



MADONNA 'REBEL HEART' TICKETS ON SALE FRIDAY
Madonna's world tour comes to Macau in February. Tickets for the two concerts will go on sale on Friday.

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PANSY HO AMONG 15 BUYING HALF OF CHINA REINSURANCE

P8



VW DIESEL CARS RECALLED IN CHINA
The recall in China applies to 1,946 Tiguan sport utility vehicles and four Passat B6 sedans, all of them imported

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WORLD BRIEFS



IRAN The Frankfurt Book Fair says Tehran has canceled plans for a national stand at this year's event to protest a planned appearance by British author Salman Rushdie. Rushdie is to appear at a news conference today ahead of the annual fair's opening. The author spent years in hiding with heavy security after his novel "The Satanic Verses" drew a death edict from Iran's religious authorities. Fair director Juergen Boos that free speech "is not negotiable."

CHINA Two senior Chinese officials — one who led the country's biggest petroleum company and the other a deputy party chief in populous Sichuan province — are convicted of corruption and sentenced to up to 16 years in prison. More on p11

CHINA Authorities announce the arrests of 16 suspected members of a smuggling ring and the seizure of hundreds of kilograms of ivory along with rhino horns and bear paws. More on p10

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VENETIAN MACAO OPEN 2015

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days to go

GLOBAL FORUM KICKS OFF

Asian tourism share to reach **30pct by 2030**

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RENATO MARQUES



IFT opens Taipa campus, partners with UNWTO to create education center

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STUDIO CITY SHOWS

Madonna 'Rebel Heart' pricey tickets on sale Friday



TICKETS for Madonna's two live concerts in Macau, which are part of her "Rebel Heart Tour," will go on sale at 11a.m. on Friday, October 16.

The two shows will mark the

first time that Madonna has performed live in Macau. Both shows will be staged at Melco Crown Entertainment's 5,000-seat venue, the Studio City Event Center (SCEC), on Fe-

bruary 20 and 21, 2016.

Studio City president JD Clayton said that the SCEC "is already proving to be an important live entertainment venue attracting the world's biggest

artists, and it will be the most intimate venue Madonna performs in during this tour.

"With only 5,000 seats, theater-quality acoustics and exclusive seating options (...) the skillfully designed space provides audiences an unmatched atmosphere of real intimacy with the performers, both in terms of physical closeness to the artists and quality of music delivery," he said in a press release.

Sources close to the organization told the Macau Daily Times that "the chances of adding a third concert at Studio City

are virtually nil," following the announcements of extra shows being added in both Hong Kong and Bangkok.

Madonna has been busy outside of her regular concert performances this week. According to Minnesota Public Radio, she reportedly spent some time with pop legend Prince.

The radio station reported that around 30 Prince fans were summoned to Paisley Park late on Thursday evening for something "extra special." The small group had been dancing to a mix of 1980s pop tunes when Madonna walked onto the stage, only hours after her performance in St. Paul as part of the "Rebel Heart Tour."

Reportedly, Prince emerged later, took the stage and played a set, as Madonna sat on the edge of the stage at his feet. Minnesota Public Radio reported that Madonna looked up at him adoringly as he sang. **Staff reporter**

TICKET PRICING FOR 'REBEL HEART SHOW'

Club Seats	MOP10,588
Section A Standing	MOP8,888
Section B Standing	MOP7,888
Section A Reserve	MOP8,888
Section B Reserve	MOP7,888
Section C Reserve	MOP2,588

EDUCATION

Documentary raises debate on merits of Chinese-style teaching

A documentary exploring how Chinese-style education might work abroad has provoked considerable debate in both the UK and China.

The BBC show, entitled "The School that Turned Chinese" is currently airing on Hong Kong's TVB Pearl. Fifty children aged between 13 and 14 were subject to an entirely different style of education – one inspired by the Chinese style, though apparently greatly exaggerated. For a period of four weeks, students were required to wear special uniforms, pledge to the flag once a week, and accept a 12-hour school day starting at 7 a.m. The pupils were required to adjust to lessons that prioritized note-taking and repetition.

At the end of the four weeks, the students will be pitted against their counterparts in the UK to determine whether the Chinese education-style produ-

ces better academic results.

Intended partly as an experiment and partly as entertainment, the documentary raises discussion about the merits of the two education systems.

Teresa Vong, the former director of the Educational Research Centre at the University of Macau's Faculty of Education, said that she did not think the British education system would benefit from adopting a more Chinese approach.

"In effect there are a number of internal conflicts inside the British education system, for instance: tensions between the government and the local authority; budget cuts; few people entering the teaching profession – particularly in mathematics and science," Teresa Vong observed. "The issue with the TV program is that it is ignoring the real contexts of England and narrowly focusing on the

teaching approach."

The decision to air the documentary-drama was inspired by the success of Shanghai province in topping the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) tables – an index that compares education attainment across the world.

The expert on teaching practices questioned the validity of the PISA examinations as a credible ranking of academic performance. "The original idea of PISA is a kind of non-curriculum-based assessment, [meaning] students do not need to study and drill a lot [before taking the tests]," she explained. "However, it seems that the participant nations ignore this original idea to enhance their national scores."

"As far as I know, most top schools in Shanghai are die-hard fans of drilling students for examination," the scholar



added.

The PISA examinations cover the three key areas of mathematics, science and reading. Macau ranked sixth in mathematics, and joint 16th in both science and reading in the latest rankings, which were assembled in 2012. All three areas were improvements on Macau's results in the previous PISA 'cycle' in 2009: 12th in mathematics, 18th in science and 28th in reading. **Staff Reporter**

Portuguese pop band 'Amor Electro' in concert

The band "Amor Electro" will be appearing in Macau as part of a music concert to be held at the Macau Cultural Centre Small Auditorium on October 27.

The Portuguese contemporary music group has been growing since the release of their first album.

With a unique blend of modern and traditional sounds as well as of popular and electronic sounds, they give rise to a musical style that has been rated by the critics as original and charismatic.

In the last two and a half years of their existence, "Amor Electro" confirmed themselves as a group to watch in the Portuguese musical panorama, having reached a Platinum Disc title and been awarded several various prizes and distinctions.

Tickets for this show are on sale with Kong Seng ticketing network.

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THE fourth annual Global Tourism Economy Forum (GTEF) kicked off in Macau yesterday, under the theme “Belt and Road Initiative: Unleashing the New Dynamics of Cultural Tourism.”

The forum, which is being hosted by the Secretariat for Social Affairs and Culture, aims to foster cultural tourism, explore development opportunities, and enhance international cooperation through dialogue and the synthesis of new ideas.

The opening ceremony for the three-day conference was held in the ballroom of the Venetian Macao. It featured welcoming speeches by a number of high-profile figures, including Chief Executive Chui Sai On, and Edmund Ho, the former Chief Executive of Macau and current Vice Chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People’s Political Consultative Conference.

The CE stated that the global tourism industry is “facing immense opportunities and great challenges at the same time.” He added that he hopes that the forum “will open up new dimensions,” and that the practical advice that Macau and the global community take away from GTEF will contribute to sustainable tourism and economic development.

Edmund Ho commended the “bilateral people-to-people exchanges” taking place between China and Latin American countries, which have resulted in the creation of more opportunities for mutual economic development. Mr Ho explained that the 21st-century Maritime Silk Road has expanded its “ancient” route to include cooperation with countries in Latin America – the so-called “Pacific Alliance” consisting of Chile, Colombia, Mexico and Peru.

Both Mr Chui and Mr Ho asserted that Macau would have an important role to play in the new Maritime Silk Road, along with the other cities in the Guangdong Bay area. They acknowledged that Macau’s unique blend of Eastern and Western cultures is an asset in



The kick-off ceremony of the Global Tourism Economic Forum

FORUM

Optimism over the future of global tourism

Global tourism industry is facing immense opportunities and great challenges at the same time.

CHUI SAI ON

developing cultural tourism. Mr Hun Sen, the Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia, also presented a congratulatory message at the opening ceremony, offering his hopes for a productive forum and calling on Asian countries “to come together and jointly plan a future for cultural tourism.”

Taleb Rifai, Secretary-General at the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), and Li Jinzao, Chairman of the China National Tourism Administration,

presented keynote speeches, shortly before GTEF 2015 was officially launched by Pansy Ho,

who acts as the Vice Chairman and Secretary-General of the forum. **Staff Reporter**

PANSY HO: CULTURAL HERITAGE TURNED INTO TOURISM RESOURCES

PANSY HO has argued that this year’s conference “can play a role in catalyzing the transformation of cultural heritage into tourism resources, while helping to strike a sustainable balance.” Ms Ho noted that the event will show-

case Zhejiang province, which is “one of China’s most important cultural and literary centers,” and Tianjin, which is an urban region. The final part of the forum will showcase the “Pacific Alliance” countries of Latin America.

Asian tourism market share to reach 30 pct by 2030



ACCORDING to a report jointly issued by the World Tourism Organization (WTO) and the Global Tourism Economy Research Centre (GTERC), trends have indicated that the Asia-Pacific market share of global tourism will reach 30 percent by 2030.

Globally tourism increased by 4.4 percent in 2015, compared with the previous year, reaching almost 1.14 billion visitors. The Asia-Pacific region performed above the international average, recording an increase of 5 percent, which accounted for 23 percent of the global market share (268 million). This figure is expected to reach 30 percent by 2030 (535 million).

The drive behind the rise of the Asia-Pa-

cific region as a tourism destination has been accredited to a number of factors, including globalization, trade liberalization and a growing middle class with disposable income to spend on travel.

Macau received a special mention during a release of the report’s key points at the Global Tourism Economy Forum yesterday. The city was heralded as an “excellent” example of city tourism, as a “city with a population of 500,000 [that] caters to more than 5 times its populace in visitors.”

The report is entitled “Asian Tourism Trends,” and this is the second edition following a project agreement in September 2013 to produce the report annually.

Authorities request report after bus catches fire

THE Transport Bureau has requested a report from the bus operator TCM after one of its 20 natural gas-fueled vehicles caught fire at around 11 a.m. yesterday.

The incident occurred just as the

bus was entering the roundabout facing the Hotel Lisboa from the Governor Nobre de Carvalho Bridge. The report on the cause of the blaze must be completed within the week. The company initially sus-

pected that the fire was triggered by a short-circuit within the motor, ruling out the gas supply as a possible cause. The vehicle had already passed a safety checkup earlier this year, according to the authorities.



THE Institute for Tourism Studies (IFT) and the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) yesterday signed a memorandum of understanding to establish a Global Center for Tourism Education and Training in a joint initiative of the local government and the UNWTO.

Once the facility is set up, both parties will work together to implement projects in three big areas, including “delivering training and education programs, carrying out joint tourism research projects, and offering technical placement and internship opportunities,” IFT’s president Fanny Vong explained.

Speaking on the sidelines of the plaque unveiling ceremony marking the inauguration of the new campus in Taipa, Fanny Vong said that the IFT started managing the facility less than a week ago and did not need to make any special modifications.

IFT’s new Taipa campus consists of part of the former University of Macau Library, the staff quarter building, two laboratories and the East Asia dormitory Hall. Its total area is twice the size of IFT’s Mong-Ha campus.

“The newly added premises will greatly increase the capacity of IFT and this implies that we are going to be able to hold classes there, and even move programs to the Taipa campus,” said the IFT head, adding that the institute is already looking into moving some classes at the beginning of next year.

Another feature of the school’s new premises that Fanny Vong highlighted is the dormitory hall, which will allow the institution to move students into the Taipa campus by the end of the year.

The plaque unveiling ceremony was attended by the Chief Executive Chui Sai On, the Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture, Alexis



IFT to partner with UNWTO to create a center for tourism education and training

Tam, and Taleb Rifai, Secretary General of UNWTO.

Speaking on the sidelines of an international symposium on the past and future of tourism held by IFT’s Tourism Research Centre, the director of the Tertiary Education Services Office Sou Chio Fai told journalists that the transfer of the pre-

mises, that was inaugurated yesterday, was part of the government’s plan to support the “only institution in Macau that provides education in the area of tourism.” He noted that the government wants to promote this aspect as part of the territory’s transformation into a “world centre of tourism and leisure,” also allowing the institution to “expand its offer to include higher qualifications, such as Masters and Doctorate programs.”

Mr Chou, when questioned by journalists regarding the future quotas for students from mainland China, said: “At the moment, we have an effective mechanism to manage the number of students that are coming from mainland China.”

“It is time for the institu-

■ The Taipa campus’ total area is twice the size of IFT’s Mong-Ha facility

tions to think about readjusting their role,” he also stated.

According to official data,

the percentage of the labor force in Macau with higher education is still lagging behind other Asian countries and territories like Hong Kong, Taiwan and Singapore.

“That leaves a good progression margin to create opportunities or second opportunities for members of the Macau workforce to earn a higher education degree and for others to undertake a higher degree of study,” Sou Chio Fai said. **RM**

“**The newly added premises will greatly increase the capacity of IFT**

FANNY VONG
IFT PRESIDENT

SOU CHIO FAI: NO COMMENTS ON UM STUDENT ASSOCIATION CASE

THE DIRECTOR of Tertiary Education Services Office (GAES) Sou Chio Fai refused to comment on an alleged interference by the University of Macau (UM) in its student association election

case. Stating that the UM and its student association are “independent organizations that enjoy from their own autonomy,” Sou Chio Fai said that “this autonomy should always prevail.”

CRIME

Mentally ill man ambushes schoolgirl walking home at midnight

Aries Un

A man with a history of mental illness last month attempted to grab a schoolgirl’s handbag while she was making her way home alone, according to the Judiciary Police, who have launched a probe into the incident after learning about the

assault online.

Earlier this month, appeals for more information alongside descriptions of the incident emerged on social media, urging residents near Casa Garden to stay vigilant, said the police. In spite of receiving no reports from the victim, the investigators initia-

ted an inquiry into the incident.

The authorities’ investigations later revealed that on September 28, the 17-year-old local victim was ambushed on Rua de Entre-Campos by a 48-year-old local man, who repeatedly struck her on the head with a plastic bottle, which had

been wrapped in tape and stuffed with newspaper.

It was also said that the teenage student failed to shake off the man, despite having bitten the man’s hand, which was covering her mouth. However, a driver reportedly later arrived by chance and rescued the

girl, using his vehicle to scare off the man who subsequently fled the scene. CCTV footage captured the offender later returning to the same location in another outfit.

The victim arrived home with all of her belongings, said the police. Yesterday morning, the investigators took the

suspect to the police station after identifying him through surveillance footage.

They learnt from his mother and the Social Welfare Bureau that the man has long suffered from a mental disorder and is sometimes prone to violent behavior.

The police also said that the mother was unaware of the attack until the police approached them. The authorities’ investigation continues as police investigate the possibility of further cases involving other individuals.



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SURVEY

Shoppers' confidence continues to fade in 3Q

Aries Un

THE Macau University of Science and Technology's consumer index indicates that Macau consumers' confidence continued to decline in the third quarter of the year, while confidence in the local economy and employment has tumbled to a record low.

Up to 1,015 locals aged over 18 who were surveyed between September 9 and 21 expressed a fading level of confidence in the local economy. The survey was aimed at gauging how confident they were feeling about the economic outlook,



considering multiple aspects 0 to 200.

classified in eight categories The general index stands at 81.57, a 5.09 percent fall from

the previous quarter. The local economy index reflects the overall pessimism of the community as this quarter's poll recorded the fourth fall in the index. Now standing below the confidence level of 100, this is in stark contrast to the 22 consecutive quarters of confidence recorded from the third quarter of 2009.

Against the background of disappointing gaming earnings for the sixteenth month in a row, the report concludes that consumers have transitioned from being "adequately optimistic, then cautiously optimistic, even to relatively pessimistic" from late 2009 to early this year.

The only two categories seeing increases are those of price levels and flat purchases. The former recorded a 10.47-percent spike quarter-on-quarter, indicating a lessening apprehension among consumers, while the latter, despite remaining

the lowest index of them all, highlights a more positive sentiment among consumers with its 17.44-percent increase this quarter.

Traditionally the highest index of all four quarters, confidence towards employment has sunk beneath the confidence level for the first time since the third quarter of 2010.

The economic downturn has also shaken consumers' desire to invest in shares and weighed on them in terms of livelihood, as both indices saw decreases to different extents compared to the previous quarter.

The survey stresses in its conclusions that potential factors for driving up confidence among consumers include: economic diversification; strengthened regional cooperation; ensuring balanced supply and demand on the property market; and continuing to curb inflation.

STATISTICS

Survey confirms gaming industry trends

DUE to the decline in gross gaming revenue since June 2014, the total receipts of the sector have dropped by 2.5 percent year-on-year to MOP 354.06 billion in 2014, according to the Gaming Sector Survey 2014 from the Statistics and Census Service (DSEC).

Receipts from gaming & related services (e.g. food & beverage, currency exchange, etc.) amounted to MOP 353.64 billion, down by 2.5 percent year-on-year, of which gaming receipts fell by 2.6 percent while food & beverage rose by 8.8 percent to MOP 613 million.

Total expenditure amounted to MOP150.9 billion, down by 3.7 percent year-on-year. The purchasing of goods, commission

paid and customer rebate accounted for 68.8 percent of the total, at MOP103.84 billion, down by 10.3 percent year-on-year. Operating expenses increased by 16 percent to MOP 24.56 billion, of which expenses for complimentary hotel accommodation (MOP 6.09 billion) and marketing & market research (MOP5.41 billion) rose by 21.7 percent and 31 percent respectively. Compensation of employees increased by 17.3 percent to MOP18.97 billion, while depreciation and interest paid slipped by 0.8 percent to MOP3.54 billion.

The gross value added, which measures how much the sector has contributed to the economy, amounted to MOP225.25 billion, down slightly by 0.3 percent year-

on-year. The gross surplus of the gaming sector (the total of receipts from gaming and related services, plus changes in inventories less expenditure) decreased by 1.6 percent while the gross surplus ratio rose marginally to 58.3 percent. The gross fixed capital formation increased by 22.8 percent year-on-year to MOP2.64 billion. According to DSEC, this possibly results of the major renovations and acquisitions of additional gaming equipment by gaming operators.

The number of gaming enterprises remained at 10 in 2014. The total number of full-time employees rose by 3.5 percent year-on-year to 57,757, a slowdown from the 3.7 percent year-on-year growth recorded in 2013.

TIS University Fair attracts 350 high school students

MORE than 350 high school students from The International School of Macao (TIS), the School of the Nations and the Macau Anglican College attended the TIS University Fair last week.

50 universities from around the world participated in the annual fair, which provides high school students in Macau with information about degree programs, the university application process, and scholarship opportunities.

The TIS University Fair has doubled in size since last year, with universities from Canada, the United States, the United Kingdom, Australia, Switzer-



Students at the TIS University Fair asking about degree programs, the university application process and scholarship opportunities.

land, Slovakia, Israel, Hong Kong and Macau.

The fair was hosted in the Multi-Purpose Room at TIS from 1:30 - 4pm, and both students and their parents were in attendance.

The fair is held every October at TIS. The International School of Macao enrolls 1,300 students from 44 different countries.

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INVESTMENT

Pansy Ho among 15 buying half of China Reinsurance through IPO



CHINA Reinsurance Group Corp., the nation's biggest reinsurer, is planning to sell around half of its almost USD2 billion HK initial public offering to cornerstone investors. Macau casino executive

Pansy Ho, U.S.-based Prudential Financial and China Life Insurance are among 15 investors that have offered to buy a combined USD1.12 billion worth of shares in the offering, according to the terms of the deal obtained by Bloomberg.

China Re is selling 5.77 billion shares at between HKD2.25 and HKD2.70 apiece, the terms show.

China Re drew investments from a group of mostly state-owned enterprises to help complete the IPO. This comes after a Hong Kong market rout that has erased USD1.3 trillion in value since April. China Re will add to the \$20.7 billion raised through its first time selling shares this year, up from \$17.8 billion in the same period in 2014, according to data compiled by Bloomberg.

Bad-loan manager China Great Wall Asset Management Corp. and electricity distributor State Grid Corp. of China will each invest \$150 million in China Re's IPO, while power producers China General Nuclear Power Corp. and China Three Gorges Corp. will buy \$100 million of stock apiece, the terms show. China Life agreed to purchase \$50 million worth of shares, while Prudential will buy \$30 million and Ho \$20 million.

China Re plans to price the offering on October 16 in New York and start trading on October 26, according to the terms. China International Capital Corp., HSBC Holdings Plc and UBS Group AG are joint sponsors of the IPO. **MDT/Bloomberg**

FT REPORT

China slowdown weighs on Hong Kong luxury rents

RENTS in what were the world's most expensive shopping streets have dropped by as much as 40 per cent as the impact of China's slowing economy on Hong Kong's once-booming luxury goods industry deepens, the Financial Times reported yesterday.

From Prada to Gucci-owner Kering, "companies in the sector are calling on landlords to cut sky-high rents, raising the prospect that store closures will accelerate."

A shop previously occupied by Jaeger-LeCoultre in Causeway Bay is being replaced by a local discount cosmetics retailer that has negotiated a lease about 40 per cent cheaper than the deal agreed by the high-end watchmaker in 2012, FT writer Ben Bland reveals.

Elsewhere in the city — the world's biggest market for Swiss watches and many other luxury goods — handbag maker Coach has vacated a prime corner store in the business district that is being taken over for less rent by German sportswear group Adidas.

"There's a grim macro background to what's going on," said Simon Smith, head of research for property agent Savills in Hong Kong, cited by Financial Times. "The end result is that people are spending less on big-ticket discretionary items, with watches and jewellery hardest hit. But now it's filtering down to



luxury fashion and cosmetics."

Annual sales of watches and jewellery — a key indicator for the wider luxury goods market — doubled in Hong Kong between 2010 and 2013, peaking at USD15bn before going into reverse over the past two years. In the first eight months of this year, sales were down by 14 per cent compared with the same period a year earlier.

The corruption crackdown launched by President Xi Jinping in 2012 made the

purchase and display of expensive watches and designer accessories taboo among the government officials and state-owned company executives who drove the incredible growth of Hong Kong's luxury goods retailers.

The slowing Chinese economy has further dented demand for high-end goods in Hong Kong, while currency moves have made alternative shopping destinations such as Japan, South Korea and Europe more attractive to Chinese consumers who

are travelling overseas in ever greater numbers.

As rents started to ease last year, Hong Kong was overtaken as the world's most expensive place to lease a shop by New York's Fifth Avenue, reveals the FT.

Tom Gaffney, head of retail for Hong Kong at JLL, a real estate group, said that many high street landlords would have to continue cutting rents when leases expire, especially in areas such as Causeway Bay that have a high density of jewellery and watch shops.

corporate bits

'RUN TO GIVE' CHARITY RACE RAISES FUNDS FOR FUHONG SOCIETY

Sheraton Macao Hotel and the St. Regis Macao, both in Cotai Central, hosted a "Run to Give" charity race at the Macau University of Science and Technology on October 11 to raise funds for the Fuhong Society of Macau.

More than 70 associates from both hotels participated in the charity run, which also marks the commencement of Together As One (TAO) in the Asia-Pacific — Starwood's annual global volunteer campaign.

This year's event raised MOP25,000 and is part of Starwood Hotel & Resorts' efforts to give back to the local community. The hotel

organization has now dedicated the month of October to TAO to encourage additional volunteers and to celebrate the voluntary work of their associates.

Sheraton Macao Hotel bellman Mr Fu Cheng Guang won the Men's three-kilometer race with an impressive time of 13 minutes, 17 seconds. Returning champion Ms Chen Jie Xing, who is a housekeeping attendant for Sheraton Macao Hotel, won the Women's three-kilometer "Run to Give" race for a second year in a row with a time of 15 minutes, 31 seconds. A three-kilometer team race was also held, which the "Forever Cham-

pions" team won, setting a record team time of just 12 minutes, 23 seconds.

"Run to Give" was a tremendous success this year, and everyone had a great time giving back to the community," said Rachel Chan, General Manager of Human Resources for Sheraton Macao Hotel and the St. Regis Macao. "We're thrilled that we were able to raise funds in support of the Fuhong Society of Macau."

The "Run to Give" charity event was organized by the Human Resources team with the help of other hotel associates who volunteered their time. All funds raised will be donated to the society.

The Fuhong Society of Macau is a non-profit orga-



nization that aims to provide opportunities for persons with disabilities to ensure that they can achieve the

greatest independence possible within their circumstances. The services that the society provides include

occupational skills development and training, employment services and a community support service.

Three Gorges expected to contribute to construction of dams

THE China Three Gorges group may put forward a proposal when the Brazilian government on 29 November auctions the concessions for construction and operation of hydropower plants, reported the Exame Brasil magazine.

A member of the Brazilian President's economic team told the magazine have the Brazilian government had eliminated the restriction that prevented proposals from foreign groups and companies, thus allowing the Chinese state to put forward a proposal.

The amendment to the law is due to the fact that many Brazilian companies are encountering difficulties in obtaining finance due to the economic crisis in Brazil.

Companies that previously had the help of the National Bank for Economic and Social Development (BNDES), are currently being denied loans due to state budget restrictions imposed by the federal government, according to a technical note from Credit Suisse Group AG dated 4 October.

Exame Brasil reported that Companhia Paranaense de Energia (COPEL) was expected to take part in the auction, as well as Companhia Energética de Minas Gerais (Cemig) and Companhia Energética de São Paulo (CESP), and there had also been expressions of interest from companies from the United States, Canada and Spain.

China Three Gorges struck a deal this year to buy the assets of Brazil's Triunfo Participações e Investimentos (TPI), a company based in São Paulo with a strong presence in the segments of highway concessions, port and airport management and energy production. **MDT/Macauhub**

Delta's business in China based on e-commerce platform

THE activity of the Delta Cafés group in China's is 100 percent based on an e-commerce model, said in Lisbon Rui Miguel Nabeiro, the chief executive of the Portuguese group, which recently set up a company to operate in the country, Delta Foods Shanghai.

The group entered the Chinese market a year ago through a partnership with the Bright Foods Group, which is one of the largest food distributors in China, but recently set up its own business as that was "considered to be that important step."

Nabeiro said the sale of the first Delta Q coffee machines was positive, "as we sold 700 machines in three weeks and we expect to sell another 1,500 before Christmas."

The CEO said that "growth driver is (coffee) capsules," as well as continuing to sell coffee



beans and ground coffee.

"We are very satisfied with these results," particular because of business performance "in the first year" in that market, given the economic "turbulence" in China, he said.

For Nabeiro Angola is a very important market for the group, since it has been growing at a rate of 20 percent per year, and after Spain is the second largest international market for the group.

Delta Cafés is this year expected to post turnover of 340 million euros, compared to 323 million euros in 2014, with more than 90 percent of turnover from the coffee business. **MDT/Macauhub**

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Police seizes 804kg of ivory along with rhino horn, bear paws

AUTHORITIES announced yesterday the arrests of 16 suspected members of a smuggling ring and the seizure of hundreds of kilograms of ivory along with rhino horns and bear paws.

Police in Beijing said that as a result of a crackdown from May to August on the illegal trade and transport of wildlife products, officers netted 804 kilograms of ivory, 11 kilograms of rhino horns and 35 bear paws in a haul worth 24 million yuan (USD3.8 million).

China is the world's largest market for illegal ivory, which has been thriving under the cover of legal ivory sales. Amid criticism that demand for ivory among its rising middle class threatens African elephants, China is taking steps to fight trafficking and end ivory sales.

In February, China imposed a one-year ban on ivory imports. In September, Chinese President Xi Jinping pledged to halt commercial ivory sales in China when he was visiting the United States.

Beijing police said in a statement that the ivory was smuggled illegally from Japan to mainland China via Hong Kong. The 16 suspects were arrested by forest police, which investigate crimes involving wildlife, in Beijing, Hebei, Guangdong and Shandong, among other places.

TRAFFIC, a British-based anti-wildlife trafficking group, praised the operation as a "clear demonstration of the Chinese government's commitment to crack down on illegal wildlife trade." TRAFFIC said in a statement that it was possible that all the wildlife products in the case originated in Japan, where people have been selling legally owned ivory and rhino horns from the 1980s and earlier as their popularity has plummeted.

Yesterday's announcement came after authorities in Tanzania brought charges last week against Yang Feng Clan, 66, a Chinese woman accused of smuggling 1.9 tons of ivory between Jan. 1, 2000, and May 22, 2014. AP



VW diesel cars recalled in China, sales halted in Singapore

Joe McDonald, Beijing

VOLKSWAGEN said yesterday it is recalling 1,950 diesel vehicles in China to change engine software it has admitted cheats on emissions tests and Singapore suspended sales of the company's diesel cars.

The German automaker admitted last month that 11 million of its vehicles worldwide were fitted with cheating software to beat emission tests.

The recall in China applies to 1,946 Tiguan sport utility vehicles and four Passat B6 sedans, all of them imported, the com-

pany said. It said it was developing technical solutions and had yet to submit them to Chinese authorities for approval.

Volkswagen's business in China, the largest auto market by number of vehicles sold, has suffered little impact from the emissions scandal due to the lack of popularity of diesel cars among Chinese drivers. But foreign companies are closely watched by Chinese authorities, and state media publicize suggestions of misconduct.

Europe's biggest automaker has acknowledged it installed software dubbed "defeat de-

vices" on diesel vehicles that switched on pollution controls when cars underwent emissions tests and switched off during driving to improve performance.

"Volkswagen would like to sincerely apologize for any inconvenience caused to our customers," the company said in a statement. "We would like to assure that we will do everything humanly possible to win back trust and take care of any concerns."

In Singapore, the National Environment Agency said in a statement that sales of the company's diesel cars would be

suspended until models were rectified to meet official emissions guidelines, adding that it "takes a serious view of any misrepresentation by Volkswagen Group."

Cheating software was found in about 650 Singapore-registered cars, according to data from Volkswagen's Singapore office.

There were 21,801 Volkswagen passenger cars on the roads in Singapore at the end of 2014, according to the Land Transport Authority, but a breakdown on the the number of diesel-powered vehicles was not available. AP

Ford to invest USD1.8 billion in research

FORD Motor Co. is investing USD1.8 billion to develop technologies aimed at attracting Chinese car buyers, underlining China's importance to automakers despite slowing sales growth.

The American automaker said yesterday it will expand its research and development center in the eastern city of Nanjing and work on autonomous driving, smartphone connectivity, more efficient powertrains and other technologies.

Global automakers see China as a key source of sales growth and are spending heavily to appeal to Chinese tastes. Some have broken with a strategy of selling the same models worldwide and are creating China-only vehicles.

Automakers are stepping up investment despite an unexpectedly sharp downturn in sales this year. In July, General Motors Co. announced a \$5 billion initiative with its main Chinese partner to develop vehicles to be sold in China, Brazil, India and Mexico.

Auto sales in China declined in August for a third straight month, contracting by 3.4



percent from a year earlier to 1.4 million vehicles. Ford's August sales declined by 3 percent to 79,608, while year-to-date sales were off 1 percent at just over 700,000.

Demand has been hurt by congestion in Beijing, Shanghai and other major cities that has made car ownership less attractive and by official efforts to curb traffic and smog by limiting the number of new vehicle registrations.

Ford said features it hopes to offer in China include introduction next year of SYNC 3, a system that allows hands-free control

of phones, entertainment, climate control and navigation.

Ford said it will add a vehicle test center in Nanjing, expanding its ability to develop products in China.

The company has 10 manufacturing facilities in China. The Nanjing Research and Engineering Center employs 1,900 people and is one of eight global product development centers.

In April, Ford and a local partner said they would spend \$1.1 billion on a factory in China's northeast. AP

TIGERS DOWN

Former Chinese state oil boss convicted of corruption

TWO senior Chinese officials — one who earlier led the country's biggest petroleum company and the other a deputy party chief in populous Sichuan province — were convicted of corruption yesterday and sentenced to 16 and 13 years in prison, respectively, Chinese authorities said.

Hanjiang Intermediate People's Court in central China said Jiang Jiemin, former chairman of the state-run China National Petroleum Corp., accepted 14 million yuan (USD2.3 million) in bribes and failed to explain the source of another 15 million yuan. Jiang also violated regulations by

providing assistance to others, resulting in losses to the state, the court said. It sentenced him to 16 years in prison.

Also yesterday, Xianning Intermediate People's Court, also in central China, said it convicted Li Chuncheng, a former deputy party chief for the southwestern province of Sichuan, of corruption and sentenced him to 13 years in jail. The court said Li received nearly 40 million yuan (\$6.45 million) in bribes.

Both Jiang and Li are considered associates of Zhou Yongkang, a former member of the all-powerful standing committee of the ruling Communist Party's Politburo. Zhou has been convicted of cor-



Jiang Jiemin (left) and Li Chuncheng

ruption and is serving a life sentence in jail.

Before his retirement in 2012, Zhou oversaw China's police and security apparatus and was a formidable politician. He built a power bases not only in the police but also in Sichuan province and in the oil industry, where he worked for many years.

Both the Sichuan government and the state oil company were targets of a sweeping anti-corruption campaign that has netted top officials since Chinese President Xi Jinping came into power in late 2012.

Li was placed under investigation in late 2012. He was tried in April on charges of taking bribes and abusing power.

At first Jiang appeared to be unscathed because he was appointed to the Cabinet body that oversees China's biggest state-owned firms in 2013. But he was fired from the post later that year after he came under investigation.

Jiang was tried in April, also on charges of taking bribes and abusing power. **AP**

4 JAPANESE 'SPIES' HELD IN CHINA

Authorities are investigating the latest allegations, Foreign Ministry says

TWO more Japanese citizens, including a woman held in Shanghai in June, are being held in China on suspicion of spying, bringing the total number to four, Japanese media reported.

Japan and China acknowledged last month that two Japanese had been arrested in May on suspected spying charges — one in Zhejiang province and the other near the North Korean border in Liaoning.

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Hua Chunying told a regular news conference yesterday that Chinese authorities are investigating the latest case and have given Japan relevant information. She said she was unaware of how many people had been detained.

Japan's Foreign Ministry refused to confirm or deny the reports.

The two earlier cases are the only ones linked to spying allegations that the Japanese government has been informed of, said Kazunari Kotake, an official in the ministry's department in charge of the safety of overseas Japanese.

The government has warned



Japan's Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga

Japanese visitors to China to use extra caution. Japan is not taking any immediate additional steps in response to the newly reported detentions, Kotake said.

Japanese public broadcaster NHK said over the weekend that the latest cases involved a man in his 60s who was arrested in Beijing, and a woman in her 50s who was arrested in Shanghai. The woman was the most recent case to surface but both were detained in June, as MDT reported yesterday.

China enacted an anti-spying law last November, in a move experts said was aimed at increasing surveillance of foreigners' activities in the country.

The four people had businesses or connections with China and frequently visited the country, according to Japanese media reports.

In 2010, four employees of a Japanese construction company were accused of filming a Chinese military site in Hebei province but were released within weeks. **MDT/AP**

Lawyer's son back after failed escape attempt

THE teenage son of a rights lawyer detained in a sweeping crackdown on civil society is under house arrest in northern China after being grabbed in Myanmar while trying to escape to the United States, a family friend said yesterday.

Bao Zhuoxuan, also known as Bao Mengmeng, is under 24-hour police surveillance at his grandparents' house in Inner Mongolia and is not allowed contact with the outside world, Liang Bo, a San Francisco-based family friend, said by phone.

Bao, 16, is the son of Wang Yu, a lawyer who disappeared July 9 amid a rounding up of dozens of rights lawyers and social activists in a broad crackdown on groups that seek changes in society and that operate outside the Communist Party. Wang has represented people involved in politically sensitive cases and earlier this year was the legal counsel for one of five women's rights activists jailed over a planned event against sexual harassment.

Bao and his father were detained on the same day by police at Beijing's international airport on their way to Australia, where Bao was to attend high school. Bao was released after two days, but his passport was revoked,

Zhou said. His parents are still missing.

Chinese authorities routinely put pressure on activists by targeting their family members.

After his release the teenager was watched and harassed by police in Beijing, and at times beaten by them, said Liang, who was intending to look after Bao in San Francisco. Beijing police did not immediately respond to a faxed request for comment.

San Francisco-based rights campaigner Fengsuo Zhou, who was involved in the escape plan and was to help Bao seek refuge in the U.S., said: "He has expressed his will to study abroad, and eventually study law, like his mother."

Zhou traveled to the Thai capital of Bangkok and grew worried when Bao failed to meet him there last week. He said that Bao and two men helping him leave China were taken by local police in a Myanmar border town on Oct. 6, citing information from the guest house in Mong La.

Liang said Bao was with his mother's parents in Ulanhot city. Calls to two numbers for Bao's grandmother were not answered. People who answered calls to Ulanhot police's general and criminal investigation offices said they were not aware of the case. **AP**

AP PHOTO



Suspected militants, from left, Abdul Hakim, Ahmad Junaedi and Tuah Febriwansyah

INDONESIA

Court tries 7 suspected militants over IS links

Niniek Karmini, Jakarta

INDONESIA began trials yesterday of seven men on charges of conspiring with terrorists and recruiting for militant groups in the Mideast, including the Islamic State, which has an estimated hundreds of Indonesians as members.

The government has outlawed the Islamic State group and

spoken forcefully against it, as have mainstream religious groups in the world's largest Muslim nation. One fear is that militants who travel abroad will return home and conduct terrorist acts in Indonesia.

The West Jakarta District Court began separate trials for Ahmad Junaedi, Ridwan Sungkar, Helmi Muhammad Alamudi and Abdul Hakim, as well as two others who helped them

go to Syria to join Islamic State jihadists.

The seventh, Tuah Febriwansyah — also known as Fachry — is accused of actively spreading IS propaganda through his own radical website and posting violent videos of terrorism activities on the Internet, including a video showing militants in Syria giving military-style training to Indonesian children.

The seven men being tried, aged 32 to 51, were arrested in police raids in late March and early April in the capital, Jakarta, and East Java's Malang town.

State prosecutor Anita Dewayani told the court that Junaedi, Sungkar, Alamudi and Hakim attended jihadist training organized by IS in Syria, pledged allegiance to the group's leader Abu Bakar Al Baghdadi, and fought with the group for up to seven months.

"Islamic State in Syria and Iraq has been declared as a terrorist group by the United States and Indonesia," Dewayani said, "The defendants deliberately conspired with the group in Syria, spread hatred and even join in wars with them to

revenge the deaths of Islamic fighters."

If found guilty, the seven defendants would face up to 20 years in prison under Indonesia's anti-terror law.

Indonesian authorities estimate over 600 Indonesians have joined the ISIS Daesh in Syria or Iraq.

For the first time since the 1990s and the Afghan jihad, Indonesians, Malaysians and other extremists in Southeast Asia are traveling abroad in an organized fashion to join a global militant movement, picking up battlefield skills and militant contacts.

Security officials fear they could take part in terrorism on their return to Southeast Asia, as those trained in Afghanistan did in attacks such as the 2002 Bali bombings, which killed 202 people. Radicals at home also could heed the Islamic State group's exhortations to carry out revenge attacks on Western targets.

In response to the threat posed by foreign fighters, the U.N. Security Council last year adopted a resolution demanding member states prevent the recruitment and travel of people to join militant organizations like the Islamic State group.

After the charges against the seven defendants were read, the panel of three judges adjourned the trial until next Tuesday.

The trial of another suspect, Muhammad Amin Mude, started last week, and five more are due to begin in coming weeks.

PHILIPPINES

Race for presidency, 18,000 other offices begins

THE race for the Philippine presidency next year began yesterday with the country's vice president being the first major contender to register his candidacy to lead one of Asia's most unwieldy democracies.

Vice President Jejomar Binay filed his certificate of candidacy before Manila's Commission on Elections with Sen. Gregorio Honasan as his vice presidential running mate. The ex-army officer is best known for helping lead a number of failed coup attempts in the 1980s.

President Benigno Aquino III's six-year term ends in June.

At least two other key contenders, Sen. Grace Poe and Interior Secretary Mar Roxas, are expected to register their candidacies this week.

Poe, the adopted daughter of a famous movie couple who lived and worked for years in America, has been leading voter-preference polls but has faced questions about her citizenship. Running as an independent, she also lacks a formidable political party unlike Roxas,



Philippine Vice-President and now presidential candidate Jejomar Binay, left, and running mate Senator Gregorio "Gringo" Honasan

whose candidacy was endorsed by partymate Aquino.

Binay, a former human rights lawyer and city mayor, topped polls for years until he faced a Senate investigation for alleged large-scale corruption that dragged for months. He has denied any wrongdoing and although his survey standing has dipped, analysts still consider him among the major contenders.

Unlike in the last elections, when Aquino surged comfortably ahead and won with a landslide margin on a promise to fight corruption

and poverty, next year's vote is close, said Steven Rood of the Asia Foundation, a U.S.-based nongovernment group that helps the Philippines and other Asian countries improve governance.

"This far out there is no overwhelming favorite," Rood said. "It really is anybody's game."

Nearly three decades after the country emerged from a dictatorship through a 1986 "people power" revolt that catapulted his mother to the presidency, Aquino said the Philippines is back on the road to prosperity and hope after years of political instability. But critics say problems like poverty and corruption remain considerable.

Aquino, whose ruling party presented its 12 senatorial candidates yesterday, said next year's elections would be a barometer of the battle for good governance that he has waged.

Aside from the presidency, more than 18,000 congressional and local posts will be decided in the May 9 elections. **AP**

BANGLADESH

5 suspects arrested in attack on pastor

POLICE in northwestern Bangladesh said they have arrested five suspected members of a banned radical group for alleged involvement in an attempt to kill a Christian pastor.

Police chief Alamgir Kabir in Pabna district said that the suspected members of Jumatul Mujahedeen Bangladesh were arrested in raids in the capital, Dhaka, and elsewhere over past few days.

The Rev. Luke Sarker, 52, suffered minor injuries when three men attacked him with a knife at his home on Oct. 5. The men had told Sarker that they wanted to learn about Christianity.

The attempt took place days after the killings of two foreigners in the predominantly Muslim country. The Islamic State group claimed responsibility for the attacks on a Japanese agricultural worker and an Italian aid worker. The claim was rejected by Bangladesh's government, which accused the opposition of trying to destabilize the country.

Earlier, police arrested a member of Islami Chhatra Shibir, the student wing of the opposition Jamaat-e-Islami political party, for alleged involvement in the attack on the pastor. **AP**

AP PHOTO



Mari Yamaguchi, Yokohama

JAPAN

Former American POWs visit Yokohama, recount memories

NINE former American servicemen who were held as prisoners during World War II were in Japan yesterday to revisit some of the places where they were held seven decades ago and recount their memories.

The men, all in their 90s, opened their tour with a memorial service for their fellow fallen soldiers at the Commonwealth War Graves in Yokohama, near Tokyo.

As they marked the 70th anniversary of the end of the war, the emphasis was on reconciliation.

George Rogers, of Lynchburg, Virginia, said he had no hard feelings. Now 96, he was taken captive by the Japanese after surviving the infamous Bataan Death March in April 1942 and forced to work at the Yawata steel plant in southern Japan, or today's Nippon Steel & Sumitomo Metal Corp.

During his nearly 3 1/2 years of captivity, Rogers was given meager food rations and sometimes beaten up.

He said that he was lucky to survive, but that he harbored "no hard feelings" toward his captors.

"Just like we do what we're told to do as far as the Army is concerned, your (Japanese)



Former American prisoner of war Clifford Warren, 91, Shepherd, TX., offers flowers at the Commonwealth War Graves in Yokohama near Tokyo

men do the same thing. They tell them to do it, they do it," he said. "Other than that, I think we lived."

A month after Japan's Aug. 15, 1945, surrender, Rogers returned to the U.S. in skin-and-bone state, weighing only 38

kilograms despite being 6-foot-3. His doctor told him — he was 26 then — that he would most likely not live past 45 or 50, keep his teeth or have children.

Rogers still has his teeth, and has five children. One of them, Jeffrey, accompanied him on

his trip to Japan.

"They didn't give me any food, and I didn't get much water when I needed it, but other than that, it was a long trip, very far," he said.

His hope to revisit the steel plant wasn't accommodated. The Yawata plant was chosen as a World Heritage site.

During the Bataan march, thousands of prisoners were forced to walk more than 60 miles (97 kilometers) under severe, sweltering conditions while being abused by their captors. Many died.

Historians say some 30,000 allied force members were held as prisoners in Japan during World War II.

At the memorial service, the nine veterans, assisted by their family members and attendees from the U.S. Navy, laid flowers for their fellow countrymen who perished while in captivity.

The participants, visiting Japan at the invitation of the Foreign Ministry under a program

for reconciliation that started five years ago, are scheduled to visit some of former camp sites, including Osaka, Yokohama and Kamioka, central Japan.

Japan has similar programs with Australia and Britain. Many former POWs still harbor hard feelings because of harsh treatment by the Japanese.

It took 94-year old Arthur Gruenberg, from Camano Island, Washington, 70 years to come back. The former Marine surrendered at Corregidor, Philippines, in May 1942, and was eventually shipped to a Fukuoka mine in southern Japan. By then he was blind in one eye due to vitamin A deficiency.

Gruenberg said he was simply impressed by Japan's postwar development and hoped it remains a peace-loving nation.

"Everything is just amazing, it's unbelievable," he said. "I can't say it (my feelings) has changed much, I just hope we don't have any more wars." AP

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WHEN the Democratic candidates for president take the stage for their first debate this week in Nevada, they'll do so in a state that serves as a reminder of why Hillary Rodham Clinton is the front-runner for the nomination.

For all the excitement generated to date by Clinton's main challenger, Vermont independent Sen. Bernie Sanders, and for all the anticipation about whether Vice President Joe Biden will decide to make a late entry into the race, it is the former first lady and her campaign that are set up to win Nevada, one of the first four states to cast ballots in the primary contest.

The southwestern state is home to large communities of immigrants — many who have only recently arrived in the U.S. When combined with Nevada's baroque caucus system, which is so complex that the rules surrounding it run 51 pages, that means winning the state requires a higher degree of organization and effort to get-out-the-vote than in most others.

The Democrats gather in Las Vegas on Tuesday for their first presidential debate, with several months to go before the primary contests begin. On the Republican side, a crowded field of candidates has already held two debates, with seasoned politicians unexpectedly struggling to emerge from the shadow of billionaire Donald Trump and other insurgent contenders.

Clinton installed staff on the ground in Nevada six months ago, and she now has 22 paid operatives in the state. They have recruited more than 3,000

USA

Hillary has edge in Nevada, site of Dems' first debate



Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Rodham Clinton

volunteers, who have already held events in remote desert towns as well as the state's urban centers. Clinton herself has made wooing immigrants a keystone of her campaign; she announced her immigration policy approach at a Las Vegas high school this spring.

"That's a lot of shoe leather, and they've been on the ground for 5-6 months," Billy Vassiliadis, a veteran Democratic strategist in Nevada who isn't involved in the current race, said of the Clinton campaign's efforts. "That's going to be a challenge that I don't think a Sanders can overcome, that — God bless his

heart — I don't think Joe can overcome."

Meanwhile, Sanders' effort in the state has just one paid staffer, who arrived less than two weeks ago. Biden has yet to decide whether to run and does not have any formal campaign operation.

None of the other candidates Clinton will debate tomorrow (Macau time)— former Maryland Gov. Martin O'Malley, former Rhode Island Sen. Lincoln Chaffee and former Virginia Sen. Jim Webb — have a campaign organization that can match Clinton's. All are largely afterthoughts in ear-

ly preference polls.

The differences in the structural strength of the campaigns were evident this past weekend. While Sanders' single Nevada staffer had his first meeting with hundreds of Sanders volunteers at a community college on Saturday, Clinton's campaign flew

“There is a movement here, even in Nevada, for Bernie Sanders.”

JIM FARRELL

SANDERS' NEVADA STATE DIRECTOR

in Democratic rising star Rep. Joaquin Castro of Texas in Las Vegas and former NBA player Jason Collins in Reno to cheer on volunteers and staffers who had been knocking on doors and making calls for months.

Sanders supporters argue they can catch up. "There is a movement here, even in Nevada, for Bernie Sanders," said Jim Farrell, Sanders' Nevada state director. "This is not a normal election cycle."

Clinton won the Nevada caucus in 2008 before ultimately

losing the Democratic nomination to Barack Obama. Yet because of the Nevada's complex rules, she left the state with one fewer delegate than did Obama.

In U.S. presidential primaries, candidates compete in each state for the support of party delegates, who choose the nominee at a national convention. Most states have a winner-take-all system that allocates all of its delegates to the candidate who wins its primary election. But Nevada holds caucuses rather than elections, and has intricate rules that can generously apportion delegates to runners-up.

That's something noted by some Sanders backers as they tout the potential for the enthusiasm for his campaign to ultimately trump Clinton's structural edge.

Clinton's team is targeting the state's diverse electorate, hosting Filipino-style potluck dinners and courting black pastors as well as Nevada's influential corps of immigrant-rights activists. And what the campaign does in Nevada will pay off across the country, said Marlon Marshall, the Clinton campaign's director of public engagement. "The diversity of Nevada and the outreach programs you use there can help us reach out to those communities in other states," he said. **AP**

TURKEY | TERRORISM

Report: investigators focus probe on IS militants

TURKISH investigators were close to identifying one of two suicide bombers in the country's deadliest attacks in years, the prime minister said yesterday, adding that the Islamic State group was the "No. 1 priority" of the investigation.

Ahmet Davutoglu also said in an interview with private NTV television that the evidence pointed to a "certain group" which he refused to identify.

The rally on Saturday was organized by Turkish and Kurdish activists to call for increased democracy and an end to the renewed fighting between Turkey's security forces and the Kurdish rebels that has killed hundreds since July.

On Monday, Yeni Safak,



A protester throws carnations to Turkish police blocking the way to the site of Saturday's explosions in Ankara

a newspaper close to the government, said authorities investigating the bombings were focusing on the Islamic State group, comparing DNA samples of the suspected bombers with those obtained from families of some 20 extremists they suspect could have

carried out the attacks.

No one has claimed responsibility, but the attack bears similarities to a suicide bombing that killed 33 Turkish and Kurdish peace activists near the town of Suruc bordering Syria in July. The government blamed that attack

on the Islamic State group. Hurriyet newspaper said the type of device and explosives used in Ankara were the same as those used in Suruc.

The government raised the death toll in the weekend attack to 97, including one Palestinian. A pro-Kurdish party has said that up to 128 people died. Several labor unions embarked on a two-day strike, starting yesterday, to denounce the attacks.

Davutoglu said Turkey had received intelligence that Kurdish rebels or Islamic State militants were planning suicide bombings and said two would-be bombers were detained before Saturday's attack.

"There was general intelligence concerning a team

called the 'immortals' within Daesh (IS) making preparations, concerning preparations by the PKK," Davutoglu said.

He said the attack aimed to influence the result of Turkey's Nov. 1 election and cast a shadow over the polls. He did not elaborate.

Davutoglu rejected opposition accusations that the attacks were a result of Turkey's involvement in the conflict in Syria and that the government was dragging the country into the Middle Eastern quagmire.

"These attacks won't turn Turkey into a Syria," Davutoglu said.

Government opponents have also accused President Recep Tayyip Erdogan of fomenting violence

to gain votes for the ruling party — an accusation the Turkish leader rejects.

Police detained nine more suspected Islamic State militants in raids in the southern cities of Adana and Kilis, officials said Monday. The detentions raised the number of suspected IS militants taken into custody in four cities since Saturday to around 45.

It was not clear if any of the arrests were linked to the peace rally bombings.

Turkey agreed recently to more actively support the U.S.-led battle against the Islamic State group, opening its bases to U.S. aircraft launching air strikes on the extremist group in Syria and carrying out a limited number of strikes on the group itself. **AP**

what's ON



THE TENSION OF TALENT
— CALLIGRAPHY, PAINTING AND SEAL EXHIBITION
BY WU RANGZHI AND ZHAO ZHIQIAN
TIME: 10am-7pm
(Closed on Mondays, No admission after 6:30 pm)
UNTIL: November 15, 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

ARTIFACTS OF EXCELLENCE — SEAL CARVINGS
BY LUO SHUZHONG FROM THE MAM COLLECTION
TIME: 10am-7pm
(Closed on Mondays, No admission after 6:30 pm)
UNTIL: February 28, 2016
VENUE: Macau Museum of Art,
Av. Xian Xing Hai, s/n, NAPE
ADMISSION: MOP5
(Free on Sundays and public holidays)
ENQUIRIES: (853) 8791 9814

HISTORICAL PAINTINGS OF MACAU
IN THE 19TH CENTURY
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

PHOTOGRAPHS OF OLD TEMPLES IN MACAU
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

Offbeat

JIMI HENDRIX FAMILY SUING TUCSON SHOP OWNER FOR GUITAR



The estate of Jimi Hendrix is suing a Tucson man for a guitar once owned by the legendary guitarist.

The Arizona Daily Star in Tucson reported Sunday (bit.ly/1OuM1M5) that Experience Hendrix LLC, the company that runs Hendrix's estate, wants a Pima

County Superior Court judge to order the guitar returned.

According to the Oct. 2, complaint, the estate says Harvey Moltz, owner of Rainbow Guitars, is not the rightful owner of the Acoustic Black Widow guitar.

Estate attorney Ed McPherson says the guitar is valued between USD750,000 and \$1 million. The lawsuit is also seeking damages.

Moltz says he purchased the guitar in June 2014 from someone who bought it from Sheldon Reynolds, ex-husband of Hendrix's adopted sister, Janie Hendrix.

McPherson says Reynolds, a former member of Earth, Wind, and Fire, stole it.

"The guitar is priceless to our family," Janie said in an email. She is the CEO of Experience Hendrix. "It is one of the few guitars that came home after Jimi passed away. We just want our guitar returned safely and back where it belongs."

Tucson-based lawyer Todd Jackson is representing Moltz. "My client purchased the guitar in good faith from a private seller, without knowledge of competing claims of ownership," he said.

TV canal macau

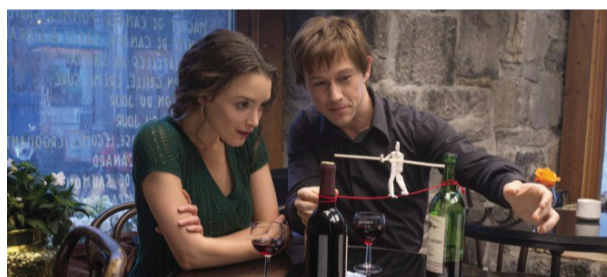
13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:30	RTPi Live
17:50	Trail of Lies (Repeated)
18:40	TDM Sports
19:40	Soap Opera
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	TDM Interview
21:40	Documentary Series
22:10	Trail of Lies
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Miscellaneous
00:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)

cinema

CINETEATRO

08 OCT - 14 OCT

THE MARTIAN

ROOM 1
(2D) 2.15, 4.45, 9.45 pm
(3D) 7.15 pmDirector: Ridley Scott
Starring: Matt Damon, Jessica Chastain, Kate Mara
Language: English (Cantonese)
Duration: 141min

THE WALK

ROOM 2
2.30, 4.45, 9.30 pm
Director: Robert Zemeckis
Starring: Joseph Gordon-Levitt, Ben Kingsley, Charlotte Le Bon
Language: English (Cantonese)
Duration: 123min

THE INTERN

ROOM 2
7.15 pm
Director: Nancy Meyers
Starring: Robert De Niro, Anne Hathaway
Language: English (Cantonese)
Duration: 121min

SAVING MR WU

ROOM 3
2.30, 4.30, 9.30 pm
Director: Sheng Ding
Starring: Andy Lau, Ye Liu, Wu Ruofu, Qianyuan Wang
Language: Mandarin (Cantonese/ English)
Duration: 105min

HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA 2

ROOM 3
7.30 pm
Director: Genndy tartakovsky
Language: Cantonese (Chinese/English)
Duration: 89min

MACAU TOWER

01 OCT - 14 OCT

THE MARTIAN

2.30, 4.45, 7.15, 9.30 pm
Director: Ridley Scott
Starring: Matt Damon, Jessica Chastain, Kate Mara
Language: English (Cantonese)
Duration: 141min

this day in history



1992 THOUSANDS OF MINERS TO LOSE THEIR JOBS

The government is planning to close a third of Britain's deep coal mines, with the loss of 31,000 jobs. The President of the Board of Trade, Michael Heseltine, has announced up to 31 out of 50 remaining deep mines face closure.

Mr Heseltine promised an extra £1bn from the Treasury to meet the cost of redundancies and help mining communities.

Arthur Scargill, president of the National Union of Mineworkers urged miners to fight the government and called the layoffs a "savagely brutal act of vandalism".

Robin Cook, Labour's trade spokesman, said the cuts were a "bad decision" not only for the local communities but for tax payers and electricity consumers who would pick up the inevitable costs.

But any suggestion that the UK should follow Germany's lead in preserving its coalfields with extra subsidies was dismissed by Mr Heseltine.

Industry would not be made more competitive by "forcing costs on to them above the market price," he said.

Mr Heseltine said the decision was a necessity born out of the continuing economic recession and the demise of the Cold War, and intimated other industries such as shipbuilding might also suffer.

The cuts take effect immediately for six pits, which close at the end of the week, affecting 6,000 miners. By March 1993 only 19 mines will be left, grouped in Yorkshire and Nottinghamshire areas, although a new mine is expected to open in 1994.

Miners tempted to answer Arthur Scargill's calls for militancy have been issued a stark warning.

Those taking any form of industrial action will lose redundancy entitlements worth up to £37,000.

Chairman of British Coal Neil Clarke has said the cuts would be "grievous", especially since productivity in the industry had more than doubled in the last six years.

But the decision was a consequence of the need to reduce coal output by a minimum of 25,000 million tonnes a year, he said.

Since the privatisation of the power industry in 1990, coal has been displaced by cheaper imports and the expansion in gas supplied electricity generators.

Gas stations are replacing coal stations run by the two major electricity generators National Power and Power Gen, and the new freedom of electricity boards to set up their own gas power stations.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

At its peak during World War II there were over one million miners working in 958 mines, which steadily declined after post-war nationalisation.

The discovery of North Sea gas and increased imports saw consumption of domestic coal start to fall. Major pit closures led miners to a series of strikes.

The fall of the Conservative government in 1974 is widely attributed to the strength of the miners' unions and striking workforce.

In 1984/85 Mr Scargill led the miners in a year-long divisive and ultimately unsuccessful strike against the Thatcher government.

British Coal was privatised shortly after the 1992 cuts.

YOUR STARS

Aries
Mar. 21-Apr. 19
Conflicts increase as funds decrease. Defending yourself is only one of the challenges you face. The best way to stay one step ahead is to take care of your health. Be sure to include plenty of exercise.

Taurus
April 20-May 20
Your charm is a valuable asset. In fact, it's helped you stay afloat. Continue to focus on your colleagues and companions, and deal with any problems diplomatically.

Gemini
May 21-Jun. 21
You feel like you're in an old-fashioned cartoon - the bad guy isn't wearing a black hat, but now matter how much you recalculate, the bills have to be paid. Hard times, but you won't be tied to the tracks just yet.

Cancer
Jun. 22-Jul. 22
If the bigger picture is freaking you out, focus on the smaller details instead. Day to day life is chugging along just fine, thank you. If you must look ahead, do it in the form of making big plans.

Leo
Jul. 23-Aug. 22
Finances dominate your thoughts, but other matters require your attention. Planning things out is more important than ever if you want to stay within your budget. Face it: The days of being impulsive are over.

Virgo
Aug. 23-Sept. 22
If tidying up is your one big achievement of the day, so be it. Don't look at it as if it has no value. Being organized is the bare minimum of what you need to navigate your way through the storm.

Libra
Sep.23-Oct. 22
Doing nothing isn't as much fun as it sounds -- especially if, instead of lounging on the beach, you're sitting around stewing about finances. Take some action, even if it doesn't seem to have much value.

Scorpio
Oct. 23 - Nov. 21
Just how you stay float is one of your little secrets. Helping others who are less fortunate could mean sharing it, but then again -- nah. Keep it to yourself, even among friends.

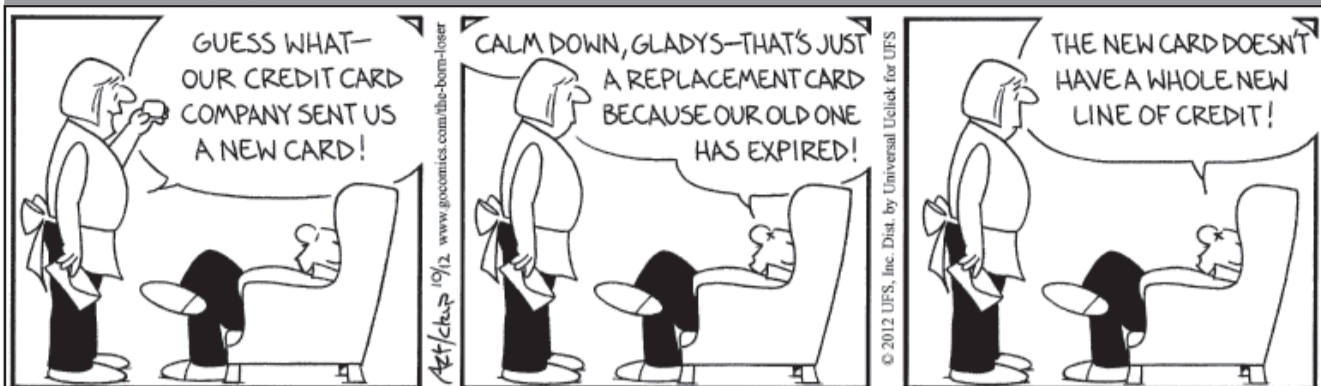
Sagittarius
Nov. 22-Dec. 21
Some of the little details can be fun, and others drive you crazy. But all of them have to be dealt with one way or another before you can hope to make any money. Buckle down and start crossing things off your list.

Capricorn
Dec. 22-Jan. 19
All the details you need to make a profit are long distance, but that won't hold you back. You'll be making tracks even if you never leave your computer. Be thankful for modern marvels and get to work.

Aquarius
Jan. 20-Feb. 18
Be careful in business deals. People are hungrier and leaner than they used to be, and that brings out the wolf in everyone. If you start to feel like a lamb being brought to the slaughter, you are.

Pisces
Feb.19-Mar. 20
Sometimes you make huge leaps forward that you aren't even aware of at the time, but unfortunately that's not the case right now. It could be if you try to move forward -- even if you don't have all the facts.

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Easy

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

Easy+

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

Medium

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

Hard

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

WEATHER

	MIN	MAX	CONDITION
CHINA			
Beijing	9	25	clear
Harbin	-2	12	clear
Tianjin	12	26	clear
Urumqi	10	20	cloudy
Xi'an	10	22	cloudy/overcast
Lhasa	4	16	overcast/cloudy
Chengdu	16	26	cloudy
Chongqing	20	27	cloudy
Kunming	10	17	shower
Nanjing	11	24	clear
Shanghai	15	24	clear
Wuhan	12	26	cloudy
Hangzhou	12	24	clear
Taipei	21	25	cloudy
Guangzhou	17	27	cloudy
Hong Kong	22	26	cloudy
WORLD			
Moscow	3	7	drizzle/cloudy
Frankfurt	2	12	overcast/cloudy
Paris	3	15	clear
London	8	13	drizzle/overcast
New York	15	21	clear/drizzle

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Beginning on; 5- Against; 9- Hold on!; 13- Look ___ hands!; 14- Electron tube; 16- Not fooled by; 17- Asian river; 18- Bitter; 19- Tatum's dad; 20- Cong. meeting; 21- Architect I.M.; 22- Naked-faced Amazon monkey; 24- ___'acte; 26- Skin eruption; 27- Water lily; 29- Staircase; 33- On the up and up; 34- Sulk; 35- Slammin' Sammy; 36- Invoice abbr.; 37- Military chaplain; 38- Nasser's org.; 39- Cambodian currency; 41- Strong ___ ox; 42- Russian revolutionary leader; 44- Tries; 46- Abbreviated time off; 47- Richard of "Chicago"; 48- Fix up; 49- Two-piece bathing suit; 52- Driving aid; 53- Light air; 57- Riyadh resident; 58- Retains; 60- Comics canine; 61- Small brook; 62- Up ___ (trapped); 63- Precious stones; 64- Words of comprehension; 65- Has a bug; 66- Cravings;

DOWN: 1- Latin lesson word; 2- Identical; 3- Blame; 4- Norse god; 5- Goes with the flow; 6- More pleasant; 7- Actress Spelling; 8- Despot Amin; 9- Workpeople; 10- Novelist Seton; 11- ___-Tass (Russian news agency); 12- Singer Braxton; 15- Send to school; 23- Tropical cuckoo bird; 25- Crackpot; 26- Take ___ for the worse; 27- Boundary; 28- Eight singers; 29- Fountain treats; 30- Injury; 31- Light ___; 32- Aggregate of fibers; 33- Zhivago's love; 34- Stickum; 37- Red powdery condiment; 40- Readable; 42- Boy; 43- Science of winemaking; 45- More than one male; 46- ___ Pieces; 48- Drive back; 49- Adriatic port; 50- Coloured part of the eye; 51- Cabbagelike plant; 52- Actress Hatcher; 54- ___ fixe; 55- Describe; 56- Mrs. Dick Tracy; 59- Sorority letter

Yesterday's solution

P	L	A	C	A	R	D	C	A	R	R	I	O	N
N	I	C	O	S	I	A	O	L	E	A	N	N	A
T	R	A	N	I	A	N	R	E	E	N	T	E	R
N	E	D	T	E	I	N	E	S	T	E	A	K	
A	N	T	O	N	H	E	L	P	S	E	E	L	
N	O	R	D	I	C	T	S	P	A	R	N	O	
T	R	E	A	D	L	E	U	L	U	L	A	T	E
I	M	A	Y	O	O	D	E	M	O	T	E	S	
S	A	S	I	S	S	U	E	P	E	E	R	S	
O	R	N	E	C	L	A	S	S					
A	G	N	E	S	T	H	E	A	S	H	O		
T	R	O	T	T	E	R	C	R	O	U	T	O	N
T	A	U	R	I	N	E	T	O	R	T	I	L	E
A	B	S	O	L	V	E	S	N	E	E	R	E	D

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

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



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<p>Kinglight Taipa 2 Bedrooms Apartment Great Location HKD 11,500 / 771 sq ft Ref: 15090529</p>	<p>Houston Court, Coloane Village Coloane 1 Bedroom Apartment Views Across the Water HKD 13,300 / 800 sq ft Ref: 1505502</p>	<p>La Baie Du Noble Macau 3 Bedrooms Apartment 2 Car Parking Spaces HKD 55,000 / 3,700 sq ft Ref: 15090541</p>	<p>Chong Fok Taipa 3 Bedrooms Apartment Close to Macau University HKD 12,900 / 1,300 sq ft Ref: 15070520</p>

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FOOTBALL | EXTRA TIME

Raphael Varane is key at the heart of France's back 4

Samuel Petrequin, Sports Writer

WITH six goals in two matches, France's offensive potential was on display last week as the host nation stepped up its preparations for next year's European Championship.

Karim Benzema ended a one-year drought with the national team with two goals against Armenia and Olivier Giroud left his confidence struggles behind with two more against Denmark. Teenage prodigy Anthony Martial and Antoine Griezmann also excelled.

After the 2-1 win in Copenhagen, which extended the team's winning streak to four matches, France coach Didier Deschamps said competition within his squad is so dense it's making it tough on him.

"We've maintained our positive dynamics, with different players, but each player should feel important and do their best to make my choices tough ones to make," Deschamps said. "Among the 23-man



France's Mathieu Valbuena, center

squad, there are a lot of players who also deserve to have a chance."

But of all the decisions Deschamps will need to make before finalizing his team for Euro 2016, there is one player he can't do without: Raphael Varane at center half.

Since last year's World Cup in Brazil, where France lost to Germany in the quarterfinals, Varane has become the essential piece in Deschamps' puzzle. The 23-year-old Real Madrid defender is the

only player to have started all 14 matches played by France since then, wearing the captain's armband three times.

As host, France has already qualified for Euro 2016 and all of those matches were friendly games.

Varane, who made his international debut two years ago, has been impressing for a while with his technique, speed and physical qualities. Back in 2011, he was hailed as Laurent Blanc's natural heir by France great Zinedine Zidane, and Chelsea manager Jose Mourinho regards him as "the best central defender in the world."

It was Mourinho who installed Varane as a regular starter when he was in charge of Real Madrid, recruiting the Frenchman as the club's third-choice center back behind Sergio Ramos and Pepe.

"I was not doing well and I was unable to do the things I wanted to do on the field," Varane once told *Le Journal du Dimanche* newspaper of his time with Mourinho. "So he took it up with me. He asked

why I wasn't running more in training. At first I was not impressed, but I eventually realized he was right. I had to do more."

Varane has since cemented his status at Madrid, where he remains in competition with Pepe.

With France, he is an undisputable starter, and a leader by example. Against the Danes on Sunday, he played just one half but thwarted every incursion in the French box with incisive tackles and interceptions.

"One of my objectives is to be as regular as possible, to string together matches," said Varane, who has played with six different partners in the back, including Mamadou Sakho, Laurent Koscielny and Eliaquim Mangala. "Now it's time to assess our form against Germany and England (in November)."

With Varane offering all guarantees, the main issue for Deschamps is to find the adequate man to play alongside him in the heart of the French back four. AP

FOOTBALL

FIFA suspends Thai federation president Makudi for 90 days



president Worawi Makudi for 90 days. The FIFA ethics committee says a breach of its code appears to have been committed and the case "is now the subject of formal investigation proceedings." Details of the allegations were not provided in yesterday's statement but Worawi has been under investigation for his conduct during the 2018 and 2022 World Cup bidding contests. Worawi was a FIFA executive committee member for 18 years until May. In July, Worawi was found guilty of forgery in his 2013 re-election to lead the Thai federation. A Bangkok criminal court sentenced Worawi to a suspended jail term of one year and four months.

AD

Macau Daily Times contest

Oktoberfest 2015

MGM MACAU is hosting Oktoberfest from October 15 to 25. We are giving away a total of 10 sets of entry tickets and F&B coupons. Readers will have to correctly answer today's question to be in with a chance of winning. Each prize set includes:

Oktoberfest entry tickets x 2	\$260
F&B coupons	\$100
Beer spectacles x 2	\$60
Oktoberfest lion plush x 1	\$160
Total value	\$580

Question for readers:
What's the name of the world's first Oktoberfest brew?

Please email the answer to: oktoberfest2015@macaudailytimes.com along with your name and contact details.

Gathering of the Year
Willkommen to MGM MACAU Oktoberfest 2015, the biggest and wildest autumnal revelry in town! Gather with your friends for Munich's famed food, froth and fun festival at VISTA II. Sample authentic German beer and food amidst an ambience of great music and dance. Come and enjoy all of the Deutschland delights! The seventh MGM MACAU Oktoberfest is hosted by MGM MACAU in cooperation with the Consulate General of the Federal Republic of Germany in Hong Kong and the German Macau Business Association, with the Macau Government Tourist Office as the supporting unit.

Quality Beer and authentic German delicacies
At MGM Oktoberfest, guests can drink up the world's first Oktoberfest brew - Spaten. For hundreds of years, the Spaten-Franziskaner brewery has served as one of the most important

The Festive Bavarian Vibe
A party of this size and prestige can't be without great music and dancing. Get set to sing along with Munich's super band - Högl Fun and enjoy traditional 'oom pah pah' music and rousing German entertainment at its finest! Drink in the sights, sounds and smells of this once-a-year bodacious Bavarian bash!

Ticket and Reservation
MGM Oktoberfest admission tickets and food and beverage coupons are available for sale from September 14, 2015. Entrance fee is MOP130 per person, inclusive of one drink.

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RUGBY

Coach Saint-Andre traying to raise mood in France WC camp

Jerome Pugmire
Sports Writer

THE headline on French sports daily L'Equipe summed up the doubt and confusion prompted by France's 24-9 loss to Ireland in their pool decider at the Rugby World Cup.

"Dans Le Noir" (In The Dark) read the headline yesterday, and its online version pressed the point further with "Des Bleus Pas Au Niveau" (Blues Not Good Enough).

"It's worrying," lock Yoann Maestri said. "We were too weak in attack. We weren't rigorous or pragmatic enough to cause them problems."

Scrumhalf Sebastien Tillous-Borde put it more bluntly, saying "they smashed us," when talking about Ireland's tactical superiority in the rucks during Sunday's match in Cardiff.

Clearly, the defeat to Ireland has rocked confidence, with the bad news that France faces New Zealand in the quarterfinals, rather than Argentina's try-hun-

gry Pumas, a so-called luxury afforded to the Irish for topping Pool D.

However, France has been in this position before — and worse.

Four years ago, it lost 19-14 to Tonga in its last pool match, drawing anger and derision back home, but still went on beat England and Wales to reach the final, where they narrowly lost to the All Blacks in Auckland.

Eight years ago as host, after losing its opening match to Argentina, France bounced back to reach the semis, beating the All Blacks in the last eight in Cardiff — which is where they meet on Saturday.

The French are often at their most dangerous following some navel-gazing self-inquisition, when they have nothing to lose and when everyone writes them off.

They relish it, even.

"The history of the World Cup says anything can happen. When you're French it's not good when you're favorite," coach Philippe Saint-Andre said defiantly on

Monday. "We're not eliminated, we're not dead, we have to rise up and prepare mentally. Let's turn the page. We're focusing and getting ready for a great, great, great fight."

Saint-Andre referred to the strength of the French domestic league — Toulon is three-time European champion — in a bid to highlight his players' appetite for a high-pressure match.

"Our players are built for this," he said.

Still, Saint-Andre has a huge task ahead if the French want to walk off the field with heads held high in Cardiff.

On current form, a repeat of the 20-18 win in 2007 looks even more of a long shot than it was back then, when France's backline was still a force to be reckoned with.

There was little such flair on display against Ireland, because France has bruisers like Mathieu Bastareaud in midfield, not silky-handed runners like Yannick Jauzion.

"Some individual performances



France's Sebastien Tillous-Borde, left, claims a ball that was dislodged from the grasp of France's Mathieu Bastareaud, centre, by Ireland's Sean O'Brien during the Rugby World Cup Pool D match between France and Ireland at the Millennium Stadium in Cardiff, Wales

(against Ireland) were not at the level we expected, but it's essentially a collective failure," Saint-Andre said, sparing individual players from criticism, such as scrumhalf Morgan Parra, whose normally safe hands turned to jelly as he kept knocking on.

"We have to be active more than reactive and take the game into our own hands," Saint-Andre added, highlighting where France must improve. "We must make more efforts on accelerations, rhythm changes when we shift from defense to attack, (and) we must be more accurate in the rucks."

Meanwhile, he thinks Ireland flanker Sean O'Brien should be

punished for allegedly punching veteran lock Pascal Pape in the stomach. The incident was not seen by match officials, there was no television referral, but it was caught on replays.

"It's an assault after 23 seconds of play. I hope the disciplinary commission will sanction him," Saint-Andre said. "I hope the TMO will do his job next game."

Saint-Andre hopes to have flyhalf Frederic Michalak available for Saturday. He was replaced by Remi Tales in the 55th minute after hurting his hand.

"He has bruises on his right hand," Saint-Andre said. "No fracture, so I think he'll be operational for the end of the week." AP

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opinion

World Views

Noah Smith, Bloomberg

RELAX. WE'LL SURVIVE CHINA'S SALES OF US DEBT

A lot of people I talk to are very worried about Chinese holdings of U.S. sovereign debt. The general idea is that if China decided to dump Treasuries, the U.S. economy would go into a tailspin. This is part of the overall narrative cited by Donald Trump and others that the U.S. is "losing" to China.

That was a plausible story. But now that China's titanic economic boom is coming to an end, we're finding that the story wasn't right.

This became clear when China recently began dumping U.S. debt. In past years, China bought a lot of Treasuries in order to keep its currency cheap, so that it could sell lots of stuff at low prices to the U.S. (whether this was a wise economic strategy is a topic of vigorous debate). But as China's economy has stalled, there has been pressure on its currency. In August, China allowed its currency, the yuan, to depreciate to some degree. But since then it has been intervening in the foreign exchange markets to keep the yuan from weakening too fast.

If you want to support your currency, you buy it. And you buy it using foreign exchange reserves – in this case, China's USD1 trillion-plus stockpile of Treasuries, which it has been building up for years.

But China's sales of U.S. debt haven't sent the price of Treasuries plummeting. Instead, as China has stepped out of the market, other investors have stepped in. It turns out that the demand for U.S. government bonds is much wider and deeper than many had expected.

So the doomsday scenario didn't come to pass.

Even if you believe that the rise in interest rates in mid-2013 was caused by investors predicting the QE taper, the change was only about 1 percent. It turned out that there were a lot of investors out there willing to step in when the Fed stepped out.

These two episodes should demonstrate that the people who now are buying an asset aren't the only people willing to buy that asset at close to the recent price. And the number of investors in the world willing to purchase U.S. sovereign debt at about the current price appears to be enormous.

Why is that? The U.S. dollar is seen as a haven. When financial distress strikes the globe – as it does every few years – investors take shelter from the storm by buying Treasuries. This is why the U.S. is one of the few countries that saw its currency strengthen during the Great Recession. Even amid the dire turmoil of 2008 and 2009, the U.S. dollar was the least bad asset for huge numbers of investors around the world. This is why the dollar is known as the world's reserve currency.

The importance of having the reserve currency is magnified when there is a glut of global savings. When there is a lot of cash without a lot of safe investment opportunities, people park their money in Treasuries.

So when you ask yourself, "Who will buy U.S. debt?", the answer is: "Almost everyone."

Of course, this might be a bad thing in the long run. When everyone wants your country's assets as the ultimate safe place to stash money, it pushes up the value of your currency. That makes U.S. goods more expensive in foreign markets, which reduces U.S. exports and contributes to the country's persistent trade deficit. That trade deficit has been very big for many years now, holding back growth and leaving future generations with a financial burden.

In other words, it's good in the short term that neither China nor the Fed were essential to the U.S. Treasury market, but in the long term it is part of a structural problem afflicting the U.S. economy. We may live to regret being able to borrow as cheaply as we can.

THE BUZZ **LAWYER FOR RELATIVES OF GERMANWINGS VICTIMS MAY SUE IN US**

A lawyer representing more than three dozen families whose loved ones were lost in the Germanwings plane crash in March says his clients want to sue for compensation in the United States, where courts could decide upon much larger settlements.

German lawyer Elmar Giemulla told the dpa

news agency yesterday that 100 of his clients from 39 families gave him the go-ahead to pursue legal action in the U.S. at a Saturday meeting.

Prosecutors believe the Airbus A320 was intentionally crashed by its co-pilot, killing all 150 people on board the Germanwings Barcelona to Duesseldorf flight.

Princeton's Angus Deaton wins Nobel economics prize

Malin Rising & Nathalie Rotschild, Stockholm

PRICETON University's Angus Deaton has won the Nobel prize in economics for "his analysis of consumption, poverty, and welfare," the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences said yesterday.

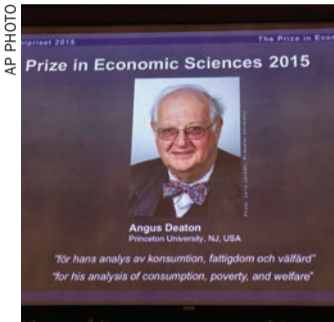
Deaton, 69, was born in Edinburgh but now works at Princeton in New Jersey. He holds both U.S. and British citizenship.

The academy said Deaton's research concerns issues of "immense importance for human welfare, not least in poor countries" and has "greatly influenced" practical policymaking as well as the scientific community.

It said Deaton's work revolves around three central questions: How do consumers distribute their spending among different goods; how much of society's income is spent and how much is saved; and how do we best measure and analyze welfare and poverty?

In a press conference following the announcement, Deaton described himself as "someone who's concerned with the poor of the world and how people behave, and what gives them a good life."

He said he is delighted to



A view of the screen showing an image of Professor Angus Deaton, winner of the 2015 Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel

have won the prize and was pleased that the committee decided to award work that concerns the poor people of the world.

And though he said he expects extreme poverty in the world to continue decreasing, he insisted that he doesn't want to be "blindly optimistic."

He said there are "tremendous health problems among adults and children in India, where there has been a lot of progress." He noted that half of the children in the country are "still malnourished" and "for many people in the world, things are very bad indeed."

Last year, French economist Jean Tirole won the 8 million Swedish kronor (about USD975,000) award for his research on market power and regulation.

Station	Air quality
Roadside	65-95 Moderate
High Density Residential Area	65-95 Moderate
Ambient	65-95 Moderate

SOURCE: DSMG

WORLD BRIEFS

INDONESIA A helicopter carrying 5 people is missing in western Indonesia in the country's latest air transport incident. The Eurocopter EC-130 was on a chartered flight from Samosir island in Toba Lake to North Sumatra's capital, Medan, when it was reported missing Sunday about 17 minutes after takeoff. It was carrying 2 crewmen and 3 passengers.

THAILAND The lawyer defending two Myanmar migrants in the murders of two British tourists on a Thai resort island accuse the police of torturing his clients, beating them and threatening to "make them disappear" in order to extract confessions.

PHILIPPINES Philippine officials say gunmen killed a town mayor and wounded his vice mayor and at least three others in an ambush while they were traveling in a van in a remote southern region. Meanwhile, the race for the Philippine presidency next year has begun with the country's vice president being the first major contender to register his candidacy to lead one of Asia's most unwieldy democracies. [More on p12](#)



NEPAL New PM Khadga Prasad Oli appointed two deputy premiers yesterday, including an ethnic community leader who has rallied hundreds of protesters in blocking fuel and goods shipments from India for weeks and plunged the Himalayan nation into a fuel crisis.

INDIA The Missionaries of Charity, the Roman Catholic order founded by Mother Teresa, has decided to close its adoption services in India after the country amended its rules to make single parents eligible to adopt.



USA Michelle Obama is grooving to the tunes of Beyonce, Demi Lovato and Esperanza Spalding as she celebrates the International Day of the Girl. The first lady tweeted a link to her "girl power" music playlist on the streaming music platform Spotify. The U.N. has designated Oct. 11 to promote awareness for gender inequality around the world.

THE DECISIVE MOMENT

MDT Photo



VIP bridge. Traffic on Sai Wan bridge ("Ponte Nova" or "Nova-Nova") was halted at least four times over the last two days. Why? Apparently, it's because a high-profile Chinese official (from Tianjin) is in town to participate in the global tourism forum. So every time he and his entourage commute between Cotai and the peninsula the bridge is closed to allow the secure passage of such a VIP caravan.