with China, including ratifying a services trade pact put on hold by Ma last year after student protesters occupied the island's parliament. She pledged in August to advance more agreements under an economic cooperation framework reached by Ma.

"Openness will bring competition, while competition is a source of change and progress," Hung said. "Openness will cause a huge impact on minorities and labor, so will meet confrontation. Therefore, we must not forget to protect minorities and require fair competition between local and global companies." **Bloomberg**

THE dispute over the strategic waterways of the South China Sea has intensified, pitting a rising China against its smaller and militarily weaker neighbors who all lay claim to a string of isles, coral reefs and lagoons mostly in the Spratly and the Paracel islands. Only about 45 of them are occupied. The area is one of the world's busiest shipping routes, rich in fish and potential gas and oil reserves, but it has now emerged as a possible flashpoint involving world powers and regional claimants.

A look at some of the most recent key developments:

THIRD AIRSTRIP?

New satellite images taken in early September purportedly show construction for a third Chinese airstrip in the South China Sea, this time on Mischief Reef, which would be of particular concern to the Philippines.

According to the Center for Strategic and International Studies, which released the latest images, the potential runway would be just 21 nautical miles (39 kilometers) from the Philippine warship BRP Sierra Madre, a World War II-era tank landing ship that was grounded by the Philippines in 1999 and became an outpost for a contingent of marines at Second Thomas Shoal.

Chinese coast guard ships have tried to block Philippine resupply convoys to the Sierra Madre, and Beijing has been putting pressure on the Philippines to abandon the shoal.

The other two Chinese airfields said to be under construction are located on Fiery Cross Reef and Subi Reef. Satellite images, also taken early this month, show grading work on Subi and laying down paint on Fiery Cross, indicat-

SOUTH CHINA SEA WATCH

Beijing seen building 3rd airstrip



Protesters shout slogans during a prayer rally at the Chinese Consulate to protest recent moves by China at the disputed group of islands in the South China Sea Monday, Aug. 31 at the financial district of Makati city, east of Manila

ing the work there was well advanced, CSIS said.

Fiery Cross sits in the western half of the Spratlys and the airstrip there would most directly challenge Vietnamese outposts, while Subi is just 15 nautical miles (28 kilometers) from the Philippine airstrip at Thitu Island and less than 40

nautical miles (74 kilometers) from Taiwan's only holding on Itu Aba.

CSIS said that a third airstrip on Mischief Reef would complete the triangle, significantly boosting China's air patrol and interdiction capabilities over the contested waters and features of the Spratlys.

DILEMMA FOR U.S.

The enlargement of reefs and construction of airfields challenges Washington's naval supremacy in the western Pacific.

Chinese President Xi Jinping is headed to a state visit to the U.S. and will be hosted by President Barack Obama at the

White House on Sept. 25.

The Philippines, a U.S. treaty ally, last month asked the visiting U.S. Pacific commander to help protect the transport of Filipino troops and supplies to Second Thomas Shoal from Chinese harassment. Such a request is in line with Washington's commitment to secure unimpeded navigation in what it considers international waters.

Philippine Defense Secretary Voltaire Gazmin said Adm. Harry Harris Jr. assured him of U.S. readiness to provide assistance, adding that the U.S. military has flown an aircraft at least once when a Philippine boat delivered supplies last year to Filipino marines marooned on the rusty naval ship. "If there are Americans flying around there, we won't be troubled," Gazmin said. "We need to be helped in our resupply missions. The best way they could assist is through their presence."

Harris has also indicated the U.S. may be able to provide a third U.S. Coast Guard cutter in addition to two earlier ones, which have become the largest frigates in the Philippine navy.

NO THREAT TO NAVIGATION

Speaking at an international naval security conference in London, Chinese Vice Adm. Yuan Yubai, commander of the People's Liberation Army Navy's northern fleet, was quoted as saying that the safety and freedom of navigation must be protected in the South China Sea.

He said that the South China Sea "is a sea for all the nations around, and a sea of peace."

LAST WORD

"The South China Sea, as the name indicates, is a sea area that belongs to China." — Vice Adm. Yuan Yubai, commander of the People's Liberation Army Navy's northern fleet. **AP**

FM says Xi's visit to bolster Sino-US trust, cooperation

PRESIDENT Xi Jinping's upcoming visit to the United States will hammer home his view that peace will bring mutual benefit, while conflict will harm both sides, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi said yesterday.

Xi will pay a state visit to the United States from Sept. 22 to 25, the Foreign Ministry announced yesterday morning.

His visit will focus on boosting trust, and try to resolve U.S. worries that China and the United States contradict each other when dealing with issues such as interna-



tional relations and the Asia-Pacific order, Wang said at the Lanting Fo-

rum held by the ministry. "This visit is in the inte-

rest of friendly cooperation between China and the United States, and

is also in the interest of world peace and development. It will surely be a milestone for China-U.S. relations," Wang said.

"Warming up to American people will be a feature for Xi's upcoming visit," Wang said, adding that Xi will talk with entrepreneurs, teachers and students.

A series of measures to promote civilian exchanges between the two countries will be announced during Xi's trip, Wang said.

Extensive cooperation agreements will be reached in the fields of finance and trade, ener-

gy, climate change, environmental protection, science and technology, agriculture, law enforcement, aviation and infrastructure.

"We hope that the two sides will reaffirm each one's own development direction and strategic view, increasing common interest and responsibility to safeguard world peace, stability and development," Wang said.

The minister stressed that both countries have the resources and necessity to realize positive exchange and cooperation concerning the Asia-Pacific region. **Xinhua**



UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Zeid Raad al-Hussein of Jordan speaks during the opening of the 30th session of the Human Rights Council at the European headquarters of the United Nations in Geneva

SRI LANKA

UN rights chief seeks int'l role in war probe

Jamey Keaten, Geneva

THE U.N.'s top human rights official is urging the creation of a special court to look into atrocities committed during Sri Lanka's long civil war, which left tens of thou-

sands dead.

Zeid Raad al-Hussein pointed to horrific abuses during the conflict, including torture, executions, and sexual abuse by security forces, as well as suicide attacks, assassinations and recruitment of child soldiers by

rebels. In a 270-page report focusing on the period from 2002 to 2011, he called yesterday for a "special hybrid court" that would include foreign judges and investigators.

The report comes as the United States is expected to present

a resolution at the U.N. Human Rights Council in Geneva that aims to improve accountability in Sri Lanka. Rights groups and some governments have urged that an international investigation be undertaken, but Sri Lanka has resisted, saying it would handle the topic domestically.

Zeid hoped the U.N. report will help pave the way for "a most intense reckoning with the past," insisting that Sri Lanka "will never escape the stinging tentacles of its past" until victims receive some redress. However, he cautioned that details remain to be worked out, such

as the extent of the international role in the hybrid court. He said Sri Lanka's own courts are not yet ready to carry out a fair judicial process.

"It has to be a court that meets the expectations of victims and the international community alike," he said.

Sri Lanka's quarter-century civil war ended in 2009 when government forces defeated Tamil Tiger rebels, who had been fighting to create a separate state for ethnic minority Tamils. At least 80,000 people were killed, and possibly many more, including up to 40,000 civilians in the last month of the war, according to U.N. estimates.

Zeid said yesterday's report had not determined that genocide had taken place, but didn't rule out that possibility. He said the report was based on a human rights investigation, not a criminal probe. The report's authors had access to witnesses outside the country, but were not able to question witnesses, victims or alleged perpetrators in Sri Lanka.

Still, the report's release has been highly anticipated in Sri Lanka and is expected to contribute the national and international debate about the best ways to seek accountability for the atrocities there.

As the rights council opened a three-week session Monday, Sri Lankan Foreign Minister Mangala Samaraweera announced the launch of a truth and reconciliation commission modeled partly on one in post-apartheid South Africa. **AP**

PHILIPPINES

Protesters throw paint on US Embassy seal



Protesters throw red paint at the seal of the U.S. Embassy in Manila

RIOT policemen dispersed dozens of left-wing students, who stormed past a police cordon after dawn yesterday and splattered red paint on the seal of the U.S. Embassy in Manila to protest the American military presence in the country.

Police arrested at least six of the approximately 50 protesters, some of whom were hit by police shields, according to witnesses and photographs.

The protesters managed to slip past a police security cordon by pretending to be joggers.

The activists from the League of Filipino Students, who held up placards that read, "U.S. troops out now," were protesting visits by American forces, warships and planes.

Vast U.S. bases were closed in the country after the Philippine Senate rejected a bid to sign new leases in 1991, but Ame-

rican forces were allowed back for temporary visits and joint training with Filipino troops under the 1999 Visiting Forces Agreement a few years after China took control of a disputed reef in the South China Sea off the western Philippines.

The U.S. and the Philippines, which are long-time treaty allies, signed an additional agreement last year that would allow U.S. forces to build quarters and store weapons and equipment in Philippine military bases, possibly including those facing the disputed waters.

Left-wing groups questioned the constitutionality of the agreement at the Supreme Court in a legal challenge that remains pending, hampering the accord's enforcement. **AP**

NEW ZEALAND

Researchers shoot pigs in the head in blood-spatter study

Nick Perry, Wellington

AN animal rights group said yesterday that New Zealand researchers who secured live pigs to a surgical table and shot them in the head with a pistol as part of a study on blood-spatter patterns acted cruelly, and has urged them to end such experiments.

But the government-funded Institute of Environmental Science and Research said the pigs were sedated and treated humanely. The scientists said their analysis is important in understanding human shooting deaths and could help in criminal cases.

The study, published in July in the International Journal of Legal Medicine, involved researchers from the institute as well as two public New Zealand universities. It describes how five pigs were shot from close range with a Glock semi-automatic handgun to record the back-spatter of blood, bone and brain material.

The group People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals said the experiment



was unnecessary because pigs are fundamentally different from humans and better results could be achieved using mannequins or computer modeling.

"These incredibly violent experiments are entirely indefensible, given their cruelty, inapplicability to humans and the superior non-animal research methods that are available," said Justin Goodman, the animal rights group's U.S. director of laboratory investigations.

The group has sent letters to the institute as well as the University of Otago, where the study was conducted, and the University of Auckland, which contributed research, urging them to stop such experiments. **AP**

Eileen Ng, Kuala Lumpur

MALAYSIA

MALAYSIAN police fired water cannons at ethnic Malays who turned unruly yesterday at a rally to uphold Malay dominance and support Prime Minister Najib Razak's government, following calls for Najib to step down over a USD700 million financial scandal.

Hundreds of protesters pelted riot police with plastic bottles and tried to push their way through barricades into Kuala Lumpur's Chinatown, shouting "This is Malay land." Riot police then fired chemical-laced water to disperse the crowd.

The rally, which included Cabinet members and leaders from Najib's ruling Malay party, was held to counter a protest in late August by tens of thousands of Malaysians to demand Najib's ouster and political reforms. Yesterday's protesters accused ethnic Chinese of driving last month's demonstration.

A nation of 30 million, Malaysia is predominantly Malay Muslim, a group that forms the core of the ruling party's support. The country also has significant Chinese and Indian minorities who have become increasingly vocal in their opposition to the government in recent years.

Malaysian authorities had been concerned that yesterday's rally would become racially charged, but allowed it to proceed anyway, warning protesters against carrying banners or posters with sensitive racial overtones.

Most of the thousands taking part in the protest rallied peacefully at a central field near Parliament.

Police fire water cannons at Malay pro-Razak supporters



Riot police fires a water cannon to pro-government "red shirt" protesters as they try to enter China Town during a demonstration in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

The demonstrators blew horns and chanted "Long live the Malays" as they marched from several locations in Kuala Lumpur to the field. Some carried banners that read, "People unite to defend the government of

the people's choice."

"I am here to defend Malay dignity and dominance," said Rahamah Abdul Majid, one of the protesters. "We must not let others take over our country."

Deputy Trade Minister Ahmad Maslan, who is also information chief in Najib's United Ma-

lays National Organization, or UMNO, told local media that he joined the rally as a "show of support for the government" amid challenges including the local currency's sharp plunge. The Malaysian ringgit is down 26 percent from a year earlier, breaching 4 ringgit to the dollar

last month, its weakest level in 17 years.

Najib, who came to power in 2009, did not openly endorse the rally, but has said he would not stop UMNO members from joining.

The prime minister has been fighting for political survival after leaked documents in July showed he received some USD700 million in his private accounts from entities linked to indebted state fund 1MDB.

He later said the money was a donation from the Middle East and fired his deputy, who was critical of him, four other Cabinet members and the attorney general investigating him. He is also saddled with allegations of mismanagement at 1MDB.

Najib has vowed he won't quit and said Malaysia is not a failed state.

James Chin, who heads the Asia Institute at Australia's University of Tasmania, said the rally showed that the UMNO, which heads a multiethnic coalition, is using the racial card to muster support for the party. "It's a distraction from Najib and the 1MDB issue," he said.

Support for Najib's National Front has eroded in the last two general elections. It won in 2013, but lost the popular vote for the first time to an opposition alliance. AP

JAPAN

Panel to vote on military bills amid protests

Mari Yamaguchi, Tokyo

OPPPOSITION lawmakers and thousands of demonstrators were staging last-ditch protests in a political showdown yesterday as Japan's ruling party started a final push to pass security legislation to expand the role of the country's military.

The bills would allow Japan's military to defend its allies even when Japan isn't under attack, work more closely with the U.S. and other allies, and do more in international peacekeeping.

Prime Minister Shinzo Abe says Japan needs the bills to bolster its defense amid China's growing assertiveness and to share the global peacekeeping



In this Aug. 30 file photo, protesters hold anti-war placards in front of the National Diet building during a rally in Tokyo as thousands of Japanese protested a set of security bills designed to expand the role the country's military

effort. Opponents say the legislation violates Japan's war-renouncing constitution, while putting Japan at risk of being embroiled in U.S.-led wars.

Opposition lawmakers talked of preventing colleagues from entering

the chamber of the committee on the security legislation in the parliament's upper house, where the bills were to be voted on later yesterday, and proposing a non-confidence vote against Abe's Cabinet at a subsequent house vote, expected to-

day. They were backed up by thousands of protesters gathering outside the parliament building.

While the bills were being debated in the parliament, new faces were joining the ranks of protesters typically made up of labor union members

and graying left-wing activists.

Over the last few months, a group of students has led the protests, which have steadily grown to tens of thousands who fill the streets outside Tokyo's parliament every Friday and often on weekends.

"Anyone who understands the basic principle of the constitution cannot help but oppose the legislation," Aki Okuda, a leader of the student group known as SEALDs, or Students Emergency Action for Liberal Democracies, told reporters in Tokyo. "It's ridiculous, and the bills' legal questions have fueled the people's anger."

As the group became influential, Okuda was

invited to speak at a parliamentary hearing Tuesday, when he urged lawmakers "to listen to the people's voices," and "not make us think it's absurd to take politics seriously."

The bills, passed by the more powerful lower house in July, have since been debated in the upper house. Abe's ruling party wants to have them approved by tomorrow to avoid a swelling of protests during the upcoming five-day weekend. Abe also has promised the U.S. the bills would pass in parliament by this summer.

Katsuya Okada, head of the main opposition Democratic Party of Japan, said it was "outrageous" for Abe's ruling block to rush a vote on the legislation that has split the nation.

"We must join our forces and block their play," he said. AP

SATURDAY JUST GOT EPIC



SATURDAY SUPER STACK

Every Saturday, until October 24 PokerStars LIVE Macau will be hosting the HK\$1,000 Saturday Warm-up (20k GTD) at 2pm and the HK\$3,000 Saturday Superstack (100k GTD) at 6pm

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Date: Wednesday, 30th Sep. 2015
Time: 9:00-10:30 am (Reception: 8:45am)
Venue: Sofitel Macau at Ponte 16 Promenade Meeting Room (6th floor)





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Mike Corder and
Dusan Stojanovic, Asotthalom

EUROPEAN MIGRANT CRISIS

Refugees transiting through Croatia in new EU entry route

SMALL groups of migrants continued to sneak into Hungary yesterday, a day after the country sealed its border with Serbia and began arresting people trying to breach the razor-wire barrier, while migrants began arriving in Croatia seeking a different way into the European Union.

Hungarian authorities said they have arrested a total of 519 migrants who tried to cross the border illegally since tough new laws went into effect on Tuesday that make it a crime to cross the border from Serbia. Authorities launched 46 criminal prosecutions and the first court cases are due to start later yesterday.

Televised images from a courthouse in Szeged showed four of those being charged with their hands tied in front of them and their shoelaces removed ahead of trial.

While the tough new measures have mostly stopped the flow across the border, isolated groups still managed to crawl under or climb over the forbidding barbed wire of the 175-kilometer border fence.

In the last few months, Hungary has become a main entry point into the European Union for migrants, many of them war refugees from the Middle East, with more than 200,000 entering the country so far this year. Almost all entered from the southern border with Serbia and passed through Hungary quickly on their way to Germany or other wealthy Western European nations.

Hungary's foreign minister denied that closed borders and tough new laws signal callousness toward refugees, repeating the government's claim that most of those entering Hungary are actually economic migrants.



An elderly Afghan migrant rests on the ground of a field, in Asotthalom, southern Hungary

"Based on our history, we are always in solidarity with the refugees," Peter Szijjarto told The Associated Press in an interview. "What we're saying is that we cannot accept economic migrants because we cannot bear the burden of that."

Early yesterday, police on horseback surrounded a group of 14 Afghans, including five young girls and an elderly woman, in a field close to the fence. As they watched over the group, the officers' radio crackled with news of other migrants being detained — one

Syrian, one Afghan, a group of 11.

One refugee from Syria pleaded with a Hungarian policewoman over the razor wire fence: "Please let me go. Merkel said OK we can come to Germany, why Hungary say no?" he said.

Other migrants were seeking new paths on their way to Western Europe, some choosing to take the longer route through Croatia.

About 150 people crossed into Tovarnik, Croatia, early yesterday after they were

bused to the Serbian border town of Sid on an all-night ride from Macedonia.

Croatian Prime Minister Zoran Milanovic criticized Hungary's decision to seal its border with Serbia for migrants and said Croatia will not do the same.

"We are ready to accept these people, regardless of their religion and the color of their skin, and direct them to the destinations where they wish to go, Germany and Scandinavia," Milanovic told lawmakers in Parliament.

ASSAD: IMMIGRATION CRISIS IS ALL EUROPE'S FAULT

SYRIAN PRESIDENT Bashar Assad is blaming Europe for the migration crisis, saying it's a direct result of the West's support for extremists in Syria over the past four years. In an interview yesterday with Russian media, Assad accused Europe of supporting "terrorism" and providing "protection for terrorists, calling them moderates." "If you are worried about them (refugees), stop supporting terrorists," he said, addressing Europe. He also accused Europe of having "unacceptable" double standards. Assad says "how can one be indignant about a drowned child and remain silent about the deaths of thousands of children, elderly people, women and men killed by terrorists in Syria?"

"Barbed wire in Europe in the 21st century is not an answer, it's a threat," Milanovic said.

Dozens of police and aid workers waited for the migrants in Croatia, where they are being registered. Local media say some migrants have sought to cross into Croatia through nearby fields to avoid registration.

Migrants have avoided Croatia in the past because they must still go into Hungary or Slovenia before reaching Austria or Germany. **AP**

SYRIA CONFLICT

Kerry seeks answers in new call with Russian FM

Matthew Lee, Diplomatic
Writer, Washington

SECRETARY of State John Kerry has made his third phone call to his Russian counterpart in the last 10 days, a State Department official said, seeking to clarify the intent of Moscow's military buildup in Syria, and warning that continued support for President Bashar Assad will only prolong the Syrian conflict.

State Department spokesman John Kirby said Kerry called Foreign



Syrians hold posters of Syrian President Bashar Assad, far left, and Russian President Vladimir Putin, second left

Minister Sergey Lavrov on Tuesday. Another official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the call was about Syria. Kerry's call came

shortly after Russian President Vladimir Putin defended his military assistance to Assad's government. Putin said it is impossible to defeat the Islamic State group without cooperating with Damascus and urged other countries to join the cause.

The Obama administration has been perplexed by Russia's ramped up support for Assad, which includes about a half-dozen battle tanks delivered in recent days. Moscow has also sent other weaponry — along

with military advisers, technicians, security guards and portable housing units — with the main goal of setting up an air base near the coastal town of Latakia, a stronghold of the Syrian president.

At the White House, spokesman Josh Earnest told reporters that Obama might reach out to Putin in the coming days and would not rule out a meeting of the two leaders later this month at the United Nations General Assembly.

Earnest said the ad-

ministration's stance on Russia's moves in Syria remains the same as it was last week when Obama told U.S. troops that a strategy to prop up Assad is "doomed to failure."

"We've made clear that further support, military or otherwise for the Assad regime is destabilizing and counter-productive, principally because Assad has lost the legitimacy to lead that country," he said. "Russia's decision to double down on Assad is a losing bet." **AP**

what's ON



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

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

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

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

ARTISTIC CRAFTSMANSHIP OF OUR ANCESTORS
- EXHIBITION OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL RELICS
OF TAIPA AND COLOANE
TIME: 10am-6pm (Closed on Mondays)
UNTIL: December 31, 2015
VENUE: Museum of Taipa and Coloane History
ADMISSION: MOP5 (Adult); MOP2 (Student or
Group); Free (Under 12 or above 65)
ENQUIRIES: (853) 8988 4100 / 2882 7103

FASHION POP-UP SHOP
TIME: 10am-8pm
(closed on Mondays, open on public holidays)
UNTIL: January 3, 2016
VENUE: No. 47, Rua de S. Roque, Macau
ADMISSION: Free
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2835 3341

Offbeat

YOUNG ROYALS TO ATTEND WORLD
PREMIERE OF NEW JAMES BOND FILM

It's not a stretch to say there'll be a few photographers at the October world premiere of the new James Bond film "Spectre."

Not only will 007 star Daniel Craig and the film's other luminaries be there, they'll be joined on the red carpet by Prince William and his wife Kate and Prince Harry.

Palace officials said Wednesday the young royals will attend the film's Oct. 26 opening at the Royal Albert Hall in London. The opening will benefit the Cinema and Television Benevolent fund, a British charity.

Cast members Naomie Harris, Monica Bellucci, Ralph Fiennes and Lea Seydoux are also expected.

The film will open in Britain and Ireland the night of the premiere before opening later in other countries. The U.S. premiere is set for Nov. 6.

TV canal macau

13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:30	RTPi Live
18:20	Trail of Lies (Repeated)
19:10	Montra do Lilau (Repeat)
19:40	Soap Opera
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	TDM Talk Show
21:40	Miscellaneous
22:10	Trail of Lies
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Champions League Highlights
23:45	Television Film
00:20	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)

cinema

CINETEATRO

19 SEP - 23 SEP

MAZE RUNNER: THE SCORCH TRIALS

ROOM 1
(2D) 2.30, 4.45, 9.30 pm
(3D) 7.15Director: Wes Ball
Starring: IDylan O'Brien, Kaya Scodelario,
Thomas Brodie-Sangster
Language: English (Cantonese)
Duration: 131min

EVEREST

ROOM 2
(2D) 2.30, 4.45, 9.30 pm
(3D) 7.15Director: Baltasar Kormakur
Starring: Jason Clarke, Josh Brolin, John Hawkes,
Robin Wright
Language: English (Cantonese)
Duration: 121min

GUIA IN LOVE

ROOM 3
2.15, 5.45, 7.30 pmDirector: Sam Leong
Starring: Wong You Nam, Steohy Tang, Annie Lau
Language: Cantonese (Cantonese/English)
Duration: 104min

ATTACK ON TITAN: END OF THE WORLD

ROOM 3
4.00, 9.30 pmDirector: Shinji Higuchi
Starring: Haruma Miura, Kiko Mizuhara
Language: Japanese (Cantonese/English)
Duration: 90min

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

1956 WORLD WATER SPEED
RECORD SMASHED

A 48-year-old solicitor from Manchester has broken the one-hour world water speed record in his motorboat, Miss Windermere III.

Norman Buckley drove the boat at an average speed of over 79mph during his hour on the course on Lake Windermere.

But he said he was disappointed not to have reached 80mph.

The previous record was 64.03mph, set by Charles von Mayenburg of Germany.

On returning to the Windermere Motor Boat Racing Club - which has hosted all his world record attempts - he said he had had one or two anxious moments during the attempt.

On one occasion, the wash from a passing launch threatened to jeopardise the whole operation.

"I throttled down just before the wash hit me, but even so the boat leaped clear of the water," Mr Buckley said.

"Had I not slowed, anything might have happened."

Among those in the audience was fellow speedboat enthusiast and close personal friend, Donald Campbell, who makes his own attempt on the water-speed record on Coniston Water later this month.

He said the incident involving the launch had "cost Britain a record of 80mph".

The record attempt was delayed by several hours as Mr Buckley's team endured an anxious wait for early morning mists to lift from the lake.

Mr Buckley designed and built his hydroplane boat, Miss Windermere III, himself.

This was the third time he had tried to break the record: the previous attempt, in May, failed disastrously when the boat's propeller shaft broke, possibly broken off by a piece of driftwood.

Mr Buckley, whose job as a solicitor means he can only indulge his hobby of powerboat racing at the weekends, already holds one world speed record.

In 1951, he drove Miss Windermere at 63.53mph over a 24-mile course on the lake, breaking the speed record for 800kg class motorboats.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

Norman Buckley went on to break a further five world water speed records: one more in Miss Windermere III, and a further two during the 1960s in the next boat he designed and built, Miss Windermere IV.

Mr Buckley was the official timekeeper for Donald Campbell at his fatal attempt on the world speed record in Bluebird on Coniston Water in January 1967. Mr Campbell's widow, Tonia Bern-Campbell, stayed with the Buckleys while salvage workers recovered wreckage from the boat.

Norman Buckley broke a further world water speed record in Miss Windermere V in the 1970s, and was awarded the MBE in 1972.

He died in 1974. His first boat, Miss Windermere, is currently kept at the Steamboat Museum at Lake Windermere, and his nephew still owns the hotel he bought in the Lakes in 1952.

YOUR STARS

Aries Mar. 21-Apr. 19 Your drive is strong right now — so much so that you might ignore important concerns that aren't directly related to your focus. You will need to revisit and revise once you're past this phase.

Taurus April 20-May 20 Today is all about you — so make the most of this energy! You should have little strokes of good luck here and there, but you should also find that people are more willing to hear you out.

Gemini May 21-Jun. 21 Someone starts bossing you around — and this time, there's not much you can do about it! In fact, this may be someone you can't live without, so do what you can to grin and bear it while you plot your escape.

Cancer Jun. 22-Jul. 22 You don't really feel like making a move today — so stick close to home and see what happens. You may find that you get more done by just playing it safe, though this isn't a long-term solution.

Leo Jul. 23-Aug. 22 Your confidence is strong today — but someone is viewing it in a negative light. Try not to toot your own horn too mightily, or they may give you a reputation for unwarranted arrogance!

Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22 You're having a blast today — even if you're scrubbing the kitchen floor or poring over your accounting paperwork. Your great energy fills you with delight in the small pleasures of life.

Libra Sep.23-Oct. 22 Your mood is somewhat down today — and it may get somewhat darker as the day progresses. It's a short-term phase, though, so just let yourself sink a bit, safe in the knowledge that you'll rise again.

Scorpio Oct. 23 - Nov. 21 You need to share your plans with others — otherwise, why bother? You've got good energy, but you need some help to make sure that your business gets taken care of quickly and efficiently.

Sagittarius Nov. 22-Dec. 21 Let your feeling be known today — even if they are likely to confuse people! You may find that your honest expression of belief makes you sound like a hardcore conservative or fire-breathing liberal — so be it!

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19 Your ability to keep working long past quitting time is enhanced today — and that's a serious blessing! You should get lots done and score quite a few points with the right people.

Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 18 You're feeling more limited than usual — and certainly more than you like! It's a good day for you to slow down and look for alternatives, but you may just have to deal with things as they are.

Pisces Feb.19-Mar. 20 Your people freak out this morning over a problem that doesn't even look like a problem to you. Show them the way out of it and you are sure to earn more respect. Make it look easy!

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Easy

9x9 grid for Easy Sudoku puzzle with some numbers filled in.

Easy+

9x9 grid for Easy+ Sudoku puzzle with some numbers filled in.

Medium

9x9 grid for Medium Sudoku puzzle with some numbers filled in.

Hard

9x9 grid for Hard Sudoku puzzle with some numbers filled in.

WEATHER

Table with columns: MIN, MAX, CONDITION

CHINA

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

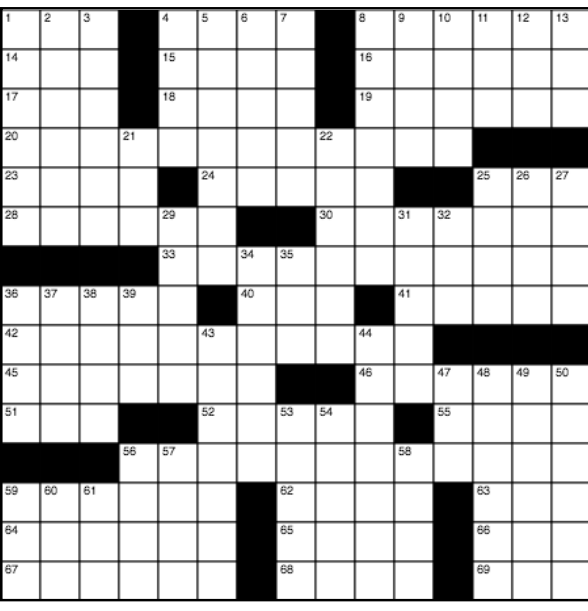
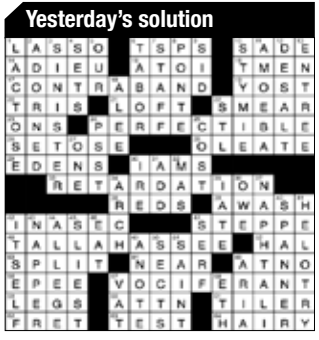
WORLD

Table listing weather conditions for various world cities like Moscow, Frankfurt, Paris, etc.

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- ___-tac-toe; 4- Franklin D.'s mother; 8- Lessened; 14- Large flightless bird; 15- I smell ___!

DOWN: 1- Tantalizes; 2- Pierce; 3- Whimbrel; 4- First king of Israel; 5- Censure; 6- Arranges; 7- Baffled; 8- Kenyan, Nigerian, or Congolese; 9- Monetary unit of Thailand;



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Chong Fok Taipa 3 Bedrooms Apartment Close to Macau University HKD 12,900 / 1,300 sq ft

Dahlia Court, Ocean Gardens Taipa 1,054 sq ft / HKD 6.88M
One Oasis, Tower 3, Unit B Coloane 2 Bedrooms Apartment Great location with Cotai Strip HKD 15,500 / 1,286 sq ft

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Tales Azzoni
Sports Writer

FOOTBALL

Worry no more: Ronaldo still has his scoring touch

NEXT time, wait a little longer before wondering whether Cristiano Ronaldo has lost his scoring touch.

It turns out the Real Madrid striker is just fine.

After an unusually barren start to his season, Ronaldo came alive in the last two games, scoring eight goals.

He netted five in a 6-0 rout of Espanyol in the Spanish league on Saturday, and three more in a 4-0 victory against Shakhtar Donetsk in the Champions League yesterday.

It was enough to make him Real Madrid's all-time leading scorer in the Liga, and move him ahead of Lionel Messi as the top scorer in the European tournament.

"I feel very proud and happy with this moment," Ronaldo said after his latest impressive performance.

Ronaldo was yet to score this season at club or international level, and was showing signs of frustration. He had innumerable chances in Madrid's first two games in the Spanish league, many of them easy ones by his standards. It was clear he was getting upset after every miss, although he denied the scoring drought was ever a concern.

"My goal is at the end of the



Real Madrid's Cristiano Ronaldo celebrates scoring his side's 2nd goal during a Group A Champions League soccer match between Real Madrid and Shakhtar Donetsk at the Santiago Bernabeu stadium in Madrid

the team, because the team has helped me so much."

His teammates have been the ones praising him recently.

"He simply never gets tired of scoring," defender Nacho Fernandez said. "We know how important he is for the team."

Coach Rafa Benitez said he was not surprised by Ronaldo's impressive run.

"I know Cristiano Ronaldo's value and performance level," he said. "He is the best in the world, and is showing that in games and every training session."

Thanks in great part to Ronaldo, Real Madrid has outscored its opponents 15-0 in its first four games, three in the Spanish league, and the one in the Champions. But the defense has been just as great. It is the first time in Madrid's 113-year history that it has kept a clean sheet in its first four games of the season.

"This is only the beginning," Ronaldo said. "La Liga and the Champions League are very long, and it is very early to say if we are impressive or if we are bad. We have to work hard, focus, be consistent, and then we will see what happens at the end of the season."

Real Madrid's next league match is on Saturday against Granada at the Santiago Bernabeu. **AP**

Ronaldo simply never gets tired of scoring

NACHO FERNANDEZ
DEFENDER, REAL MADRID

season, winning titles for the team, such as the Champions League or La Liga," Ronaldo said.

He scored his 33rd hat trick with Real Madrid yesterday,

and third for the club in the Champions league. The Portuguese forward entered the match at the Santiago Bernabeu level with Messi as the Champions League leading

scorers with 77 each.

"I'm very happy with the goals and the records," Ronaldo said. "I get a sense of pride from being in this position, but I have to mention

BOXING

Pacquiao says Street View will help Philippine tourism

FILIPINO boxing icon Manny Pacquiao and tourism officials said yesterday images of the Philippine capital and the country's main tourist spots on Google's Street View could help attract more visitors to the country.

Google country marketing manager Ryan Morales said the Philippines became the 69th country included in Google's Street View with its Wednesday launching in Manila.

The images captured over six months last year include panoramic views of street scenes in Manila and 39 other cities, 30 historic and heritage sites as well as Pacquiao's



Filipino boxing icon Manny Pacquiao, left, gestures as he talks beside a picture of Manila's Jose Rizal monument during a speech in support of Philippine tourism in suburban Pasay, south of Manila

southern hometown where he began his career as one of the world's most popular boxers.

Rocked by insurgencies and poor infrastructure, the Philippines struggles

to bolster tourism, lagging neighboring Malaysia, Thailand, Singapore and Vietnam.

Pacquiao said the images include his old neighborhood in Sarangani

Manny said he may need 'a rematch with (Floyd) Mayweather' to raise money to bring more visitors to Sarangani

province, which he represents as a congressman, General Santos City, the country's tuna

capital, and the city hall where he used to sell bread to earn some money when he was a young boy from dirt-poor family.

He said the Google project will support "our goal of making the Philippines a top tourist destination in Asia."

In jest, he said that he may "need a rematch with (Floyd) Mayweather" to raise money to bring more visitors to Sarangani but that the images will do that for him. Pacquiao lost to Mayweather in May in boxing's richest fight.

"I do not need to give away plane tickets and spend a lot of money to showcase the beauty of

our province," he said with a broad smile. Pacquiao is known to spend large amounts to bring along his huge entourage to watch his fights.

Domingo Ramon Eneorio III, the chief operating officer of the Tourism Promotions Board, said tourism is a "feel good industry" which contributed USD6 billion to the Philippine economy last year.

The government statistics agency has reported that tourism contributed 7.8 percent to the economy last year.

Eneorio said the government is confident the Philippines will surpass 5 million visitors for the first time this year. **AP**

opinion

HK Observer
 Robert Carroll



GLASS HALF FULL

The controversial messages on Saturday from Beijing's liaison office director, Zhang Xiaoming, citing the central government's view on 'one country two systems' was on the one hand unsurprising: we all know that Beijing has the upper hand in terms of where ultimate authority lies regarding our relationship with the central government. However that was not how Hong Kong people ruling Hong Kong - as was promised in the 1990s - is playing out.

Looking at the full text published yesterday there are distinctly positive declarations. First of all the issue of judicial independence is tackled head on with unequivocal assurances that that independence is guaranteed. Secondly the final words are also reassuring: "Although this is a controversial topic and my viewpoints might well spark controversy, I would like to take this opportunity to express my position; there is no need to avoid controversies that arise in promoting the Basic Law."

Surely that means that the Central government is declaring that dialogue and disagreement is welcome. Hardly the stance of rigid authoritarians who expect yes men only to arrive at meetings between the SAR and the mainland authorities.

In another part of the text, the problems of our executive-led government are admitted. This unique arrangement of 'one country two systems', which it is, is still in an early stage of development and that adjustments must be made. That means recognition that the present system is not functioning as it should and must be changed. This surely opens the doors for the next round of negotiations and consultations for the next round of political reform.

Given that there was the surprising reaching out to the Democrat party by the Chinese government resulting in an opportunity to exchange views, doesn't that mean that there is the intention to follow through with that?

There is again talk of Deng Xiaoping's intention and declarations on the subject of Hong Kong's special situation after the return to Chinese sovereignty in terms of separation of powers and checks and balances. Leaving that aside, let's remember what else he said about the fifty year duration of the territory as a special autonomous region of China. I raise the name of Deng Xiaoping because if we are to be reminded once again, the proponent of the one country two systems declarations' on the city are guiding principles. We should remember too that he also said that if the system worked there was no reason to change it after 2047 when our fifty years is up.

Hong Kong citizens should also be aware that while the central government reminds us of the limitations of our autonomy we should recognize the great prize, for all its faults, that it is. As Professor Danny Gittings of the University of Hong Kong points out in his comparisons of other autonomous regions around the world, Hong Kong is the most autonomous of all with more liberties than any other.

It comes down to the people of Hong Kong then to take the olive branches to use those invitations for dialogue to work out, together with Beijing, the final steps to democratic reform. It is no good to take the cynical view that there will be no movement on the other side. There has been plenty in arriving at the establishment of the SAR. As we have been promised universal suffrage for both the chief executive and for the legislative assembly, there is still room to cut a deal. The path however is blocked by mutual mistrust. That's what needs to be worked on.

THE BUZZ FORMER 'STAR TREK' ACTRESS CHARGED WITH INDECENT EXPOSURE

A former actress on the "Star Trek: Voyager" television series has been arrested in eastern Tennessee and is accused of exposing herself to children.

Multiple media outlets report that 41-year-old Jennifer Ann Lien, who played "Kes" on the TV show, is charged with two misdemeanor counts of indecent exposure involving children under age 13, according to

an arrest report.

Roane County Sheriff's Office deputies served the warrants Sept. 3 at Lien's Harriman home, where they say she was naked under a blanket on her couch. Deputies say Lien refused their requests to get dressed.

Harriman Police say Lien also faces multiple charges, including aggravated assault.



ROANE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Station	Air quality	
Roadside	20-40 Good	
High Density Residential Area	35-55 Moderate	
Ambient	40-60 Moderate	

SOURCE: D5MG

WORLD BRIEFS

PHILIPPINES Riot policemen disperse dozens of left-wing students who storm past a police cordon after dawn and splatter red paint on the seal of the U.S. Embassy in Manila to protest the American military presence in the country. *More on p12*

PHILIPPINES Metropolitan Manila's notorious traffic jams are costing the Philippine economy at least 3 billion pesos (USD64 million) a day and infrastructure projects need to be fast-tracked to address the problem, the country's chief economic planner says.

USA Four people are still missing after flash flooding killed 12 people in a Utah-Arizona border community and four others in nearby Zion National Park.

USA Fire crews are gaining ground against a devastating Northern California wildfire that has destroyed hundreds of homes and sent thousands of residents fleeing.



AP PHOTO

EGYPT-MEXICO Mexico's foreign minister arrives in Egypt in the wake of the deaths of eight Mexican tourists after Egyptian security forces mistakenly attacked a desert safari.

FRANCE-SYRIA The Islamic State group is training extremists in Syria to attack in Europe, France's defense minister said yesterday, announcing that French airstrikes would begin within weeks. Defense Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian said French jets would start bombing "as soon as we have well-identified targets."



AP PHOTO

UK Newly elected Labour Party leader Jeremy Corbyn used his first appearance at "prime minister's question time" yesterday to call for an end to the sometimes rude and stony confrontations between the British government and opposition.

ORGANIZED CRIME

'Whitey' Bulger movie gets private Massachusetts screening

A movie about gangster James "Whitey" Bulger's violent reign as leader of Boston's criminal underworld got its first screening in the state yesterday (Macau time).

Johnny Depp, who plays Bulger in "Black Mass," and other cast members including Dakota Johnson and Jesse Plemons greeted fans and the media as they arrived to attend the private screening at the Coolidge Corner Theatre in Brookline.

Hundreds of people gathered to see the stars. Depp signed autographs for dozens lining the sidewalk across from the theater.

The movie is based on a book of the same name by former Boston Globe reporters Dick Lehr and Gerard O'Neill, who attended the screening. It chronicles Bulger's rise to become the city's most feared gangster, ruling its underworld from the 1970s into the 1990s while working with the FBI as an informant on the New England Mafia, his gang's main rival.

Bulger fled Boston in 1994 after being tipped off by his



AP PHOTO

Johnny Depp arrives at the Special Screening of "Black Mass" at the Coolidge Corner Theatre

FBI handler that he was about to be indicted. He lived as a fugitive for more than 16 years before he was captured in Santa Monica, California, in 2011.

Bulger, 86, was convicted in 2013 of playing a role in 11 killings and multiple other crimes. He's serving a life sentence in federal prison. He argued in an appeal he was unable to fully present his defense.

While Whitey Bulger rose to become one of the city's most powerful criminals, his brother William Bulger became one of the state's most powerful politicians, serving as president of the state Senate from 1978 until 1996.

Bulger, 86, was convicted in 2013 of playing a role in 11 killings. He's serving a life sentence

William Bulger, who's played by Benedict Cumberbatch in the film, told the Boston Herald he's not much of a moviegoer but likely will see "Black Mass." He said he hasn't seen the trailers or read the book and doesn't know too much about the movie's stars.

He hasn't said much publicly about his brother but said they are in touch.

"Black Mass" made its world premiere at the Venice Film Festival and was screened at the Toronto International Film Festival last week. It's scheduled for general release tomorrow. **AP**

THE DECISIVE MOMENT

Renato Marques



Pomar & friends. A visitor looks at a Júlio Pomar's painting during the inauguration ceremony of the famed Portuguese painter's exhibition this week at Tap Seac Gallery.