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“THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN’”

WORLD BRIEFS



AFGHANISTAN A strong earthquake in northern Afghanistan is felt across much of South Asia, shaking buildings from Kabul to Delhi, cutting power and communications in some areas and caused more than 150 deaths, mainly in Afghanistan and Pakistan. Pakistani officials said that at least 147 people were killed and nearly 600 others wounded across the country, while Afghan officials said 33 people were killed and more than 200 wounded.

CAMBODIA Two members of Cambodia's opposition party are beaten up outside the National Assembly by protesters demanding that the deputy opposition leader step down as parliamentary vice president.



PAKISTAN-INDIA Twelve years ago, a deaf and mute 11-year-old girl crossed the Indian border into Pakistan. Yesterday she flew home to a warm and emotional welcome. Wearing a red tunic, her head loosely covered with a matching scarf, the girl — now a 23-year-old woman who had been given the name Geeta — waved to the scores of people who had gathered at the New Delhi airport to greet her.

BANGLADESH Police in Bangladesh arrest four suspects in the killing of an Italian aid worker, and say the alleged gunmen confessed to being hired to attack “a white man” in order to destabilize the impoverished South Asian nation.

City faces increasing exposure to poor air quality

P7 MDT REPORT



Inspection reveals high-speed ferry hit an ‘unidentified object’

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AL PLENARY

Proposal: Owners of multiple homes should face higher taxation

LAWMAKER Song Pek Kei urged the government to use the current “slowdown” in the real estate sector to establish measures to facilitate the acquisition of property in the private market, “encourage” the banking sector to provide better conditions on housing loans and, by contrast, to increase taxation on landlords who possess several properties. Ms Song, speaking at the Legislative Assembly (AL) plenary session yesterday afternoon, called on the administration to “encourage banks to increase the percentage of the loan, or grant interest-free loans, to first time homebuyers in order to help residents gain access to their own homes” – a wish that has become, especially for the younger generations, “a goal impossible to achieve”.

“The taxes on housing for the acquisition of the third and following properties should be heavily penalized, in order to increase the costs of ownership so that scarce land resources stop being utilized as an ins-

trument of speculation,” she added.

Housing continued to be the main concern in yesterday’s AL debate. In a spoken enquiry, Au Kam San addressed the Pearl Horizon controversy, saying that those who bought properties there have “no reason to panic.” According to him, the “responsibility should be assigned to the project builder that let 25 years pass without completing the project on the granted land”.

The lawmaker says that the government should simply follow the law and “after the land reclamation process, it should proceed as soon as possible with the public tender for a new concession”. Likewise, the authorities should make sure the new developer will continue the project “according to the original plan, and that the promoter assumes the responsibilities stipulated in the agreements already made with the buyers who already purchased some of the structures under construction”.

Mr Au claims that this solution takes into account the public interest and the interests of the two thousand owners of units that were not completed on time.

Also according to the same lawmaker, the process can be simplified without having to exclude the current developer. “There is no need to exclude anyone from the public tender”, he stated. “The first developer can apply again and he will be at an advantage because he has more information about the project than the other competitors and will certainly want to get the land again to continue the project”. But he warned that could only be done “if the developer pays again for the land in a public tender”.

Au Kam San added that this case is very important because “similar cases are on the verge of happening in the near future, and the resolution that the government will choose will be a reference for the future”.

Separately, Chui Sai Peng showed his disappointment

with the progress of the Creative Industries Park, a project in which he was one of the instigators back in 2000 that intended to transform St Lazarus district into a pedestrian-only area entirely dedicated to the promotion and development of the creative industries. However, 15 years later, “that project continues not to have a soul”.

Mr Chui added that the situation is “really worrying and unfortunate, especially in this critical phase of economic restructuring”, giving several examples.

In the plenary debate and the third topic on the agenda, a proposal from lawmaker Ng Kuok Cheong that aimed to dis-

cuss the topics of land recovery from unused and expired projects, new land reclamation for public housing, as well as the reestablishment of the score system to assign public housing to residents was rejected with the majority of lawmakers (25-6) voting against.

The reason given by several legislators had to do with the earlier promise made by the government to develop public housing on those land lots, together with the fact that the new draw system was approved by the AL in response to the ineffectivity of the previous score system. According to them, it made no sense to debate taking a step back. **RM**

AL UNANIMOUSLY APPROVES CONDOMINIUM REGULATIONS

YESTERDAY’S AL plenary session saw the legislators discuss and unanimously approve the regime related to the management of common parts of condominiums and on the law regulating commercial condominium activity.

New Macau delivers petition on public housing

THE New Macau Association (ANM) was at the Legislative Assembly (AL) yesterday to deliver a petition with 1,705 signatures, requesting a clear timetable for the recovery of land by the government. The petitioners want the land to be used for the construction of more public housing and to remove the current draw-based allocation system, which they argue should be replaced with the old scoring system.

The association collected residents’ signatures to appeal for the reinstallation of a score-based housing attribution scheme that they claim would be fairer than the one currently in use.

Speaking to reporters yesterday afternoon at the doors of the AL, ANM’s president Scott Chiang



RENATO MARQUES
Scott Chiang

defended the virtues of the scoring system. He recalled that, for the last draw, there were “42,000 candidates for 1,900 units, and the system does not grant attribution to residents in need, which is unfair and completely ridiculous.”

According to Chiang, “A score-based system, like we had before, will allow applicants to be sorted

by priority.”

The association also urges the government to produce and release a timeline for the medium- and long-term supply of public housing, so that “people know what they can expect and how long they will need to wait before they can access a home, and also so they can be financially prepared.” **RM**

ARTS

Local group marks World Day for Audiovisual Heritage

THE Macau Films & Television Productions and Culture Association (MFTPA) and the International Council for Films, Television and Audiovisual Communication (ICFT) are promoting a series of joint initiatives to celebrate World Day for Audiovisual Heritage and the 70th anniversary of UNESCO.

The event takes place today, with the opening ceremony kicking off at 10.30 a.m. at the Macau Art Museum, where a promotional video will also be showcased. A series of classic film screenings will take place at the

Cinematheque Passion (from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.), including Charlie Chaplin’s “The Great Dictator”, Carl Laemmle’s “The Phantom of the Opera”, and “The Loner” directed by Beijing filmmaker Guan Jing. Speakers and guests of honor on the day include representatives from UNESCO.

At 3 p.m., ICFT’s director-general, Georges Dupont, and Film Restoration Expert Elena Tammaccaro will share their experiences and insights at the Grand Hall at the Institute for Tourism Studies.

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STATISTICS

Japanese tourists up by 16.6 percent



WHILE there have been mixed results in the number of visitors to Macau, there has been strong growth in tourists from certain key markets such as Japan, which saw an increase of 16.6 percent year-on-year. Other strong performers include Hong Kong and Taiwan, up by 6.8 percent and 5.6 percent respectively.

Information from the Statistics and Census Service (DSEC) indicated that visitors from mainland China decreased by 1.4 percent year-on-year to a total of 1,572,868. Of that figure, the biggest contributors by province were Guangdong (671,672), Fujian (73,622)

and Hunan (64,569) provinces. Visitors from the Republic of Korea declined by a striking 22.6 percent to 36,223.

Outside of Asia, long-haul visitors to Macau registered year-on-year increases from markets such as the United Kingdom and Canada, and declines in tourists from the United States and Australia.

Analyzed by mode of transport, visitor arrivals by land increased by 2.3 percent year-on-year, with those arriving via the Border Gate up 0.2 percent, while those entering via the Cotai Checkpoint rose by a remarkable 26.5 percent. Visitor arrivals by sea fell by 1.7 percent year-on-year, with those arriving via the Outer Harbor dropping by 3.5 percent, while those via the Provisional Ferry Terminal in Taipa rose by 2.6 percent. Tourist arrivals by air declined by 2.4 percent year-on-year.

Aggregate visitor arrivals totaled 2,415,499 in September 2015, up marginally by 0.4 percent year-on-year. In the first three quarters of 2015, visitor arrivals were down 2.9 percent compared to the same three quarters of 2014.

Tobacco law amendments to pass next year

Aries Un

THE Legislative Assembly has received more than 30 written opinions over the past two months regarding the amendments to the Tobacco Prevention and Control Law, according to the 2nd Standing Committee head, Chan Chak Mo.

Yesterday the commission resumed deliberation over the extent of amendments to the existing law in the very first meeting after a recess of around one and a half months.

As the sub-committee is currently clearing a backlog of law reviews and revisions, Chan told media that the revised ordinance will likely only arrive next August at the earliest, when the legislature's next summer break begins.

"It depends on our workload. Despite the government's consideration and discussion later, I'm optimistic that the bill is good enough to be passed in August next year," said the lawmaker.

The committee is due to meet the groups that wish to submit their views during next month's amendment talks. On November 12 and 13, they will meet with several gaming associations, including the Forefront of Macau Gaming.

The lawmaker added that the 2nd Standing Committee has mixed views on the matter: "So far there isn't a specific orientation. We'll collate the opinions in our meetings before presenting them to the government," he said. "Of course, it's up to the government's decision on the matter."

Inspection reveals high-speed ferry hit an 'unidentified object'

FERRY operator Shun Tak Holdings said a preliminary inspection on the boat that hit an "unidentified object" off a small island in Hong Kong's western waters Sunday evening found damage to the rear wing and the engine room.

More than 120 people were injured when the high-speed ferry traveling from Macau to Hong Kong slammed into an object floating in the water, authorities said yesterday.

The hydrofoil was carrying 163 passengers and 11 crew members, rescuers said. The ferry lost power after the collision, but it was not in any danger of sinking, they said.

According to Hong Kong's Hospital Authority, the injury count stood at 124 yesterday, including five people in critical condition.

TV news channels showed passengers, some with bandages on their heads, arriving at a Hong Kong pier and being taken to waiting ambulances.

It was the fourth accident in two years on the busy hour-long ferry route between Macau and Hong Kong.

In a similar accident in November 2013, 87 people were hurt when a Macau hydrofoil hit



An injured passenger of a high-speed ferry is escorted by rescuers to a hospital after getting on shore in Hong Kong

a floating object off an outlying Hong Kong island. Last year, a ferry hit a breakwater in Macau's harbor and another collided with a mainland Chinese cargo ship in separate incidents that left dozens injured.

Hong Kong's nautical safety has been in the spotlight since the city suffered its biggest maritime tragedy in decades in 2012 when a boat and commuter ferry collided, killing 39 people and injuring about 100. **MDT/Agencies**

LOCAL PASSENGER RELEASED FROM HOSPITAL

A LOCAL woman aboard a hydrofoil was among those injured on Sunday evening when the boat collided with an unknown object en route from Macau to Hong Kong. According to the Marine and Water Bureau, she has since been discharged from a hospital in Hong Kong. The Macau Health Bureau issued a statement yesterday to express readiness to provide medical care to the local resident affected by the incident.

CRIME

Credit card data of over 1,000 customers stolen

Aries Un

OVER 1,000 locals and visitors' credit card information has been compromised in a cyber theft orchestrated by an organized crime group from eastern Europe, according to the Judiciary Police.

The authorities arrested the syndicate's two Bulgarian members last Saturday night in a hotel room in Taipa. The pair was uploading the data from two automatic teller machines (ATM): one located at the Venetian Macao's Grand Canal shopping area; the other near Senado Square. Both men are unemployed, and are aged 30 and 35.

Between March and May, the security arm received theft reports from five banks, citing attempted theft of 26 of their clients' credit cards in Vietnam and Malaysia. Fortunately, the card owners had disabled foreign withdrawals from their cards and escaped loss.

The suspicious attempts were traced back to the anonymous group, which started enlisting members last year, as one of the accused individuals told the investigators.

Active since last December, the crime syndi-

cate regularly dispatched two members into the territory, where they would install sophisticated card readers on 24-hour ATM service centers. They would also install pinhole cameras nearby, concealed within announcement notices extracted from other banks.

"The color and body of the device, as well as the texture, had nothing unusual. Therefore, citizens and even bank staff did not realise that the ATMs had been modified," said the chief of the PJ's Information Crime Investigation Division, Sou Sio Keong.

The equipment was said to help record the data and passwords of cards inserted into the machine, which were then uploaded into the group's cloud storage.

The organized crime group would pay members based on the volume of bank card information stolen whenever fake cards were produced. The reward money ranged between USD2,000 and USD8,000.

One of the suspects was said to have entered the region in March for the first time. The investigators seized two laptops and two card readers along with fake cards, cameras and several Renminbi and Euro banknotes in the pair's hideout.



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THE air quality in the region has been a concern among many, especially when the Air Quality Index (AQI) reached levels considered detrimental to one's health.

These concerns have been aggravated by different readings obtained from multiple sources, and comparisons of apps like "aqicn" in which the air quality readings are provided daily by the Macao Meteorological and Geophysical Bureau (DSMG).

According to the DSMG, "Macau's Air Quality Index is based on data taken over a 24 hour period from the automatic monitoring network, which monitors pollutants daily, including breathable suspended particulate (PM10), fine suspended particulate (PM2.5), sulphur dioxide (SO2), nitrogen dioxide (NO2), carbon monoxide (CO) and ozone (O3)."

The index is then calculated, taking note of the sub-indexes from the measured concentrations of each pollutant and their corresponding impact on human health. "The highest sub-index will then be defined as the Air Quality Index (AQI) of that day", the SMG notes.

According to the Bureau, "the calculation period for daily AQI is from 12:00 noon on the pre-

The air we breathe is triggering increasing concerns



vious day to 12:00 noon on the current day", adding also that "each sub-index must be calculated from at least 18 hours' worth of sampling data during that period, otherwise, it is considered to be fallacious".

If the AQI is above 100, the pollutant that has caused such a high index will also be indicated.

The results of the analysis of these pollutants is also used to issue warnings to the public regarding the current threats to people's health.

The different readings and indexes, such as "roadside", "high density residential area" and "environment," result from the collection of data from different air quality monitoring stations and their locations around the city. For example, the "roadside" results are taken from the station located at "Calçada do Poço"

in downtown Macau (Rua do Campo) while the "high density residential area" readings are obtained from two stations located in the Av. Comendador Ho Yin (close to the border gate) and in Taipa's central park.

The "environment" reading also comes from the analysis of data gathered by two stations, one located at the top of Taipa Hill and the second in Coloane nearby the "Concórdia Industrial Park".

Discrepancies between the DSMG index and readings published by other institutions are rare but may occur if other index references are used. The DSMG also states the "figures and index in use refer to the World Health Organization (WHO), United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), State Environmental Protection Administration of

China, Taiwan Bureau of Environmental Protection, and the Hong Kong Environmental Protection Department".

The Times contacted a specialist in public health, Dulce Trindade, from the Association of Macau Portuguese Speaking Physicians (AMLPM), to learn more about the effects of these pollutants and the population's extended periods of exposure to them.

As Ms Trindade explained, "the most dangerous pollutants for health are particles, especially those with a diameter of 10 microns or less (\leq PM10) which can penetrate and become lodged inside the lungs. Chronic exposure to suspended particulates (PM) contributes to the risk of developing cardiovascular and respiratory diseases as well as lung cancer. The consequences and effects of exposure to air PM affect more people than any other known pollutant".

Dulce Trindade also clarified that "there is no clinical evidence or completed study to confirm the association between pollution and increased use of health care services, either through emergency or specialty appointments. There is, however, a cause-effect perceived by patients as having been caused by air pollution".

This idea is supported by the World Health Organization (WHO), who announced in 2014 that 7 million of the deaths in 2012 were linked to pollution, meaning that one in eight of all deaths that year was caused by exposure to air pollution. This number gives a clear idea of the serious nature of the issue, and confirms that air pollution is a major environmental risk factor for human health.

Regarding the Times' question about which groups of

PROTECTIVE MASKS NOT VERY POPULAR

IN CITIES like Beijing and Shanghai, is common to see people using protective masks when outdoors, which are readily available from convenience stores. In Macau, the Times contacted several convenience shops only to be told that they did not sell such items, but that a local supermarket chain does in fact stock the product.

people are the most affected, the physician clearly stated children as the biggest risk group "since the exposure to pollutants can lead to chronic diseases from a young age that develop through the years, resulting in bigger problems and generating various allergic effects as is the case in asthmatic patients. The elderly are the second more susceptible group because they have a depressed immune system".

Extended exposure to the air pollutants that are causing the drop in air quality can also have an impact. But how big? This is the question that was posed to Trindade, who explained: "In addition to the pollution in general, Macau's high-density population, the increasing use of automobiles and consumption of fuel, and a weak green urban density are all factors that increase the risk of negative effects on the health of the residents and also of the millions of tourists who visit the region".

Additionally, "the impact on public health is aggravated by other risk factors like metabolic diseases such as obesity, diabetes and cardiovascular disease (due to unbalanced hyper caloric diets, a lack of exercise, stress, sleep rhythm changes, among other factors inherent to a society in transition).

Smoking also enhances the severity of the illness and increases the risk of the occurrence of respiratory, cardiovascular and other systemic diseases with associated complications".

Another of the problems is that some of the pollutants present in the air we breathe may come from tens, hundreds or thousands of kilometers away. Therefore, in addition to the need to reduce pollution originated from local sources, air pollution also has a regional impact and a global dimension. **RM**

Chronic exposure to suspended particulates contributes to the risk of developing cardiovascular and respiratory diseases as well as lung cancer.

DULCE TRINDADE
PHYSICIAN SPECIALIZING
IN PUBLIC HEALTH

Is air quality in China improving or worsening?

IN previous years, and as recently as 2012, both Hong Kong and Beijing were ranked as two of the three Asian cities with the worst air quality. However, from 2014, both cities were omitted from the list of "the Top 20 Most Polluted Cities in the World."

In fact, no Chinese city made the list, which indicates that relatively speaking, Chinese cities are either improving their air quality or are not experiencing it de-generating quite as fast. This may have something to do with Beijing's "war on pollution" and its "emergency measures" implemented to improve air quality, both

of which were announced last year.

Across China, air quality can vary significantly, but according to the South China Morning Post, it is significantly higher in the south, with the exception of large industrial centers like Guangzhou.

Air quality in Macau regularly fails to meet the MSAR government's Air Quality Objectives and those set by the WHO.

The worst city in terms of air quality was determined by the WHO to be New Delhi - where, at times, harmful airborne pollutants averaged 575 micrograms per cubic meter. According to India's Center for Science and Environment, air

pollution at its worst in the city was 60 times higher than the level considered safe.

Air pollution is notoriously prevalent in the Asia region, due in part to poor regulatory environmental standards, but also due to a population of more than 4.2 billion people and a high population density. The quality of air has rapidly depleted in areas of East, South and Southeast Asia in particular - areas that have undergone express industrialization and are now subject to smoke haze produced in Indonesia by the palm oil industry.

Staff reporter

Promise of Mongolia mining boom lures Burger King

Grace Brown, Ulaanbaatar

BURGER King has opened its first store in landlocked and sparsely populated Mongolia, joining companies from Pizza Hut to Porsche in anticipating an economic boom from the Oyu Tolgoi copper and gold mine.

Sandwiched between China and Russia, Mongolia has long been dependent on mining and animal herding and still has no McDonald's or Starbucks. But it has begun to see an influx of foreign fast food and other brands. KFC came in 2013, then Pizza Hut last year, and now the world's second-largest burger chain.

The interest in the country of 3 million people comes despite a deep deceleration in growth rates to about 3 percent in the first half of this year from 17.5 percent earlier in the decade. However, after years of deadlock over taxes and royalties, a deal reached in May between the government and mining giant Rio Tinto over the USD5.4 billion Oyu Tolgoi mine could help spur renewed growth.

"Now is a good time to be coming in," said Jim Dwyer, executive director of the Business Council of Mongolia.

On the edge of Chinggis Square in the capital Ulaanbaatar, luxury brands Louis Vuitton and Ermenegildo Zegna already have set up boutiques. While these stores are largely empty now, they and others are banking that better times will come.

International car brands that have trickled into Mongolia include Volkswagen and BMW. Porsche opened a showroom in Ulaanbaatar



in February with models ranging in price from \$70,000 to \$300,000.

Jason Broome, in charge of Porsche's Mongolia business, said the local franchise now serves 30 customers.

Burger King has partnered with Mongolian franchisee, Max Group, one of the country's largest conglomerates, engaged in mining, food and beverage, agriculture and real estate. Meal prices range from about \$2.5 to \$5.5, less than 1 percent of the average monthly salary of \$734.

Media company worker Banzragch brought his son to the launch of the Burger King store because he remembered sampling the chain's food overseas and being happy with both the taste and the price.

"Even during harder economic times like now, the price is reasonable," Banzragch, who gave only one name, said at the outlet that opened earlier this month in a busy commercial district of Ulaanbaatar.

Max Group President Ganbaatar Dagvadorj said it plans to open 10 Burger King stores in Ulaanbaatar and then expand elsewhere in the country.

"By bringing Burger King here, we are providing jobs for hundreds of people and looking to expand it to employ thousands," Ganbaatar said.

Also at the launch was student Nyamdavaa, who said she first went to a Burger King while studying in France. "It tastes as good here as it did there," she said. **AP**

Toyota tops global vehicle sales

Yuri Kageyama, Business Writer, Tokyo

TOYOTA was the world's top-selling automaker for the first nine months of this year, selling nearly 7.5 million vehicles, and overtaking Volkswagen which was in the No. 1 spot for the half year.

Toyota Motor Corp.'s global sales for the first three quarters totaled 7.498 million vehicles, down 1.5 percent from the same period the previous year, according to numbers released yesterday.

Volkswagen AG of Germany sold 7.43 million vehicles, almost unchanged from the previous year, while GM sold 7.2 million vehicles, down 1 percent. Both automakers released their results earlier this month.

Volkswagen overtook Toyota for January-June, the first time it had come out on top in such tallies. Its sales may suffer because of a scandal, which hit last month, in which its cars were found equipped with software that allowed them to cheat U.S. emissions tests. Until then, Volkswagen had appeared unstoppable with growth going strong in various global markets.

Detroit-based GM was the top-selling automaker for more than seven decades until being surpassed by Toyota in 2008. GM retook the sales crown for one year in 2011, when a tsunami and quake disaster struck northeastern Japan, disrupting production.

Toyota made a big comeback in 2012, and has been the top automaker for the past three years.

Last year, Toyota, which makes the Prius hybrid, Camry sedan and Lexus luxury models, sold 10.23 million vehicles.

Volkswagen sold 10.14 million vehicles in 2014. VW makes the Beetle and Golf cars, and also has the Porsche, Bugatti and Audi brands.

GM, which makes the Cadillac and Opel cars, was third at 9.92 million vehicles in global sales last year. **AP**



AP PHOTO

corporate bits

SANDS CHINA SUPPORTS RESPONSIBLE GAMBLING WEEK



Sands China Ltd. is participating in Responsible Gambling 2015 with several initiatives promoting responsible gaming in the local community. It is the company's seventh straight year participating in the annual campaign, which is jointly organized by the Macao SAR Social Welfare Bureau, the Gaming

Inspection and Coordination Bureau (DICJ) and the University of Macau.

This year, the company's efforts involve organizing a responsible gaming quiz for its team members for the fourth year, setting up walls at its properties' back-of-house areas to recognize the company's

Responsible Gaming Ambassadors, setting up notice boards promoting Responsible Gambling 2015, and making donations to three responsible gaming centers.

As part of its support for Responsible Gambling 2015, Sands China organized a responsible gaming quiz Oct 12-16, in an effort to enhance team members' knowledge of house advantage, probability, the self-exclusion application, and the concepts behind games of skill. Prizes were given to 50 randomly drawn team members from among those who had answered all questions correctly. This year's quiz attracted more than 5,400 participants – the highest number to date, doubling last year's participation.

MGM HOSTS WINE DINNER FEATURING '1812' BY CHATEAU BEAU-SÉJOUR BÉCOT



MGM Macau is holding a wine pairing dinner at Imperial Court Chinese Restaurant on October 31. French winemaker Julien Barthe of Chateau Beau-Séjour Bécot will be at the dinner to converse and share insights with guests on the appreciation of MGM's private label "1812," produced by his very own winery.

The "1812" by Chateau Beau-Séjour Bécot was specially created to commemorate the grand opening date of MGM Macau (December 18, 2007). The Chateau, ranked premiere grand cru classé B, is situated in the region of Saint-Émilion on the Right Bank of Bordeaux's

wine region, and produces approximately 5,000 cases of wine each year; its vineyard is 16.5 hectares, with Merlot as the dominant grape variety. Julien Barthe has just finished the 2015 harvest at the Chateau and is coming to MGM exclusively to meet with wine connoisseurs in Macau to present the 2009 and 2010 bottles of "1812."

Led by Chef Louie Vong, Executive Sous Chef of Chinese Culinary at MGM, the 6-course menu of Cantonese dishes include Marinated black fungus and fresh cordycep flower salad in yuzu dressing, Wok friend sliced pigeon with Chinese kale shoot and termites mushrooms and Hook-roasted goose with preserved vegetables.

Christopher Bodeen, Beijing

Beijing, US stress good manners in avoiding aerial incidents

IN the sometimes-testy rivalry between Washington and Beijing, good manners count. A recent amendment to a U.S.-China accord on safe encounters between their military pilots calls for keeping a secure distance, communicating clearly and keeping a lid on rude body language.

“Military aircrew should refrain from the use of uncivil language or unfriendly physical gestures,” says the third amendment to the safety memorandum.

The stipulation shows the degree to which the two sides hope to avoid unintended events, although there’s no evidence that insulting behavior has been a factor in any recent encounters.

It comes as the two countries see themselves operating in ever closer contact, a consequence of China’s robust assertions of its South China Sea maritime claims and a renewed U.S. focus on Asia that will see 60 percent of the Navy fleet assigned to the region.

The amendment was signed shortly before a state visit last month to Washington by Chinese President Xi Jinping, who has exerted stronger control over the armed forces than any



In this Sept. 25 file photo, U.S. President Barack Obama poses with Chinese President Xi Jinping for a photo during their meeting in the Oval Office of the White House in Washington

of his predecessors since Deng Xiaoping in the late 1980s.

That came on the heels of a Sept. 15 incident in which two Chinese fighter-bombers made what the U.S. Pacific Command described as an unsafe interception of a U.S. Air Force RC-135 surveillance plane patrolling about 130 kilometers off the Chinese coast. Previously, a Chinese fighter jet executed a barrel-roll as it came within 9 meters of a U.S. Navy P-8 Poseidon surveillance plane over the South China

Sea in August 2014.

In the most serious such incident, aircraft from the two countries collided over the South China Sea in 2001, killing a Chinese jet fighter pilot and forcing a heavily damaged U.S. EP-3 surveillance plane to land at a Chinese base. China interrogated and detained the 24 crew members for more than a week, sparking the biggest crisis in bilateral relations in more than a decade.

In that case, the lost Chinese pilot, Wang Wei, had previously

flown close enough to U.S. aircraft for their crew to see his e-mail address written on a piece of paper held up inside his cockpit.

Within the Chinese military’s “environment of bravado,” the actions of rogue pilots can be hard to rein in, said Denny Roy, an expert on the Chinese military at the East-West Center in Hawaii.

However, by signing the memorandum and its annexes, China wants to indicate to the U.S. that aggressive challenges

in the air are not necessarily national policy, Roy said.

“It’s a positive step in bilateral relations because it indicates a Chinese interest in stability and in advancing military-to-military relations,” Roy said.

Tensions have also risen over China’s declaration of an air-defense identification zone over disputed islands in the East China Sea in 2013. The U.S., Japan and others have refused to recognize the move because the area encompassed by the zone includes territory controlled by Japan. China has so far made little effort at enforcing it.

China’s Defense Ministry welcomed the signing, with spokesman Wu Qian praising it as “of positive significance to enhancing strategic mutual trust, and avoiding misunderstanding and miscalculation.”

Analysts differ, however, on how far it will go toward reducing mutual suspicion.

While the memorandum reflects Xi’s control over the military, its effect on overall relations shouldn’t be overestimated, said Bonnie Glaser, senior adviser for Asia at the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington, D.C.

“Xi doesn’t want an accidental collision on his watch,” Glaser said. “I think the memorandum on safety in the air and at sea can create greater predictability, but it is not likely to build trust.” AP

Xi doesn’t want an accidental collision on his watch.

BONNIE GLASER
SENIOR ADVISER FOR ASIA,
CENTER FOR STRATEGIC AND
INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

FT: Ai Weiwei hits brick wall in appeal for Lego help

TOY company Lego has been attacked by Ai Weiwei, the controversial Chinese artist, in a spat over the Danish group’s refusal to provide a bulk order of its plastic building blocks for an upcoming exhibition in Australia, the Financial Times reported on Sunday.

Mr Ai has of late embroiled himself in a series of public confrontations with foreign institutions, including the UK government and some western journalists, after years of sparring with the Chinese government over human rights and freedom of speech.

According to the FT, on Friday he published



Chinese artist Ai Weiwei arrives for a news conference about his Einstein Professorship at the University Of Arts (UDK) in Berlin yesterday

a picture on his Instagram account showing Lego’s refusal of his request for a bulk order for an exhibition at the National Gallery of Victoria in Melbourne. Ai’s followers on Twitter have since taken up his cause, with some pledging to donate their own childhood Lego sets to his exhibition.

Ai, who called the refusal “an act of censorship and discrimination”, has 293,000 Twitter followers, to Lego’s 300,000.

Roar Rude Trangbaek, a Lego spokesman quoted by the UK-based newspaper, said: “In cases where we receive requests for donations or support for

AI TO BE BERLIN LECTURER, SPLITTING TIME WITH MAINLAND

CHINESE ARTIST Ai Weiwei is embarking on a three-year guest lecturer job at a Berlin university, declaring that he will include a project on refugees in his teaching but that he doesn’t plan explicitly to address human rights. Ai, who was detained in China in 2011 and released after 81 days in jail, is starting the guest professorship at Berlin’s University of the

Arts more than four years after he was named to the post and three months after Chinese authorities finally returned his passport. Ai said yesterday he’s chosen 16 students for his course. He told reporters: “I’m not encouraging any students to be like me.” He said he plans to go back and forth between Berlin and China “under the condition that they let me in and out.”

projects — such as the possibility of purchasing Lego bricks in very large quantities, which is not possible through normal

sales channels — where we are made aware that there is a political context, we therefore kindly decline support”.

Paulo Coutinho

STUDIO CITY PREVIEW

Cotai 2.0: the show must begin

THE countdown is over. Today Studio City opens its doors testing the waters of so-called Cotai 2.0 in times of gaming industry recession with Mariah Carey and Leonardo DiCaprio among the guest list.

When Macau Daily Times and a few other media outlets were offered a sneak-peek tour of the new Melco property in the heart of Cotai there were still 13 days to go. The hotels in the two-tower complex were conducting simulation tests with in-house staff and here and there a few touches were being made to the decor.

The uncertainty about the number of gaming tables was in the air, but nobody there seemed to care much about that, except for Studio's President JD Clayton.

"Officially, we requested 400 tables and Lawrence Ho has consistently said that, and what we get is what we're going to get, and certainly, we're hoping to get the full 400 compliment. But if we don't, we'll take what we get," he said in an exclusive interview with the Times ahead of the media tour (see interview on opposite page).

So, much more than anything else, excitement was in the air. "We're really excited about being part of a whole new thing in Macau," some of the staff told us.

Around 5,300 people are working at the new property on opening day, says Clayton. "By the time we finally get towards the end of the year, we should probably pick up to 5,600 people or something like that."

The tour started with lunch at a fine restaurant on the ground floor where the Chefs proposed an exquisite mix of East-West food - not an easy quest for me. But their offerings really did the trick to the great joy of our taste-buds.

Much anticipated by the media entourage was the first-ever ride for "aliens" on the Golden Reel, the eight-shaped Ferris Wheel, the biggest in the world of its kind. At its highest point, it took us 130 meters above sea level. It is a sweet, quiet ride, where you can take the time to enjoy the view - it's not a wow-view like those from a ride on the London Eye or the Hong Kong Wheel, but it's a very different perspective on the usual Macau urban sights: A view to the Coloane green, the pearly canals of the Inner Harbor and Hengqin's mountain scenery. What best got my attention was all the sights of the giant and solid-looking mechanism of



An aspect of the gaming floor, which has capacity for 500 tables. Studio City was allocated 250



The Tea Bar at the center of the casino area

the wheel itself, constantly in motion, like a clockwork symphony made of iron.

But "real" magic was about to unfold.

When we entered the multi-theater House of Magic, a resident show led by acclaimed illusionist Franz Harary, he was there. Harary himself and a troupe of stage dancers were there to give us a taste of now you see-me-now-you-

don't, with a couple of eye-catching, high-tech stunts in one of the three rooms of the house of tricks.

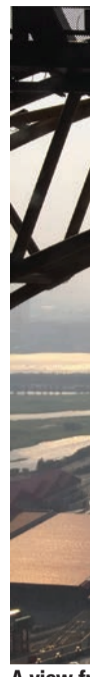
Mr Harary made his career in Vegas in and around casinos, and replying to the Times he explained that "Macau, Cotai, is the magic place to be right now." He also clarified that he "and none of his team of magicians" are allowed on the gaming floor!

He was joking, of course, but if I were Lawrence I wouldn't let that guy make cards disappear in front of our noses. Harary is also famous for pulling stunts outside the theater and he promised to "surprise us" on the streets of Macau occasionally.

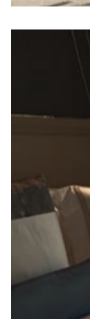
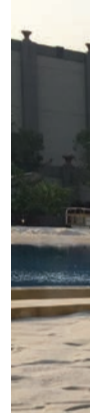
With magicians, Batman, Bugs Bunny, Sylvester and D-D-Daffy Duck on the premises, Studio City promises

to stand as a family entertainment center appropriately connected with its major target-market, right across the Lotus Bridge.

Tonight, Mariah Carey and Scorsese's ad-movie "The Audition" will be starring at the opening ceremony and, "I believe that Leonardo DiCaprio might show up as well as all the guys that were in the movie," Clayton says.



A view fr



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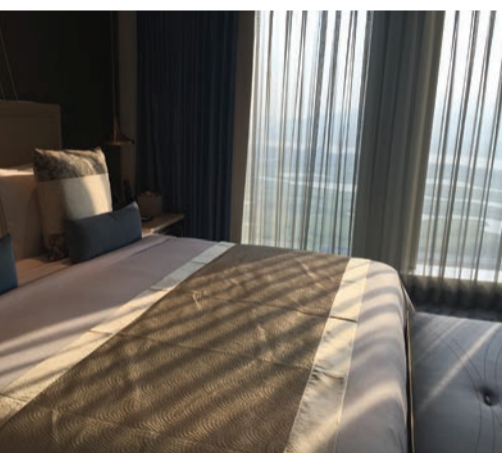
Batman
is the wo



From the Golden Reel, 130 meters high, with Hengqin on the other side in the background



Franz Harary and his troupe of magicians and dancers at the House of Magic resident show



Best rooms – with a view in the twin-towers complex



Dark Flight (a collaboration with Warner Bros and DC Ent) world's first flight simulation ride based on the super-hero

Q&A JD CLAYTON
PRESIDENT STUDIO CITY

“What we are bringing to the table will appeal across a lot of markets”



JAY Dee Clayton has been Property President of Studio City since January 2015. He began his career in the casino hotel industry in 1975 and has developed “a wide range of skills and gained extensive international experience in all facets of casino/hotel operations,” states his official resume. He has played major roles in a number of developments and has been involved in launching many new casino resort properties across Asia, Macau included, and the US.

When JD Clayton talked to us, in an exclusive interview, the table allocation to Studio City was not yet known. (They have since been granted 250 new-to-market tables.) Apart from that the property was ready to open, conducting the last tests before the opening date. The operation he runs is a partnership between Melco Crown (60%) and an investment fund (40%). A cinematically-inspired integrated resort, it is for the

company run by Lawrence Ho and James Packer, “the most diversified entertainment offering yet experienced in Macau.” Mr Clayton is well aware of that “promise and challenge.”

Macau Daily Times (MDT) - This is a different property in Cotai, with really different attractions. Is it to get a different inbound market?

JD Clayton (JDC) - Certainly, the project we’ve built here is something that is offering much, much more than gaming and so, that’s why there has been a big investment in the attractions and non-gaming amenities that we have here. So we are looking at the broader market; not just the gaming market throughout China and Asia and the world. In fact, what we are bringing to the table here are a lot of things that have appeal across a lot of markets and even some international brands that we are working with. Pacha for instance, is something that is internationally well known and there are a lot of Pacha fans in the world that like to come to the new Pacha openings. So I would expect to see a little bit of inbound from the Pacha aficionados, so to speak and elsewhere, you know. The other things that we have here are with respect to our Warner Brothers collaboration on two things, the family entertainment center, the Warner Brothers fun zone and also, our Batman Dark Knight flight.

MDT - You mentioned the Pacha disco and you have club Cubic at

COD. Are they not a bit competitive? You think there is a market for both?

JDC - Yes, I believe there is. Certainly with Pacha, we bring a brand that people are familiar with. Cubic has its clientele. Will we compete? Yes. Will we also work off each other? I think there’s some synergy to be had there. So I think that we can both benefit from another club in the market.

MDT - So 13 days from opening... In a time of declining gaming receipts. What do you think, is this the right time to open shop?

JDC - Of course, I would have loved a better situation, but we’re a company that knows how to deal with change and changing circumstances. The one thing that I personally see is, it seems like things are stable in terms of where the gaming revenue is in the market right now. So in terms of a stabilised situation, I think we are there and that was, I guess, one of the things that the industry was waiting for here was a stabilisation signal of sorts.

MDT - How did you welcome the comments by Li Gang a couple of weeks ago? Were they encouraging for the industry?

JDC - Oh, absolutely, and when you look at the various analysts and the gaming stocks and so forth, it was all encouraging news, and just on that news. I think it is good news. [Chinese officials] don’t make ... hollow statements. So I think there is some weight behind that.

Party leaders drawing up new long-range growth plan

Joe McDonald
Business Writer, Beijing

FACING pressure to pep up a cooling economy, Chinese leaders met yesterday to craft a new long-range blueprint to guide development through the end of this decade.

The Communist Party's five-year plan is a throwback to the era of central planning but still plays a key role, allowing the ruling party to highlight its goals and policy shifts.

Party leaders are expected to use the 2016-2020 plan to renew their commitment to a marathon effort to shift China from reliance on trade and investment to more self-sustaining growth driven by domestic consumption.

The urgency for change has increased following a deeper-than-expected decline in economic growth and this year's boom and bust in stock prices, analysts say.

"It is probably the most difficult five-year planning in his-



A man rides a tricycle cart loaded with recyclable bottles past a Mercedes-Benz SUV car model on display in Beijing

tory, because the multi-layer pressure generated by transforming the economy and at the same time maintaining growth has risen sharply," said economist Liu Yuanchun, director of the National Academy of Development and Strategy at Renmin University in Beijing.

Economic growth slowed to a six-year low of 6.9 percent in the latest quarter, fueling concern about a possible rise in job losses and social tension. Some analysts say official figures overstate growth and the true rate might be as low as 4 percent.

Communist leaders say they

will accept growth below their official target of "about 7 percent" so long as the economy generates enough new jobs.

"We never said we would defend a certain point to the death, but instead let the economy run within a reasonable range," said the top economic official, Premier Li Keqiang, at a weekend gathering of officials, according to a summary on the Cabinet's website.

Bank of America and other

It is probably the most difficult five year planning in history.

LIU YUANCHUN
DIRECTOR
NATIONAL ACADEMY OF
DEVELOPMENT AND STRATEGY
RENMIN UNIVERSITY

forecasters say they expect the 2016-2020 plan to lower the official growth target to 6.5 percent or less.

Analysts also expect the upcoming plan to increase the ruling party's focus on environmental and social goals including raising household incomes and encouraging more use of renewable energy.

Reform advocates say the party needs to move faster on carrying out pledges to give entrepreneurs and market forces a bigger role. That will require cutting back the monopolies and other privileges of state companies that dominate industries from oil to banking to telecoms.


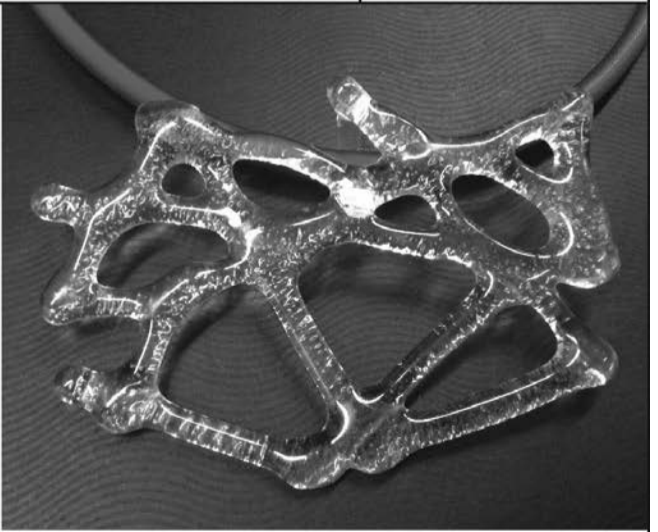
An outline for state industry reform issued in September promises to make government companies more efficient by forcing them to face more free-market competition while retaining the party's dominance in the economy.

But rather than reducing the party's role, that plan says Beijing will "strengthen party leadership" of state companies.

Reform advocates criticized the September plan as inadequate because it fails to address issues including curtailing monopolies and access to low-cost credit, land and other resources. **AP**

AD

 CASA DE PORTUGAL EM MACAU 澳門葡人之家協會		Escola de Artes e Ofícios School of Arts and Crafts	
FILIGRANA FILIGREE monitora/monitor: Cristina Vinhas			
horário/schedule: Terças e Quintas Tuesdays and Thursdays 18h30 - 21h30	total: 30 horas/hours 10 sessões/sessions	início/starts: 03/11/2015 fim/finishes: 03/12/2015	propina/fee: MOP 1200 *
língua/language: Português e Inglês/Portuguese and English		patrocínio/sponsor: Fundação Macau	
local/venue: Avenida do Dr. Francisco Vieira Machado n° 431 - 487 Edf. Industrial Nam Fung 8° andar B, Macau			
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Vitrofundão Glass Fusion monitora/monitor: Cristina Vinhas			
horário/schedule: Sábados Saturdays 14h30 - 17h30	início/starts: 31/10/2015 fim/finishes: 21/11/2015	total: 12 horas/hours 4 sessões/sessions	propina/fee: MOP 800 *
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VIETNAM WAR

Lasers may ease pain for 'napalm girl' in iconic photograph

Jennifer Kay, Miami

IN the photograph that made Kim Phuc a living symbol of the Vietnam War, her burns aren't visible — only her agony as she runs wailing toward the camera, her arms flung away from her body, naked because she has ripped off her burning clothes.

More than 40 years later she can hide the scars beneath long sleeves, but a single tear down her otherwise radiant face betrays the pain she has endured since that errant napalm strike in 1972.

Now she has a new chance to heal — a prospect she once thought possible only in a life after death.

"So many years I thought that I have no more scars, no more pain when I'm in heaven. But now — heaven on earth for me!" Phuc says upon her arrival in Miami to see a dermatologist who specializes in laser treatments for burn patients.

Late last month, Phuc, 52, began a series of laser treatments that her doctor, Jill Waibel of the Miami Dermatology and Laser Institute, says will smooth and soften the pale, thick scar tissue that ripples from her left hand up her arm, up her neck to her hairline and down almost all of her back.

Even more important to Phuc, Waibel says the treatments also will relieve the deep aches and pains that plague her to this day.

With Phuc are her husband, Bui Huy Toan, and another man who has been part of her life since she was 9 years old: Los Angeles-based Associated Press photojournalist Nick Ut.

"He's the beginning and the end," Phuc says of the man she calls "Uncle Ut." "He took my picture and now he'll be here with me with this new journey, new chapter."

It was Ut, now 65, who captured Phuc's agony on June 8, 1972, after the South Vietnamese military accidentally dropped napalm on civilians in Phuc's village, Trang Bang, outside Saigon.

Ut remembers the girl screaming in Vietnamese, "Too hot! Too hot!" He put her in the AP van where she crouched on the floor, her burnt skin raw and peeling off her body as she sobbed, "I think I'm dying, too hot, too hot, I'm dying."

He took her to a hospital. Only then did he return to the Saigon bureau to file his pho-

AP PHOTO



In this Sept. 26, 2015, photo, Dr. Jill Waibel examines Kim Phuc before the first of several laser treatments to reduce pain and the appearance of burn scars in Miami

tographs, including the one of Phuc on fire that would win the Pulitzer Prize.

Phuc suffered serious burns over a third of her body; at that time, most people who sustained such injuries over 10 percent of their bodies died, Waibel says.

■ Phuc arrived from her home in Canada to undergo a series of laser treatments to reduce the scars and pain she has endured for 40 years

Napalm sticks like a jelly, so there was no way for victims like Phuc to outrun the heat, as they could in a regular fire. "The fire was stuck on her for a very long time," Waibel says, and destroyed her skin down through the layer of collagen, leaving her with scars almost four times as thick as normal skin.

While she spent years doing painful exercises to preserve her range of motion, her left arm still doesn't extend as far

as her right arm, and her desire to learn how to play the piano has been thwarted by stiffness in her left hand. Tasks as simple as carrying her purse on her left side are too difficult.

"As a child, I loved to climb on the tree, like a monkey," picking the best guavas, tossing them down to her friends, Phuc says. "After I got burned, I never climbed on the tree anymore and I never played the game like before with my friends. It's really difficult. I was really, really disabled."

Triggered by scarred nerve endings that misfire at random, her pain is especially acute when the seasons change in Canada, where Phuc defected with her husband in the early 1990s. The couple live outside Toronto, and they have two sons, ages 21 and 18.

Phuc says her Christian faith brought her physical and emotional peace "in the midst of hatred, bitterness, pain, loss, hopelessness," when the pain seemed insurmountable.

"No operation, no medication, no doctor can help to heal my heart. The only one is a miracle, (that) God love me," she says. "I just wish one day I am free from pain."

Ut thinks of Phuc as a daughter, and he worried when, during their regular phone calls, she described her pain. When he travels now in Vietnam, he sees how the war lingers in hospitals there, in children born with defects attributed to Agent Orange and

in others like Phuc, who were caught in napalm strikes. If their pain continues, he wonders, how much hope is there for Phuc?

Ut says he's worried about the treatments. "Forty-three years later, how is laser doing this? I hope the doctor can help her. ... When she was 18 or 20, but now she's over 50! That's a long time."

Waibel has been using lasers to treat burn scars, including napalm scars, for about a decade. Each treatment typically costs USD1,500 to \$2,000, but Waibel offered to donate her services when Phuc contacted her for a consultation. Waibel's father-in-law had heard Phuc speak at a church several years ago, and he approached her after hearing her describe

her pain.

At the first treatment in Waibel's office, a scented candle lends a comforting air to the procedure room, and Phuc's husband holds her hand in prayer.

Phuc tells Waibel her pain is "10 out of 10" — the worst of the worst.

The type of lasers being used on Phuc's scars originally were developed to smooth out wrinkles around the eyes, Waibel says. The lasers heat skin to the boiling point to vaporize scar tissue. Once sedatives have been administered and numbing cream spread thickly over Phuc's skin, Waibel dons safety glasses and aims the laser. Again and again, a red square appears on Phuc's skin, the laser fires with a beep and a nurse aims a vacuum-like hose at the area to catch the vapor.

The procedure creates microscopic holes in the skin, which allows topical, collagen-building medicines to be absorbed deep through the layers of tissue.

Waibel expects Phuc to need up to seven treatments over the next eight or nine months.

Wrapped in blankets, drowsy from painkillers, her scarred skin a little red from the procedure, Phuc made a little fist pump. Compared to the other surgeries and skin grafts when she was younger, the lasers were easier to take.

"This was so light, just so easy," she says.

A couple weeks later, home in Canada, Phuc says her scars have reddened and feel tight and itchy as they heal — but she's eager to continue the treatments.

"Maybe it takes a year," she says. "But I am really excited — and thankful." AP



In this June 8, 1972, file photo, 9-year-old Kim Phuc, center, runs with her brothers and cousins, after a South Vietnamese plane accidentally dropped flaming napalm on its own troops and civilians

ARGENTINE

In surprise, opposition in election forces runoff



The ruling party's presidential candidate promised continuity with some changes. The leading opposition candidate promised changes with some continuity. Argentine voters seemed to call that a draw in Sunday's election, giving the two men a neck-and-neck finish and forcing a runoff in their bid to succeed President Cristina Fernandez, a polarizing leader who garnered both devotion and loathing as she spent heavily on the poor and blasted political opponents and even other nations like the United States. With 80 percent of polling places reporting early yesterday, opposition candidate Mauricio Macri and ruling party candidate Daniel Scioli each had 35 percent of the votes. Sergio Massa, a former Fernandez loyalist who broke away to form his own political movement, was third in the six-candidate field with 21 percent. The unexpected tight finish means Macri and Scioli will square off in a Nov. 22 runoff. To win the first round, a candidate had needed 45 percent of the votes or 40 percent and a 10-point advantage over the nearest competitor.

GUATEMALA

TV comic Jimmy Morales wins presidency



TV comic and self-styled outsider Jimmy Morales swept to Guatemala's presidency on the back of popular anger against the political class after huge anti-corruption protests helped oust the last government. Morales, who is to assume the presidency Jan. 14 and has never held political office, said he would get right to work with a transition team to study economic issues and work on development-oriented government policies. "It is not I who declare myself the winner but rather the people who have done so," said Morales, 46, who starred in the comedy "Moralejas." Morales claimed victory late Sunday and his runoff opponent, former first lady Sandra Torres, conceded defeat after official results showed him winning around 68 percent of the votes with 97 percent of polling stations tallied. Election officials were expected to give a final count yesterday. "We recognize Jimmy Morales' triumph and we wish him success," Torres said. "Guatemala has serious problems, but the people made their choice and we respect it."

EUROPEAN MIGRANT CRISIS

Balkan surge continues amid EU attempt to slow it

EUROPEAN and Balkan leaders agreed on measures early yesterday to slow the movement of tens of thousands whose flight from war and poverty has overwhelmed border guards and reception centers and heightened tension among nations along the route to the European Union's heartland. In a statement to paper over deep divisions about how to handle the crisis, the leaders committed to bolster the borders of Greece as it struggles to cope with the wave of refugees from Syria and beyond that cross over through Turkey.

The leaders decided that reception capacities should be boosted in Greece and along the Balkans migration route to shelter 100,000 more people as winter looms.

They also agreed to expand border operations and make full use of biometric data like fingerprints as they register and screen migrants, before deciding whether to grant them asylum or send them home.

"The immediate imperative is to provide shelter," European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker said after chairing the mini-summit of 11 regional leaders in



A family warms themselves around a fire as hundreds of migrants wait to enter a camp in Spielfeld, Austria

Brussels. "It cannot be that in the Europe of 2015 people are left to fend for themselves, sleeping in fields."

Nearly 250,000 people have passed through the Balkans on their way to Western Europe since mid-September.

The surge of migrants across the Balkans is continuing unabated and Croatia's police said yesterday morning more than 13,000 migrants arrived from Serbia

in the past 24 hours. About 260,000 passed through Croatia since mid-September when Hungary put up a fence on the border with Serbia, diverting the flow.

Slovenia's police said yesterday nearly 10,000 migrants entered Slovenia from Croatia in the same period, bringing the total number of arrivals in the past 12 days to almost 75,000.

Many are headed northwest

to Austria, Germany and Scandinavia where they hope to find a home.

"This is one of the greatest litmus tests that Europe has ever faced," German Chancellor Angela Merkel told reporters after the summit. "Europe has to demonstrate that it is a continent of values and of solidarity."

"We will need to take further steps in order to get through this," she said. AP

CANADA

Whale vessel sinks; 5 dead, 21 rescued

Jeremy Hainsworth, Vancouver

FIVE people died after a whale watching boat with 27 people on board sank off Vancouver Island on Sunday (yesterday, Macau time), and one person remained missing, Canadian authorities said.

The vessel made a mayday call late Sunday afternoon on a calm, clear and sunny day off the tourist community of Tofino, a popular destination for whale watchers, the Joint Rescue Coordination Centre said. The cause of the sinking remained a mystery.

A search by the rescue agency staffed by Canadian military and Coast Guard personnel concluded late Sunday with five people dead, 21 rescued and one person missing, said Lt.-Cmdr Desmond James, a spokesman for rescue agency. The Royal Canadian Mounted Police will take over the search for the person who remains missing.

Boats from the nearby Ahoushat First Nation arrived first on the scene, said



Canadian Coast Guard crew arrive at a dock in Tofino, west coast of Vancouver, Canada

aboriginal Councilor Tom Campbell. He was on the waterfront and watched as rescuers brought several survivors ashore.

"Their looks tell the whole story," he said by phone from Tofino. "You can't describe looks on people that are lost. They look totally lost — shocked and lost."

The boat, the 20-meter Leviathan II, was partially submerged 12 nautical kilometers west of Tofino.

"As of right now the case has been turned over to the RCMP and it's a missing person file," James said. "Fortunately, we did manage to rescue 21 people."

Tofino's mayor described the town's mood as tense but commended residents for their quick aid in the rescue effort.

"Everybody's heart is just breaking for what's going on here and wanting to be as helpful as possible," Josie Osborne said in a telephone interview late Sunday.

John Forde, who runs The Whale Centre, another whale watching operation, responded to the call for help and was told the search was for four or five missing people.

The ship that went down was operated by Jamie's Whaling Station, Forde said. He said he had no idea how it could've sunk.

"Over the course of a season and years we take out thousands and thousands of people on these trips in conditions similar today," Forde said. "I have no idea what the issue was or what actually happened." AP



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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

SPANISH SHEPHERDS GUIDE 2,000 SHEEP THROUGH MADRID'S STREETS



Spanish shepherds have led 2,000 sheep through the streets of Madrid in defense of age-old droving, grazing and migration rights that are increasingly threatened by urban sprawl and fenced-in pastures.

Tourists and children were surprised to see wide avenues blocked off in the Spanish capital to let the woolly parade — bleating loudly and clanking bells — cross the city, accompanied by sheepdogs.

Government agriculture spokesman Carlos Cabanas says the tradition is essential to “maintain native breeds that are in danger of extinction.”

Shepherds have held the right since at least 1273 to use droving routes across land that used to be open fields before Madrid became a sprawling metropolis.

A shepherd handed over 150 maravedies — coins minted in the 11th century — to city officials for the crossing.

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	Non-Daily Portuguese News
22:10	Trail of Lies
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Miscellaneous
00:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)

cinema

CINETEATRO

22 Oct - 28 Oct



GOOSEBUMPS_

ROOM 1

2.30 pm

Director: Rob Letterman

Starring: Jack Black, Dylan Minnette, Odeya Rush

Language: English (Cantonese)

Duration: 103min

OUR TIMES_

ROOM 1

4.30, 7.15, 9.45 pm

Director: Ding Sheng

Starring: Andy Lau, Liu Ye, Wu Ruofu, Wang Qianyuan

Language: Mandarin (English/Cantonese)

Duration: 134min



BRIDGE OF SPIES_

ROOM 2

2.30, 4.45, 9.30 pm

Director: Steven Spielberg

Starring: Tom Hanks, Mark Rylance, Alan Alda

Language: English (Cantonese)

Duration: 141min

CRIMSON PEAK_

ROOM 3

2.30, 9.30 pm

Director: Guillermo Toro

Starring: Mia Wasikowska, Jessica Chastain,

Tom Hiddleston

Language: English (Cantonese)

Duration: 119min

GOOSEBUMPS_

ROOM 3

4.45, 7.30 pm

Director: Rob Letterman

Starring: Jack Black, Dylan Minnette, Odeya Rush

Language: English (Cantonese)

Duration: 103min

MACAU TOWER

15 Oct - 04 Nov

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



1968 POLICE CLASH WITH ANTI-WAR PROTESTERS

Trouble has flared in Grosvenor Square, London, after an estimated 6,000 marchers faced up to police outside the United States Embassy.

The protesters had broken away from another, bigger, march against US involvement in Vietnam but were confronted by a wall of police.

The breakaway group, led by the Maoist Britain-Vietnam Solidarity Front was almost thwarted by the march organisers who were aware of the plan and feared violence would erupt.

Once in Grosvenor Square the protesters formed a human chain and charged at the police wall but failed to break through and, after three hours of stalemate, they all dispersed.

In the streets surrounding the square fireworks and other missiles were thrown but no injuries were caused and police considered them to be isolated incidents.

The rest of the march, organised by the Vietnam Solidarity Campaign (VSC), continued peacefully to Hyde Park.

At Downing Street, Tariq Ali of the VSC, handed in a petition, signed by 75,000 to ask the government to stop supporting the US in its war against Vietnam.

The Home Secretary, James Callaghan, praised the demonstration saying “self-control was shown by the mass of the demonstrators”.

He also praised the discipline and restraint shown by police.

“I doubt if this kind of demonstration could have taken place so peacefully in any other part of the world,” he said.

Security for the march was high. A thousand-strong team of police was stationed outside the US Embassy and policemen lined the route of the march with back-up following in coaches.

The turnout for the march was around 25,000, half the number predicted by police and organisers.

But, far from being disappointed at the low turnout Mr Ali said; “This is not the end. This is the beginning of the campaign.”

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

Security for the march was high after police were criticised for failing to contain a similar demonstration at the US Embassy in March which ended with over 300 arrests.

The last American troops left Vietnam on 29 March 1973. The following year there were frequent violations of the peace treaty.

In 1975, fullscale warfare resumed between North and South Vietnam -without American intervention. In 1976 the first elections were held to a National Assembly, finally reuniting North and South.

YOUR STARS

Aries Mar. 21-Apr. 19 How you handle your frustration affects your future profitability...

Taurus April 20-May 20 Don't just think about what the masses want when you're trying to predict the next big thing...

Gemini May 21-Jun. 21 Of course money has everything to do with the way people see you. If you're not positive about that...

Cancer Jun. 22-Jul. 22 You have too much of a good thing. Of two good things, actually. Time on your hands and plenty of energy...

Leo Jul. 23-Aug. 22 Do your research before you buy anything, even if it's only penny candy. If there's no background to check...

Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22 Not much will get done, but don't let that eat away at you. No matter how many details were crossed off your list...

Libra Sep.23-Oct. 22 Don't stop now. You have your dotage to appreciate the smaller things in life. For today, keep trying to grow your retirement account...

Scorpio Oct. 23 - Nov. 21 You need to get to the bottom of things, and fast. If it helps motivate you, imagine you're pursuing a romance or unraveling a mystery...

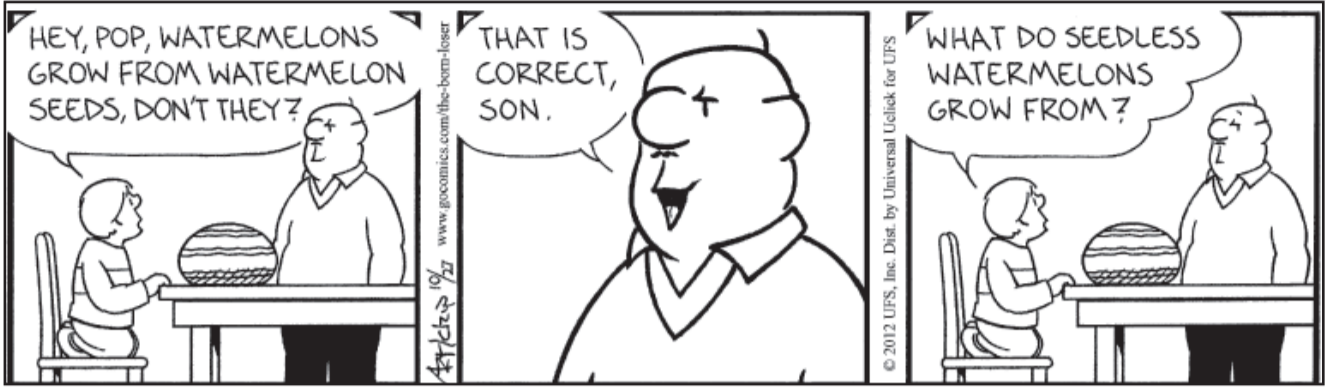
Sagittarius Nov. 22-Dec. 21 One minute you can't get your feet off the ground, the next you're blasting off to Jupiter. Cool your jets. Just because your bottom line is all over the board doesn't mean your emotions have to be.

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19 Others may be impressed with you, but you're your own worst critic. Don't compare today's balance with what you were worth a year or two ago...

Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 18 You could easily be misled. If you read things incorrectly, you're likely to overspend. That's just what some want, so read the fine print extra carefully.

Pisces Feb.19-Mar. 20 You have a high energy day ahead of you, with nothing but optimism for new projects. Whether or not they fly is not the point right now. Your renewed optimism is.

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Easy

8x8 Sudoku grid for Easy level with some numbers filled in.

Easy+

8x8 Sudoku grid for Easy+ level with some numbers filled in.

Medium

8x8 Sudoku grid for Medium level with some numbers filled in.

Hard

8x8 Sudoku grid for Hard level with some numbers filled in.

WEATHER

Table with columns: MIN, MAX, CONDITION

CHINA

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

WORLD

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

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Popular drama of Japan; 7- Hit sign; 10- Burmese, Manx, and Scottish Fold; 14- Yom Kippur observer; 15- 007 creator Fleming; 16- Immensely; 17- Take care of; 18- Never, in Nuremberg; 19- Zhivago's love; 20- Peculiarity; 23- Gift of the Magi; 26- Can be used to catch fish or surf; 27- Floating bombs; 28- Hollow grass; 29- Orch. section; 30- Pouch; 31- Worker; 33- Relay race part; 34- Deranged; 37- Before; 38- Bump off; 39- Vane dir; 40- Draft choice; 41- Night school subj.; 42- Fr. holy woman; 43- Rhinoplasty; 45- Put down, in slang; 46- Cabinet dept.; 47- Booty; 48- Burning of another's property; 51- Decide; 52- Makes; 53- Statistical data of a population; 56- Jack of "Rio Lobo"; 57- Squeeze (out); 58- Female parent; 62- Take it easy; 63- Actress Farrow; 64- Flexible; 65- Canned; 66- Not 'neath; 67- Pull out;

DOWN: 1- Crazy ___; 2- Consumed, usually food; 3- ___ voyage!; 4- Do less than is necessary; 5- Sailing vessel; 6- High-performance Camaro; 7- Transgressor; 8- Singer Bonnie; 9- Lulu; 10- Containing lime; 11- Actor Delon; 12- Rich cake; 13- Remains; 21- Main course; 22- Likenesses; 23- 1957 hit for the Bobbettes; 24- A long time; 25- Insurgent; 29- Religious offshoots; 30- Spanish Mister; 32- Ascending; 33- Extent; 34- One of superior rank; 35- Crazy as ___; 36- Sums owing; 44- Flexible; 45- Damned; 46- Become visible; 48- Journalist ___ Rogers St. Johns; 49- Make less tense; 50- Air pollution; 51- Jack of "The Great Dictator"; 52- French school; 54- San ___, Italy; 55- Little devils; 59- Possess, to Burns; 60- Terminus; 61- Numbered hwy.

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

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

- Emergency calls 999
Taxi 28 939 939 / 2828 3283
Fire department 28 572 222
Water Supply - Report 1990 992
PJ (Open line) 993
Telephone - Report 1000
PJ (Picket) 28 557 775
Electricity - Report 28 339 922
PSP 28 573 333
Macau Daily Times 28 716 081
Customs 28 559 944
S. J. Hospital 28 313 731
Kiang Wu Hospital 28 371 333
Commission Against Corruption (CCAC) 28326 300
IACM 28 387 333
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Ref: 15085449

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Ref: 15090530

Houston Court Coloane Village
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Ref: 1505502

Tai Nin Macau
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Hamilton wins US Grand Prix and F1 season championship

Jim Vertuno, Austin

LEWIS Hamilton took off his racing helmet and bent low in a moment of quiet reflection after winning a tight race and another Formula One championship.

Mercedes teammate Nico Rosberg sat nearby, slumped in a feeling of disgust revealed when Hamilton tossed him his second-place cap and the German flipped it right back, nearly hitting Hamilton in the face.

Hamilton ignored the gesture, turned and walked to the victor's podium to celebrate winning the United States Grand Prix to secure his third Formula One season title.

"In the final laps I was thinking about my family and my dad standing in the rain watching me race, as a crazy parent thinking someday he might be a good driver," Hamilton said. "It's hard to believe I'm here as a three-time champion."

It was Rosberg's mistake that helped make this one happen.



Lewis Hamilton celebrates after winning the F1 world championship

The German skidded off a short straight out of the 12th turn with eight laps to go at the Circuit of the Americas, opening the gap Hamilton needed.

Hamilton's third U.S. win in four years gave him 21 over two seasons and his 10th this year. The 30-year-old is the first Formula One driver to win 10 or more races in consecutive seasons.

For Rosberg, it was yet another race of frustration for a

driver who enjoys the dominance of his Mercedes car, but can't get the better of his boyhood friend turned rival.

"Not saying something wrong with the car, for now I think it's a mistake I made," Rosberg said. A third season championship earns Hamilton a spot among the great drivers in the sport's history. Three matches his idol Ayrton Senna and ties Jackie Stewart for most championships by a British driver. Only Michael

Schumacher, Juan Manuel Fangio, Alain Prost and current Ferrari driver Sebastian Vettel have won more.

"For me, it was always to get the three Ayrton had," Hamilton said, calling it "very humbling."

Vettel finished third. He could have pushed the championship race to next week in Mexico City if he had been able to pass Rosberg on the final lap for second. "This is Lewis's day," Vettel said. "I've been in this seat before. The nights after you win the championship are pretty special too."

Hamilton's first world title in 2008 came down to the final turn in the final race of the season. The second and third have been much more dominant.

His switch to Mercedes in 2013 put him in Formula One's dominant car after the engine change from the screaming V8s to a V6 turbo hybrid. Hamilton and Mercedes have been out front ever since. His closest rival has been Rosberg. AP

Sheikh Salman enters FIFA presidential race



Sheikh Salman Bin Ibrahim Al Khalifa

Bahraini royal family member Sheikh Salman bin Ibrahim Al Khalifa is running for FIFA president, a move that will put his human rights record under renewed scrutiny. The Asian soccer confederation said yesterday that Sheikh Salman, the body's president, has the "overwhelming support" of its executive committee. The confederation said it has been assured that the sheikh's "campaign will be entirely self-financed and that he will not use the AFC's resources, human or otherwise, in the election." The 49-year-old Sheikh Salman is one of seven contenders who have declared their candidacies before Monday's filing deadline for the Feb. 26 election. They are seeking to replace Sepp Blatter as the governing body tries to move beyond serious corruption allegations.

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opinion

Our Desk
 Renato Marques



PARKING 'BLUES'

Recently, we bore witness to some criticism from people regarding the new measures proposed by the government that changed the duration and tariffs of parking meters.

This measure comes as just one of a series of unpopular measures regarding vehicle parking in Macau that included a rumor of a suspension of all (or some) monthly passes in the public parking lots of the territory. This is to be addressed soon in a debate at the Legislative Assembly between the lawmakers and the Secretary for Transport and Public Works, Mr Raimundo do Rosario.

While some of these measures did not receive much approval from citizens, they do have some scientific support. It is important, however, to approach these measures step-by-step.

Basically, parking meters were invented to discourage drivers from parking their vehicles in the streets for long periods of time. By concept, these devices are located in areas of cities where there is a great demand for parking spaces, such as shopping and services areas, government departments, etc. The purpose is simple, as mentioned before, to give the opportunity for more people to park in these convenient areas in order to take care of their personal matters. The prices and duration of the parking allowed by the meters must also follow demand, in a way of providing rotation when being used. Another characteristic of parking meters is that they require pre-payment. You must therefore know in advance how long you plan to occupy your spot.

However, what do you do when you need more time or you just cannot stop what you are doing to go and add another coin? Parking lots, after all, should provide drivers with the opportunity to leave their vehicles for longer periods of time, such as for several hours or even days or weeks.

By definition, these parking lots are less expensive (on the long stays) than the meters. They also provide a more protected parking spot, and are specifically made for long stays. Sometimes they are less convenient in terms of location and require more time to park and retrieve vehicles. The hourly-based payment is done when you want to leave, according to the number of hours of your stay.

The issue, as we all know by now is that, according to the statistics, every month there are 900 new cars in Macau and public parking spaces only have capacity for about 20 percent of all cars circulating in the city. Although this problem is known and has been addressed for quite some time, it appears that there is not a strong desire to solve it, or at least to minimize it.

Apparently, the public parking facilities and their private or semi-private administrations can decide on issues freely, limiting for example, the number of days a car can be parked without being moved, among other regulations with doubtful legal base.

If all these problems cannot be clearly resolved and elicit fear among many, one thing seems to be clear. The only beneficiaries of this uncertainty so far have been the parking administrations of private buildings that rushed to increase the rental fees on their parking spaces in order to profit more from scared residents fearful of losing their parking spots if the monthly tickets are cancelled. The prices boomed, in some cases to astronomical amounts of HKD3,500 per month in some areas of the city center.

It remains to be seen what kind of cars residents will now aim to buy in order to justify a so-called "luxurious" expense, such as that of parking.

THE BUZZ AUTHORITIES INVESTIGATE BREACH OF ANTI-SMOKING REGULATIONS

The Macau Gaming Enterprises Staff's Association and an anti-smoking concern group met the health authorities yesterday after over 100 Wynn Macau employees staged a strike at the casino the previous night. The strike was in protest of the gaming operator's move to convert part of

the non-smoking area into a smoking area. Several government agencies intervened to stop the strike on the same night. The gaming company later explained that the decision was the result of the management's misinterpretation of official regulations.

GAMING

Dore reportedly planning to close VIP rooms

DORE Entertainment is reportedly planning to close the two VIP rooms it operates in Wynn Macau. On the sidelines of yesterday's Legislative Assembly plenary session, lawmaker Pereira Coutinho, who has been involved in a campaign to support the affected investors, commented on the case.

"This was an expected situation, sooner or later the rooms would have to close because they simply did not have money to pay," Coutinho said.

Although there is still no official confirmation as yet, the lawmaker said that he believes the closure will be done on Dore's initiative. "They only kept the rooms in operation due to an imposition of the concessionary".

Mr Coutinho added: "The losses are very high, everybody is seriously concerned about this" wondering why until now there was no action from the Gaming Inspection and Coordination Bureau regarding the matter. Besides the VIP rooms in Wynn Macau, Dore operates one room in MGM and another in The Venetian Macao.

Separately, Daiwa Securities Group Inc. has said that the announcement of stricter account-



Pereira Coutinho

ing rules for junket operators, which start next year, "is incrementally negative to the [VIP gaming] sector."

The brokerage firm added that increased scrutiny presents an additional complication for operators "at a time of continued business challenges for the segment as a whole."

Earlier this month, the Gaming and Inspection Coordination Bureau introduced new guidelines to improve transparency

in the junket sector. Starting next year, all junket operators will have to compile monthly accounting reports and register details on key financial personnel.

Following the announcement, Daiwa analysts Jaime Soo, Adrian Chan and Jennifer Wu reported that they "do not rule out the possibility of a potential renewed and accelerating junket attrition in the coming months."

"The possibility of this outcome may result in a further decline in the junkets' overall liquidity, which implies a potential further leg down to VIP volumes in 2016."

The announcement of stricter accounting rules follows the case of fraud involving Dore Entertainment, that was revealed in September and agitated the local VIP gaming segment.

Gross Gaming Revenue (GGR) in VIP gaming fell 38 percent year-on-year during the third quarter of 2015, according to government data. VIP revenue accounted for 53.32 percent of casino GGR in the third quarter of 2015, down from 55.51 percent in the previous quarter and from 56.45 percent at the same time last year.

SPORTS

Disappointing results at National Youth Games

LOCAL teenage athletes at the National Youth Games found their progress stymied by fellow sportsmen from other Chinese cities. Part of Macau's delegation has already returned to the territory.

The Sports Development Board (ID) revealed some of the local athletes' results in the first edition of the nationwide games.

In taekwondo, Freeman Yiu was knocked down by Shenzhen's Ren Ming Xiang in the men's under-68-kilogram bout, losing 2 to 14. In swimming, Cheong Tek Kei and Leong Ka Seng were eliminated in the 50-meter freestyle preliminary, while Lin Sizhuang fell short in the 100-meter butterfly preliminary.

Fencers Leung Weng Hang, Do Rosario, Romano Máximo and Leong Cheng



Wai suffered defeat at the hands of their Hong Kong counterparts in the men's team epee. Macau's handball team also competed with Hong Kong for seventh place after being defeated by Shanghai earlier.

Station	Air quality
Roadside	25-45 Good
High Density Residential Area	30-50 Good
Ambient	30-50 Good

SOURCE: DSMG

WORLD BRIEFS

AUSTRALIA A 60-year-old man has been found two weeks after he disappeared in crocodile habitat in Australia's tropical wilderness, police said Sunday. Garry Amey was taken to Cairns Base Hospital on Saturday for treatment for dehydration and sunburn, police said in a statement.

FRANCE It's official: Ham, sausage and other processed meats can lead to colon, stomach and other cancers — and red meat is probably cancer-causing, too. While doctors have long warned against eating too much meat, the World Health Organization's cancer agency gave the most definitive response yet yesterday about its relation to cancer — and put processed meats in the same danger category as cigarettes or asbestos.

POLAND took a decisive turn to the right in its parliamentary election Sunday, tossing out the centrist party that had governed for eight years for a socially conservative and Euroskeptic party that wants to keep migrants out and spend more on Poland's own poor. An exit poll showed the conservative Law and Justice party winning 39 percent of the vote, enough to govern alone without forming a coalition.

VATICAN CITY Catholic patriarchs, cardinals and bishops representing five continents have issued a 10-point appeal to climate negotiators in Paris to approve a "transformative" and fair, legally binding agreement that sets global temperature limits and decarbonization goals to save the planet from climate-induced catastrophe.

ISRAEL The Israeli army says its forces shot a Palestinian who tried to stab an Israeli soldier near a sensitive holy site in the West Bank city of Hebron. The army would not elaborate on the condition of the Palestinian. The soldier was unharmed. The army says the stabbing attack took place yesterday near a site known to Jews as the Cave of the Patriarchs and to Muslims as the Ibrahim Mosque, the traditional burial spot of the biblical Abraham and his family.