



**AIRPORT BREAKS ANNUAL PASSENGER RECORD**

P2



**PLAINCLOTHES OFFICERS A FORCE AGAINST DISSENT**  
Scenes of pushing, shouting and shoving outside a Beijing courthouse were orchestrated by plainclothes security officers

P11 CHINA



**MOURINHO TURNS ON CHELSEA PLAYERS AFTER LOSS**

Chelsea manager Jose Mourinho turned on his players after the team's latest loss, saying he felt "betrayed"

P19 SPORTS

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# Heavier penalties for drug users, traffickers

P5

**WORLD BRIEFS**

**TURKEY** The state-run news agency says police have detained a Syrian Islamic State militant suspected of planning a suicide attack against the U.S. Consulate in Istanbul. Anadolu Agency said the man was detained yesterday in Kahramanmaraş, a province close to the border with Syria. It didn't cite a source for the report. The U.S. Consulate was closed down last week over an unspecified threat.



**THAILAND** King Bhumibol Adulyadej has made a rare, brief appearance yesterday on television amid concerns about his ailing health. The people of Thailand marked the 88th birthday of their king, the world's longest-reigning monarch, but with their once-vigorous leader in a hospital and unseen in public for three months, the celebrations were the most subdued in memory.

More on backpage



**Don't let the friendly face fool you: this croupier has no heart**

P4



## Vendors resist Capitol mall revamp

Aries Un

**V**ENDORS operating inside the Capitol mall in downtown Macau have voiced their opposition to the building's impending transformation into a cultural and creative facility.

The decrepit shopping mall – known as Centro Comercial Teatro Capitol in Portuguese, and once home to one of Macau's biggest cinemas – opened to the public in 1990. The number of visitors to the mall eventually dwindled, allegedly due to bad management.

The Capitol mall had previously been locked in a lengthy conflict with its management firm over rental liabilities. The management has allegedly been foiling efforts to revive the mall.

However, the committee

said in a media conference late last month that the mall would commence operations at the end of 2016, under the leadership of a new management firm.

The group claimed that a settlement had been reached over the conflict and that the old firm will make way for the MOP20 million project.

The initiative to revive the mall was met with resistance from around seven ground-floor vendors, who accused the committee of acting on its own.

"We respect the idea, but we have to clarify that how the property should be developed has to be based on an unanimous decision by all proprietors, instead of merely the two-term management committee," the vendors said in a statement published and translated

from Chinese by Macau Daily.

The vendors pledged to take legal action to safeguard their rights if necessary, and warned against investing in a project associated with such legal disputes.

One of them told the Times that the opposing vendors would hold a press conference later this month to further explain their stance.

The committee stated in its rebuttal that the vendors were unauthorized to run their business but had allegedly paid 10 years' worth of rent to the property manager.

The committee expects to encounter more obstacles over the project, as it has to seek consensus from the 50-odd owners of the mall's 103 retail spaces.

## 2015 Grand Prix, best-selling in history

**T**HE Grand Prix committee noted that the Suncity 62nd Grand Prix, held from November 19 – 22, broke previous records by generating MOP 53 million from publicity, sponsorship and ticket sales. This makes it the bestselling Grand Prix in Macau's history.

According to statistics from the Macau Government Tourism Office (MGTO) and the Public Security Police Force, up to 400,000 visitors arrived in the region over the four-day event, with a hotel occupancy at three-to-five star hotels recorded at 93.47 percent.

A dinner was held on Monday by the Grand Prix committee to celebrate the efforts of the organizing committee and commend the success of this year's event.

Over the four-day period, the official website for the racing event received more than 15 million hits – an increase of 53 percent when compared with the previous year. Web users originated from Hong Kong, Macau, the Mainland, United Kingdom, Taiwan, Japan, U.S.A., Germany, Canada and Australia.

Across the eight races of this year's event, some 90 teams of 221 drivers and riders participated, coming from around 30 different countries. Of this year's competitors, the



The Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture Alexis Tam attended the dinner to celebrate the completion of the 62nd Macau Grand Prix

Grand Prix committee says at least 49 were locals.

Media participation amounted to 1,023 journalists from 19 countries or regions, with a total of 220 organizations covering the event, including 27 TV stations relaying either live or delayed broadcasts.

Meanwhile, schools and teachers organized trips for students to attend the racing event, including those from 21 kindergartens, primary and secondary schools, as well as 11 local tertiary education providers.

In addition, Macau Grand Prix themed exhibitions took place in 18 local primary schools and in eight public areas. Moreover, with the support from the MGTO, seven local associations organized promotional activities for the Grand Prix.

## Authorities mull floodgate in Inner Harbor

**A**UTHORITIES have determined to spend MOP11million on a series of studies and investigations into erecting a floodgate to address the occasional flooding in the Inner Harbor area.

A Macau Daily report published yesterday indicates that the Zhuhai research institute was entrusted with the preparatory works for the prospective floodgate, which is most likely to be built at the waterway stretching from the A-Ma Temple across the river, just off the inner harbor.

Both sides found such an initial scheme plausible during a meeting on bilateral urban planning earlier this week. The mainland research team in fact carried out a site visit to the location prior to the conference.

It was also agreed that the project had to be accomplished without compromising the surroundings and the shipping in that precinct. However, no other details are available, as the project requires further discussion and review.

It is only known that the floodgate's



design will emulate similar systems in foreign countries, with the current volume of shipping in the waterway to be left unaffected.

As more details on the region's sovereignty over its surrounding sea waters are expected to be known by the end of the year, authorities will only be able to determine the project's specifics after such clarification by the central government on the extent of Macau's marine autonomy.

The new partnership between Zhuhai and Macau has been made public in the Official Gazette.

The Inner Harbor suffers severe flooding every year during the rainy season. The merchants in the low-lying area report losses to varying degrees during that time. **AU**

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**T**HE Macau International Airport (MIA) held a formal celebration ceremony by the side of the airstrip yesterday to commemorate the new annual record of 5.5 million passengers.

The ceremony saw live performances for passengers, as well as the distribution of souvenirs in honor of the airport's 20th anniversary.

The executive director of the Macau International Airport Company (CAM), Leong Sio Pui, credited the introduction of new routes – particularly across Southeast Asia and North Asia – and a number of new airlines opening routes to Macau for the increase.

The infrastructure, which recently announced plans to invest in facilities for long-haul flights, managed to attract seven new airlines offering eight new routes to Macau in 2015. The new routes connect Macau with mainland destinations Haikou and Wanzhou, as well as Vietnam's Ho Chi Minh City and Haiphong, and Phnom Penh in Cambodia. Routes were also opened to the Maldives, Palau and Thailand.

In addition, 2015 saw investment from North Asian airlines looking to open or expand flight services to Macau; notably the South Korean low-cost carrier

# Airport reaches record-high 5.5 million passengers



Airport lobby



The airport executive director Leong Sio Pui

T'Way Airlines which recently started operating five flights per week connecting Macau to Seoul's Incheon International Airport.

MIA passenger traffic, which stands at 5.5 million to the middle of December, is up 5.5 percent compared with last year, according to information obtained from the company. This represents a record high for the airport.

The approach of Christmas

and the New Year season is expected to provide additional good news for the airport and dependent business entities.

Executive director Leong confirmed at the ceremony that the company expects the new routes will drive airport passenger traffic to 5.7 million by the end of 2015. As the Times reported earlier this month, this figure had been previously announced by MIA. **Staff reporter**

## CAM ASSEMBLY DECIDES CORPORATE FIGURES

**THE MACAU** International Airport Company (CAM) held its Extraordinary General Assembly yesterday to vote in the future senior corporate members of the company. A list of the 2016 to 2018 corporate figures was unanimously agreed upon during the course of the meeting. The company also revealed its strategic target for

next year is to outclass its rivals in terms of corporate excellence, using a mantra of going "beyond the competitors and showing executive ability." The company said that with the confirmation of management personnel, all staff will be more confident in the face of change and challenges in the future.

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## Slight drop in foreign reserves

The Monetary Authority of Macau announced yesterday that the preliminary estimate of Macau's foreign exchange reserves amounted to MOP 143.8 billion at the end of November 2015 – a 0.8 percent monthly drop from the revised figure of MOP 145 billion in October. Meanwhile the trade-weighted exchange rate index for the pataca rose 1.75 points month-to-month and 6.5 points year-on-year in November, suggesting that the pataca appreciated against the currencies of Macau's major trading partners. According to the authority, Macau's foreign exchange reserves at the end of November represented 12 times the currency in circulation. Reserves at the end of July represented 13 times the amount of currency in circulation.

## Babel takes Macau Sessions to Shenzhen



The Macau-based non-profit organization, Babel, has prepared a talk to discuss its most recent publication titled "Macau Sessions. Dialogues on Architecture and Society". The document was launched in Macau last October during MAP 2015 (Macau Architecture Promenade). During the talk to be presented in Shenzhen on December 18, Hendrik Tieben (CUHK), Mário Duque, Thomas Daniell (USJ) and Tiago Quadros (USJ) will discuss and examine the key issues and ambitions underscoring Macau's unprecedented growth, trying to answer the questions: "What are the costs, and the blind spots of Macau's rampant growth?" and "What is the role of Macau in China's development?"

## USJ joins IFCU from December

Macau's University of Saint Joseph (USJ) has been accepted as a member of the International Federation of Catholic Universities (IFCU), becoming the first and only member in China. The Federation's mission is to contribute to the building of a more just and humane world through science, reason and a persistent dialogue between cultures and religions. According to a press release issued by the USJ, the IFCU has currently around 220 members around the world and also enjoys a consultative status with several international organizations, namely the United Nations, the Commission of Human Rights, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC).



Jay Chun, chairman of Paradise Entertainment Ltd., stands for a photograph with Min, a prototype human-like electronic croupier, at the company's headquarters in Macau



A close up on Min, the robot croupier

## GAMING

# Don't let the friendly face fool you: this croupier has no heart

Daniela Wei

**S**HE has an hourglass figure, an unflappable manner and a friendly face. Meet "Min," the robot whose creators say could revolutionize card-dealing in the world's casinos.

The svelte brunette is a prototype of a human-like electronic croupier, which Paradise Entertainment Ltd., a Hong Kong-based gaming machine manufacturer and supplier, says could cut labor costs and open up new markets for casino operators. While her function is currently limited to dealing cards, planned enhancements could have her recognizing customers' faces and speaking to them in multiple languages, Chairman Jay Chun said.

After making her debut at a gaming show in Macau last month, Min and her clones will initially be introduced in the U.S., where labor costs in casinos are proportionally higher than in Asia and where humans, but not machines, are prohibited in some states from working as croupiers. Paradise is talking to potential overseas buyers, Chun said, declining to say how much the robots will cost.

"We are the first gambling equipment manufacturer in the world that produces the human-like robotic dealer," he said.

Automated table games are a growing segment of the North American gaming industry, according to Christopher Jones,

an analyst with Union Gaming Group LLC in New York. Installing electronic table games can help casino operators reduce their labor exposure on low-denomination games and during slow periods. Also novice customers may seek out robotic tables to avoid embarrassment if they make a mistake, he said.

While relatively novel in the U.S., robots will be viewed similarly to virtual dealers by regulators, Jones said.

Robots can be a good solution in gambling jurisdictions where real dealers are banned, said Carlos Siu, an associate professor at the gaming teaching and research center of the Macao Polytechnic Institute. Genting Malaysia Bhd.'s Resorts World Casino in New York state uses electronic table games to get

**“We are the first gambling equipment manufacturer in the world that produces the human-like robotic dealer.”**

JAY CHUN

around state gambling laws that bar human dealers, Jones said.

In Macau, the world's largest gambling hub, machines are less likely to appeal. Asian customers are more inclined to gamble in a noisy and crowded environment, preferring to banter with dealers and fellow gamblers than sit in front of a machine that provides little or no engagement, Siu said.

"Gamblers often slam the table and shout loudly to pump up the mood," he said. "I'm not sure if robotic dealers can tap into the gamblers' psychology correctly and give an appropriate response."

On top of that, a slowdown in Macau's gaming industry may result in an oversupply of croupiers in the territory, Siu said. Paradise wouldn't comment on whether it plans to sell robot dealers to the city's operators. Any roll-out in the Chinese territory could spark opposition from a labor union that has urged the Macanese government to keep barring foreign workers from dealer jobs. Under Macau law, only local residents can be hired for such positions.

Even still, Hanson Robotics has sold a rival product – which is interactive and able to make facial expressions – to a Macau casino operator, said Jeanne Lim, the Hong Kong-based company's chief marketing officer. She declined to say

## In Macau machines are less likely to appeal

which company bought it.

Paradise Entertainment is working on making their robots more lifelike, Chun said. Scanners located in card shoes enable the machines to recognize the cards that have been dealt. More advanced models will incorporate face-recognition capabilities so customers, especially important high-rollers, get more personalized service, such as being greeted by their name.

Kam Pek Paradise, an SJM Holdings Ltd.-owned casino in Macau that's managed by Paradise Entertainment, began a couple of months ago requesting VIP customers provide personal details and a portrait photograph so that surveillance cameras will recognize them and alert floor managers of their arrival via an automatic text message, Chun said. Likewise, the technology can be used to scout for known troublemakers.

Besides potential advantages in security and hospitality, robots are more efficient at dealing cards, typically distributing 30 percent more than a human in any given period, he said. **Bloomberg**

## IPIM opens offices in Portugal and Brazil

**T**HE offices of the Macau Trade and Investment Promotion Institute (IPIM) in Lisbon, Portugal and São Paulo, Brazil, will become operational in the second or third quarter of 2016, said Glória Batalha Ung, executive member of IPIM, this week.

On the sidelines of a meeting to promote business opportunities in Mozambique, Ung also said that in the initial phase, the offices would be staffed by only two or

three people, and would support local businesses, particularly small and medium-sized enterprises, to do business in the Portuguese-speaking countries.

The executive member of IPIM pointed out there were a growing number of companies, both local and from mainland China, interested in expanding or doing business both in Portugal and Brazil.

"Some of the entrepreneurs interested

in doing business in Portuguese-speaking countries may not be aware of the local situation, and that is precisely our role, to aid in establishing a business or knowing the right people to contact," said Batalha Ung.

IPIM currently has offices in the provinces of Guangdong (Canton), Zhejiang (Hangzhou), Sichuan (Chengdu), Fujian (Fuzhou) and Liaoning (Shenyang). **MDT/Macauhub**

## HERITAGE

## IC launches QR codes for Historic Centre



**I**n celebration of the tenth anniversary of the addition of "The Historic Centre of Macau" to the World Heritage List, the Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC) is launching a QR code network for the bureau's "Cultural and Creative Venues - Works of Literature" website.

The IC has installed QR code signs on bronze information boards scattered about World Heritage sites in Macau's historic quarter.

Users can scan the codes with mobile devices in order to access the corresponding website where they are presented with information, literary quotes and poems relating to the point of interest.

The bureau says that the QR codes will facilitate raising awareness of the region's creative industries.

The website offers literary resources and information in either Chinese or Portuguese drawn from two IC webpages: "Cultural and Creative Venues" and "Works of Literature."

The "Cultural and Creative Venues" provides an overview of the cultural and creative points of interest in the vicinity of the World Heritage Sites. Members of the public are able to access basic information on the sites, as well as the contact details and opening hours of attractions.

"Works of Literature" will allow users to draw on a collection of renowned literary quotes and poems relating to the user's location. The IC says that the collection can help enhance the understanding of local brands and products.

QR codes have been made available on all of the bronze information boards except for the Mandarin's House and the Leal Senado building. These boards are still under construction and will be installed with QR codes following their completion.

# Heavier penalties for drug trafficking and consumption

Renato Marques

**T**HE revision of the law to fight drug trafficking and consumption will lead to heavier penalties for both crimes. The proposal was presented and approved yesterday by the Executive Council in an effort to make the territory's law on such matters more in keeping with its neighboring regions.

Despite several examples coming from developed countries where anti-drug policies advocate the decriminalization of consumption in order to control the problem, Macau would appear to disagree with this position, as the local authorities seem intent to follow the examples of China and Taiwan.

"Compared to the adjacent regions, Macau has very light penalties regarding drug consumption crimes. In adjacent regions, penalties for such acts are much heavier. We are part of this environment and region so we must have something [a law] that better protects citizens," said the Legal Affairs Bureau deputy director Leong Pou Ieng at an Executive Council press conference held yesterday.

The proposal would see the minimum prison term penalty for consumption grow from "up to three months" to a range of "three months to a year".

Drug trafficking also sees the minimum penalty rise, passing from three to five years in prison, while the maximum limit would remain at 15 years of imprisonment.

Another new element includes the "possession of utensils or equipment that indicate drug consumption" being treated the same way as "drug consumption" – that is to say, within the same



A police officer inspects a local karaoke parlor where drugs were hidden

legal framework.

According to the explanation of the Legal Affairs Bureau deputy director, prison will help addicts to break the habit.

"They [the addicts] prefer to go to jail for less than two months and then leave. This type of punishment does not help them to abstain from drug use. If we increase the penalty for

drug use, that is not intended to be a punishment. We intend to make sure that the offender has a meaningful opportunity to quit drugs."

The bill that now goes to the Legislative Assembly (AL) also suggests the introduction of a limit on the amount of drugs considered "for private consumption". If the limit of "the amount set as

a reference for 5 days use" is exceeded, it should be immediately classified as a trafficking offense.

Another of the changes regarding the "drug law" is concerned with the obtaining of urine samples as "evidence" within certain establishments. In order to minimize offense during the collection process, the goal of this particular change is to restrict the collection of such evidence to cases where there is "strong evidence" of the "drug consumption crime", provided that there is prior authorization from judiciary authorities.

This law review comes at a time when according to the most recent crime figures available for the first ten months of 2015 there is a significant decline in drug related crimes. In that time period, consumption fell 47 percent and trafficking fell 27 percent.

## Gov't prepares bill to facilitate expatriation to Chinese jurisdictions

**T**HE Executive Council concluded the analysis of the bill that aims to "facilitate, in the future, judiciary assistance in criminal matters between the MSAR and other jurisdictions of China."

According to the spokesperson Leong Heng Teng, the Criminal Procedure Code (CPP) already contains provisions on legal assistance in criminal matters between the local authorities and other Chinese jurisdictions, as well as the review and confirmation of criminal judgments made by external authorities.

However, the same official justified this bill due to the "significant increase in the number of cross-border crimes." He argued that that law "lacked the regulation to ensure this cooperation."

The draft law, comprising eight chapters and eighty articles all in the context of legal support and cooperation, covers the delivery of fleeing criminals, the enforcement of court decisions, the transference of convicted persons, and the transference of criminal proceedings, among other for-

ms of collaboration in criminal matters.

When questioned by journalists, Mr Leong clarified that the decision on cases where assistance is required will be decided by the Court of Appeal.

The law also contains some exceptions, especially with regard to the dual criminal framework. Under this provision, an offense that justifies the request for assistance must be considered and punishable in both legislative frameworks.

Instances where "acts constitute crimes of a military nature or against the interest of national defense in China," do not comply with this provision.

Similarly, if the crime in question is punishable with "death penalty" or "lifetime sentences," the offender will not be transferred from the territory to a cross border location.

According to the statement of the Executive Council, since the law's inclusion into the base agreement in 2006, the local authorities "have transferred more than 45 people sentenced to prison to serve their sentences in Hong Kong."

### ONE SHOT NEWS

RENATO MARQUES



A group of representatives for the investors in the VIP room operator Dore Holdings organized a demonstration at government headquarters. They told journalists they will move forward to file a civil lawsuit against the company. The group also delivered another petition to the government searching for support in this case. "A civil lawsuit takes a long time, at least 2 to 3 years," said the group's spokesperson, Mr Chan. He expressed fears that this case will take a very long time to be resolved. This demonstration was the first time that the petitioners "showed their faces". At previous demonstrations, attendees wore face masks.

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## GAMING

# Old lawsuits never die. They don't even fade away, tribe learns

Edvard Pettersson

**C**ALIFORNIA'S latest water war is being waged at the edge of wine country against an Indian tribe planning a massive casino expansion as a group of landowners tries to stop them with a lawsuit from 1897.

It gets better: The Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians is spending USD170million to build out its resort, featuring a 12-story tower on a bucolic landscape where only the mountains are higher. The tribe has also snapped up 1,400 more acres to house cramped residents of its reservation.

The landowners say the Chumash are spoiling the Santa Ynez Valley, the only wine-tasting day trip from Hollywood and the backdrop for the 2004 film "Sideways," and that the casino site isn't part of the tribe's federally recognized reservation. The landowners went to court, saying the judgment from the 1897 suit means the Chumash can't tap the local creek for the resort.

In other words, they're threatening to choke off the Indians' water supply, and doing so when water is more precious than ever after a four-year drought has left California parched. The fight is also brewing as frictions between local communities and Indian tribes over the casino industry are on the rise.

The casinos raked in \$28.5 billion in gross gambling revenue in 2014, the difference between wins and losses before deducting costs, the National



A view of the Chumash Casino Resort in Santa Ynez, California

Indian Gaming Commission says. About a quarter of that comes from California and Northern Nevada. The Las Vegas Strip took in \$6.37 billion, data from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, show.

"Local communities might be excited about the employment opportunities at a tribal casino but, on the other hand, might not like it that the casino is exempt from local wage and hours laws," said Kevin Rosenberg, a lawyer with Lowenstein & Weatherwax LLP in Los Angeles who works on gambling cases but isn't involved in this one.

In the Santa Ynez Valley, the Chumash say, it's all the work of a small group who've tried to block them at every turn and would like the tribe out of the valley altogether.

"As far as Santa Ynez being a nice place, we're aware of that,"

Vincent Armenta, the tribe's chairman, said in an interview at the Chumash Casino Resort. "We've been here well before

## ■ The Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians is spending USD170million to build out its resort

the town was even being developed, and before the movie stars came."

By 11 a.m. on a recent Tuesday, the slot machines were flooded with retirees and others. A stea-

dy stream of gamblers pulled up at valet parking amid the deafening construction. Armenta, who had a welding business in Los Angeles before becoming chairman in 1999, declined to discuss the financial details of the business, which has 2,000 slots and more than 40 table games.

"We've been successful," he said. "In the last 14 years, we've built the business from what would be considered a very small business to a multibillion-dollar enterprise, including other properties off-site, hotels, restaurants, gas stations, commercial property, rentals in different states."

Some of the locals aren't impressed. "You're being asked to approve of the wholesale destruction of lives and livelihoods," Nancy Crawford-Hall, a horse breeder who owns the 10,000-acre San Lucas Ranch

and has lived in the valley for 60 years, said in October at a public meeting of county officials and Chumash representatives.

She called the hotel tower the "height of arrogance" and said the tribe was likelier to build casinos than houses on the new land, bringing "lawless chaos" to the valley.

The Indian property isn't subject to local environmental and safety regulations, so the community has no recourse to address any violations, said Steve Pappas, the executive director of Save the Valley LLC, the group that has taken the tribe to court.

California officials last year sent Armenta a letter expressing concern over the casino's projected increase in water use - an extra 36,000 gallons a day - among other things. In the Santa Ynez Valley, as in so much of California, the green rolling hills are now brown rolling hills. In August, the Chumash agreed to address local environmental concerns as part of their renewed gaming compact with the state.

That isn't good enough for Pappas. He said the tribe has been using federal Indian policy as a lever to acquire land, wealth and power.

"Every time we've raised one of those issues, the answer is 'Yes, we're violating, we understand that, we know that's the law. But the land is in trust for the Santa Ynez Band of Mission Indians, so therefore we don't have to follow the law,'"

CONTINUED ON P8

## corporate bits

## SMARTPHONE BRIEFING FOR ELDERLY



CTM held a "Smartphone Briefing" for approximately 100 elderly residents at the Lok Yi Day Care Centre in Coloane last week. The briefing was held in order to enhance their understanding and use of smartphones. A representative of the company conducted an introduction to the residents on the key features available on smartphone apps. A quiz-based game was also organized to reinforce understanding of the content.

CTM says it is committed to promoting the popularization of information technology. The company says that the briefing benefits elderly residents by enriching their lifestyle through a more effective use of telecommunication services. The "Unveil Digital Lifestyle - Smartphone Briefing" was held on December 10 in a collaborative effort with a subsidiary of the Women's General Association of Macau at Edificio Lok Kuan in Coloane.

## CEM-MSO INTERNS AWARDED

Eight trainees have successfully completed a joint-internship program with CEM and Macau Special Olympics (MSO), and have been awarded with graduation certificates. This year's program saw the trainees undertake three-month internships in a number of different departments including procurement and logistics, design and construction, safety, health, communications and public affairs.



A closing ceremony for the "CEM Brightening Stars" internship program was held on Friday afternoon at Hotel Royal. The families of the trainees, CEM and MSO representatives and government officials were all in attendance. On behalf of the trainees, Chu Kai Chong, who interned in the customer service department, expressed his gratitude to the company, adding that he had learnt that supplying power to Macau is no easy task.

## MELCO RESORTS OFFER XMAS FEASTS

To celebrate Christmas this year, the restaurants of City of Dreams, Studio City and Altira Macau are offering festive meals from a wide array of cuisines, including a Christmas buffet dinner, Italian, Japanese, and seafood hotpot.

The City of Dreams will host a two Michelin-starred, French fine-dining "Festive Feast" on December 24, 25 and 31. Guests will be offered the choice of either a five or seven-course meal.

Meanwhile, "Spotlight at Studio City" will host Christmas buffets featuring festive roast turkey and foie gras, and Italian restaurant "Trattoria Il Mulino" will offer a Mediterranean-style Christmas celebration.



Altira will be offering Christmas meals based on Italian, Chinese and Japanese cuisines. The hotel will also host a Countdown Party at "38 Lounge" on December 31 where guests can welcome the New Year to views of Macau.

## CONTINUED FROM P7

Pappas said. Save the Valley has been stymied in previous attempts to sue the Chumash because the tribe, which is its own nation legally speaking, enjoys sovereign immunity.

So the group went to the history books and discovered the judgment, from 1906, that followed the 19th-century suit, originally filed by the bishop of Monterey against Indians living on the Catholic Church's land. He wanted to establish the terms by which they could live there, restricting water use to domestic purposes.

The key to the suit predates statehood. The Church got the land from the Mexican governor of California in 1844. Part of it went to San Francisco's diocese and the rest to Monterey's, with a creek dividing the property. According to Save the Valley, the land extending 25 acres west of the creek is the only parcel that was ultimately designated as a reservation.

The casino is on the 75 acres east of the creek, which were later transferred to the U.S. but never formally made part of the federal reservation, Save the Valley argues, meaning that parcel must comply with local land use rules. The judgment limits the use of water by the



Indians living on the east side of the creek to irrigation and domestic purposes. Save the Valley says that prohibits the

Chumash from using it for the casino.

The U.S., which holds reservation land in trust for tribes, has moved the matter to federal court in Los Angeles, arguing that it involves the federal question of sovereign immunity. The judge is considering whether to allow Save the Valley to resurrect the lawsuit.

Not all of the Chumash's neighbors are worried about the tribe's plans.

"It's only a small group that has been bitching and moaning," said Mark Burnett of the Maverick Saloon, near the Chumash casino. "Nobody else talks about it. And everybody else here gets along." **Bloomberg**

**You're being asked to approve of the wholesale destruction of lives and livelihoods.**

NANCY CRAWFORD

## 57 percent of gaming visitors wage less than MOP2,000

**T**HE findings of the Macao Visitor Profile Survey for the second quarter of 2015 suggest that 57 percent of tourists that admit to gambling spend less than MOP2,000 on the activity per trip, according to GGR Asia.

The survey interviewed a total of 1,025 visitors and found that only a quarter of them said they had gambled during their visit to the SAR.

Of those that had gambled, 38 percent said that they had spent less than MOP 1,000 and 21 percent said they wagered less than MOP 500.

Only 25 percent of those that gambled indicated that they had spent more than MOP5,000 – a proportion that pales in comparison to a similar 2014 study conducted in Las Vegas which found that the average gambler spent the equivalent of MOP4,231.

The results also indicated

that 83 percent of overnight visitors had stayed or intended to stay in Macau for two or three days. Visitors mainly traveled in small groups consisting of one to three persons (74 percent) while some came in crowds of four to six (22 percent).

The majority of those interviewed in the survey came from mainland China (68 percent), Hong Kong (17 percent) and Taiwan (8 percent). Around 70 percent of those interviewed had visited Macau before.

Around three-fifths of the respondents were female, while almost 70 percent were under 35 years old and well educated, with 62 percent of respondents said that they had attained a qualification from a tertiary education institution.

The survey was conducted by the Tourism Research Centre at the Institute for Tourism Studies between April and June 2015.

AD

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# Macau company negotiates loan for projects in Mozambique

**CHARLESTRONG** Engenharia, Tecnologia e Consultoria Ltd de Macau is negotiating with banks in Macau and Portuguese-owned banks in Mozambique to secure loans for the construction of 35,000 homes in the West African country.

The information was provided by Afonso Chan, vice president of Charlestrong during a meeting on investment opportunities in Mozambique promoted by the Macau Trade and Investment Promotion Institute (IPIM) and the Macau Forum.

In February 2016, the Macau company will conclude the contract for construction of 240 apartments of the second phase of Vila Olímpica in Zimpeto in Maputo.

By 2019, over 35 000 homes will be built, with Chan noting that despite the success of negotiations for this new venture "there are some difficulties related to the lack of bilingual staff and with getting credit from banks."

During the initiative, the executive member of the IPIM, Glória Batalha Ung, said that if the entrepreneurs needed financial support the organization is available to provide support, in particular by establishing contacts with banks to recommend projects which might be financed.

Chan said that in addition to construction, Charlestrong would invest in the development of infrastructure, the energy sector and manufacture of building materials in Mozambique. **MDT/Macauhub**

# Angola buys railway rolling stock in Brazil

**T**he government of Angola has approved the acquisition of diesel multiple units (DMU) from Brazilian group Andrade Gutierrez to improve the rail service and suburban mobility in Luanda, according to a presidential order.

DMU's are trains that do not need a separate locomotive engine as the diesel engine is incorporated into one or more carriages.

The order authorizing the purchase agreement, signed by the Ministry of Transport with Andrade Gutierrez, does not specify the model of DMU to be purchased, only that they will be used in the suburban section of the Luanda Railroad (CFL), between the stations of Bungo and Baía.

The acquisition of these trains, for delivery in 2016, will cost Angola US\$123.3 million, according to the



order cited by Portuguese news agency Lusa.

The renewal of the rolling stock is considered a priority by CFL management, and currently consists of five operating locomoti-


ves and 189 Chinese-made units, including 87 wagons and 45 carriages, among others.

As well as the suburban area, CFL connects the center of Luanda to Ma-

lange province in the north of Angola, over a distance of 428 kilometers built over a century ago and rebuilt in 2011 by Chinese companies with funding from China. **MDT/Macauhub**

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**CHINA'S** economy, already in the midst of a half-decade deceleration, won't arrest its downward trajectory until at least 2018.

Six of 12 economists surveyed by Bloomberg last week say 2018 will be the turnaround year, while five said it will take until 2019 or after for growth to re-accelerate. The outlook underscores the challenge facing President Xi Jinping as he aims for gross domestic product gains averaging at least 6.5 percent per year for the next five years so he can deliver on his goal of doubling 2010 income and GDP levels.

Policy makers are in a bind. Efforts to reform the supply side of the economy by eliminating overcapacity and improving the quality of expansion are key to long-term prospects, yet policies to fix the mess may weigh on the short-term outlook. That leaves the need for stimulus that risks adding to a debt pile already hanging over the world's second-largest economy.

Setting aside the notorious question of accuracy with China's GDP - which popped up again this month - growth is forecast this year to slow to its weakest since 1990 as robust consumption and strength in services isn't enough to offset the drag from slumping old-economy sectors including steel, coal and cement.

A future pick up in the pace of expansion may be driven by economic reforms that gather pace after a leadership reshuffle that begins in late 2017, according to Daili Wang, a Singapore-based economist at Roubini Global Economics LLC.

"My views of re-acceleration are based on the implementation of market reforms in 2018," said Wang. "The ongoing anti-corruption campaign is a perfect barometer measuring opposition power and the 2017-18 reshuffle should prove the last jigsaw to consolidate top leaders political power - if not done by the campaign before that."

At the 19th party congress in 2017, five of seven members on the Politburo's supreme Stand-

## ANALYSIS

# Economic growth rate is seen falling until at least 2018

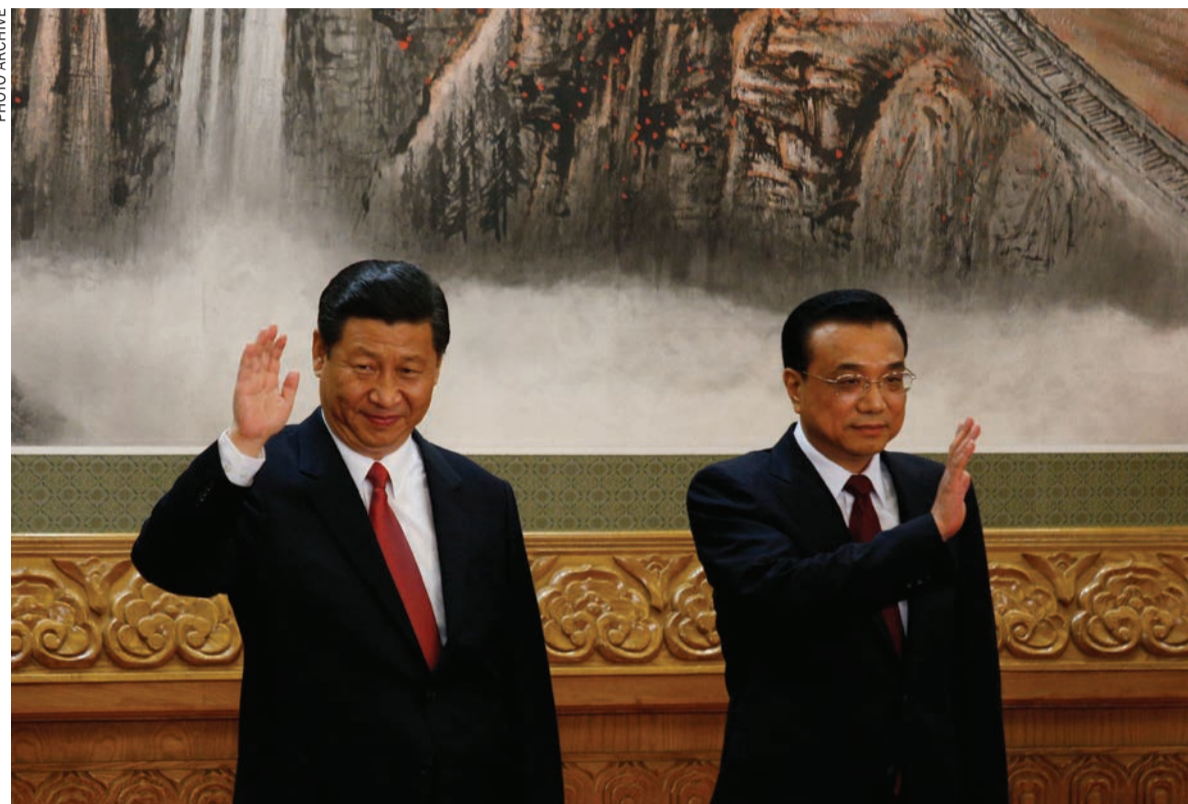


PHOTO ARCHIVE

■ At the 19th party congress in 2017, five of seven members on the Politburo's supreme Standing Committee - all except President Xi and Premier Li - are scheduled to retire

ding Committee - all except President Xi and Premier Li Keqiang - are scheduled to retire, having reached or passed the age of 68. China's top team by convention serves a maximum of 10 years, with a reshuffle at the halfway mark that signals the next party head and sees new members of decision-making bodies picked.

Societe Generale SA and Hang Seng Bank Ltd. don't see growth re-accelerating until 2020 and Guosen Securities Co. estimates it will take until 2025 for the next year-on-year pick up in the pace of expansion. Societe Generale's Paris-based China economist Yao Wei estimates growth will slide to 5 percent in 2019.

"We don't have an official forecast for 2018 yet, but my sense is that it will be up slightly from the 2017 rate," said Patrick Franke, an economist at German savings bank Helaba in Frankfurt. "The trend is still

downward, however. Medium-term, China is heading for 5 percent or lower."

Doubts over the accuracy of China's economic data persist. In the third quarter, for example, China reported growth of 6.9 percent. One growth proxy designed by Capital Economics Ltd. in London recorded growth at 4.4 percent while another by Barclays Plc estimated growth of 5.2 percent.

Several local governments in the northeastern provinces of Heilongjiang and Liaoning faked economic data such as revenue and investment figures, the official Xinhua News Agency reported last week, citing unidentified local government officials. Heihe city in Heilongjiang exaggerated 1.9 billion yuan (USD294 billion) of investment in 2013, or 8.5 percent of a reported 22.3 billion yuan total investment that year, Xinhua said.

China's economy began its current slowdown in 2011 after growth of 10.6 percent the year earlier. Expansion slowed to 7.3 percent in 2014 and is estimated to fall this year to 6.9 percent, according to a separate Bloomberg survey.

Economic data for November showed signs of stabilization with industrial production, retail sales and fixed-asset investment all exceeding estimates. Bloomberg's monthly GDP tracker rose to an estimated 6.85 percent, its best reading since June. Survey respondents also see tough times ahead for producer prices and fixed-asset investment. Factory prices, which have declined for a record 45 months, are estimated to extend that run through to 2018, according to 64 percent of economists surveyed.

Growth of fixed-asset investment, which has been on a

downward growth trajectory since 2009, will not re-accelerate until 2018, according to 42 percent of respondents. The same percentage say it will take until 2019 or after for the pace of investment to pick up.

At least two years is needed to ease China's excess industrial capacity, indicating investment will begin picking up in 2018, said Houshou Haku, an economist at the Hamagin Research Institute Ltd. in Yokohama, Japan.

Hugo Ferraz Penteado, an economist at Santander Asset Management in Sao Paulo, sees China's expansion tumbling to 5.5 percent by 2019 as private investment decelerates "for years" and the economy shifts from one led by exports and industry to a greater dependence on consumption and services.

"This is not cyclical. This is prolonged deceleration to a new structural growth," said Penteado. "Get used to it." **Bloomberg**

## CINEMA

# Michelle Yeoh reprises her role in 'Crouching Tiger' sequel

**MALAYSIAN** actress Michelle Yeoh said yesterday that she has been waiting many years to reprise her role in "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon" in an upcoming sequel to the supernatural martial arts movie.

"Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon: Sword of Destiny," centers arou-



Malaysian actress Michelle Yeoh reacts as her young age photo is displayed on a screen during the movie "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon: Sword of Destiny"

nd the protection of a legendary sword.

It also stars Donnie Yen of the "Ip Man" martial arts films and "The Monkey King" as "Silent Wolf," Harry Shum Jr., who played Mike Chang in the TV series "Glee," and Jason Scott Lee.

"We've been waiting for this film for many, many years," Yeoh said

at an event in Beijing marking the new movie, which will be released on Feb. 8 in theaters in China and on Feb. 26 in the U.S. on Netflix and in selected theaters.

In her first movie appearance, Australian actress Natasha Liu Bordizzo plays Yeoh's apprentice. Liu Bordizzo, also at the event in Beijing, said she thou-

ght the sequel had the potential to replicate the 2000 movie's success.

"I think the first story is known so much for a beautiful story and not just the martial arts and I think our film definitely also has that element - we have a beautiful story as well as so many layers," she said.

The original was filmed in Mandarin. The sequel is in English and will be dubbed into Mandarin for its release in China. **AP**

# Plainclothes officers a force against dissent



Chinese policemen manhandle a photographer, center, as he photographs Zhang Qingfang, lawyer of legal scholar and founder of the New Citizens movement Xu Zhiyong

Christopher Bodeen, Beijing

**T**HE tough guys wore smiley face stickers, but they weren't there to spread good cheer.

Scenes of pushing, shouting and shoving outside a Beijing courthouse this week were orchestrated by plainclothes security officers identified by a sticker familiar around the world — the yellow decal identified since the 1970s with the slogan “Have a Nice Day.”

Their attempts to intimidate journalists, foreign diplomats and a small cohort of human rights advocates outside the trial of a well-known activist lawyer are all-too familiar to China's beleaguered dissident community.

“The plainclothes police are the ones the Communist Party uses when they know what they're doing has no basis in law,” said independent environmental activist Wu Lihong, who lives under a form of house

arrest that becomes especially strict during sensitive political occasions.

The use of such agents dovetails with the party's desire to pay lip service to the rule by law while quashing all opposition, controlling the public discourse and sentencing critics to lengthy prison terms for hazily defined national security crimes.

The plainclothes agents did not specifically identify themselves as such, but foreign journalists in Beijing have interacted with them for two decades. They typically appear in civilian clothes in a wide variety of circumstances where foreign media might interact with government critics and authorities want to maintain control without uniformed officers intervening directly.

That was on full display Monday outside Beijing's No. 2 Intermediate Court, where lawyer Pu Zhiqiang was on trial on charges of provoking trouble and stirring ethnic hatred with

online commentary critical of one-party rule.

Dozens of journalists were pushed around, including one who was slammed to the ground. At least five protesters were assaulted and taken away in vehicles, while diplomats from the European Union and the United States were interrupted, cursed at and jostled while attempting to read out statements criticizing Beijing's actions.

The smiley face stickers were presumably meant to identify the plainclothes officers to their uniformed colleagues and other security agents. Similarly, plainclothes agents wore green stickers last year to identify themselves while breaking up protests outside the Beijing courthouse where clean government advocate Xu Zhiyong was tried on charges of gathering a crowd to disturb public order.

Xu, founder of the grassroots New Citizens movement, received a four-year sentence. Pu

has denied the charges against him and the trial concluded about midday, with his lawyer Shang Baojun saying a verdict and sentence would be delivered at a later date.

As is standard in such cases, the officers refused to display identification and wore anti-smog face masks to obscure their identities.

Using such anonymous agents, or even independent contractors without official status, offers the government plausible deniability in the event situations might turn nasty. It also

**The plainclothes police are the ones the Communist Party uses when they know what they're doing has no basis in law.**

WU LIHONG  
ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVIST

allows a degree of flexibility and a buffer between the authorities and actions that might be distasteful or illegal, while permitting uniformed officers to appear reasonable and law-abiding.

At least on Monday, the tactic may have backfired. Images broadcast around the world showed a violent and chaotic scene and drew even-more attention to the case of the lawyer Pu, who is being prosecuted for his past work advocating for political dissidents and government critics including avant-garde artist Ai Weiwei.

The scuffles attracted passers-by and about 50 people gathered and shouted slogans, including “Pu Zhiqiang is innocent.” Signs displayed were

emblazoned with slogans such as, “The people don't even have the rights that dogs enjoy,” while plainclothes officers shouted back abuse, including calling the protesters “traitors.”

Whether China's image-makers care about the impressions such scenes create is doubtful. Beijing has consistently rejected foreign pressure over its domestic politics, while president and Communist Party chief Xi Jinping stridently asserts that China will never compromise on core issues of sovereignty and independence.

“For the authorities, it looks like disastrous public relations, but maybe they just don't care,” said Jean-Pierre Cabestan, an expert on Chinese politics at Hong Kong Baptist University. “They can always claim that (the officers) were ordinary citizens and there's very little anyone can do.”

The ministry that oversees China's domestic security services did not immediately respond to faxed questions about the deployment and supervision of plainclothes officers.

Plainclothes officers and police auxiliaries are deployed for both short- and long-term assignments involving duties that fall outside the strict purview of uniformed officers. In one of the best-known cases, informal law enforcement officers were entrusted with guarding the rural home of blind legal activist Chen Guangcheng, who nevertheless escaped their around-the-clock watch to seek shelter at the U.S. Embassy in Beijing.

Plainclothes officers are also assigned to watch the apartment of Liu Xia, the wife of imprisoned Nobel Peace Prize laureate Liu Xiaobo, who lives under virtual house arrest in central Beijing. Criticism from the outside only seems to embolden decision-makers in the government that now spends more each year on domestic security than it does on national defense.

“They are simply forcing others to accept their will and showing that they will never accept outside sanctions on China's human rights situation,” Cabestan said. **AP**

## Hearing: Did Chinese drywall company hold back information

**A** federal judge will hear closing arguments today (Macau time) about whether a Chinese drywall manufacturer held back information about its U.S. sales by failing to disclose a former official's whereabouts.

Peng Wenlong was head of foreign sales for Taishan Gypsum Co. Ltd. when it sold drywall that thousands of homeowners in six states say re-

leased sulfur fumes that made them sick and corroded metals, plaintiffs' attorney Fred Longer said earlier this week.

“We were told repeatedly that he'd left the company and no one knows where he is, when in fact he went to work for the owner's wife and they always knew where he was,” Longer said.

Taishan's attorneys did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Longer said plaintiffs' attorneys received Peng's computer and hard drives only this year. They found evidence that could have eliminated a long court fight over whether courts in this country had any right to handle the case, had it been produced when first requested four or five years ago, he said.

“There were just a lot of legal resources that were squandered as a result of

them hiding the tea — hiding the evidence,” Longer said.

U.S. District Judge Eldon Fallon heard evidence about the matter in November, but sealed those records. However, Tuesday's closing arguments will be open.

Fallon also is considering how much Taishan Gypsum should pay people for damage from the drywall, but has not said when he will rule on that.

He heard evidence about that question in June.

Taishan paid seven Virginia homeowners and their attorneys \$2.7 million, plus about \$500,000 interest earlier this year.

It would be unfair to use those figures as the basis for figuring damages in a class-action suit involving 2,700 homes in Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas, and elsewhere in

Virginia, Taishan's attorneys said during arguments in June.

Claims dropped from the class action, such as loss and enjoyment of property, attorneys' fees and “move-in/move-out” costs, are to be tried separately, and about 1,000 more cases don't fit into the dollars-per-square-foot formula to be set by Fallon and will be tried individually, plaintiffs' attorneys have said. **AP**

Matthew Pennington, Washington

THAI-US

# Tensions test as strategic bilateral relations talks resume

THE top U.S. envoy for East Asia returns to military-governed Thailand this week, hoping for better press than on his last visit a year ago. Local media branded veteran diplomat Daniel Russel an “ugly American” and the government protested that he had “wounded the hearts of Thais” for publicly criticizing its curbs on democracy.

Russel is traveling to Bangkok for the first formal U.S.-Thai strategic dialogue since the May 2014 coup. That is part of a broader Obama administration effort to build stronger U.S. ties in Southeast Asia and counter China's rise. But the underlying problems remain. The Thai military keeps delaying a return to civilian rule, and Washington keeps falling afoul of Thailand's hyper-sensitive politics.

Police recently took up a complaint brought by hard-line royalists who accused the U.S. Ambassador to Thailand, Glyn Davies, of defaming the monarchy after he voiced concern about long prison sentences under a law that criminalizes criticism of the royal family. That reflects broader U.S. concerns about the junta's clamp-down on dissent.

Police appear unlikely to pursue an investigation against Davies, who has diplomatic immunity. But the adverse response he provoked, despite prefacing his remarks with praise of Thailand's revered King Bhumibol Adulyadej, underscored the disconnect that increasingly weighs on America's oldest diplomatic relationship in Asia.

“The military is convinced that it saved Thailand from spiraling into chaos and acts hurt and puzzled that Washington doesn't understand this,” said Murray Hiebert, an expert on Southeast Asia at the Center for Strategic and International Studies. “The current flap is another sign of how much bilateral relations have deteriorated since the coup.”

Desmond Wilson, a former U.S. defense attache in Ban-



U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs Daniel Russel

angkok who criticized Washington's post-coup scaling back of ties, said the strategic dialogue — last held in 2012 — showed the U.S. is shifting toward a more pragmatic approach. He predicted that Wednesday's talks between the two foreign ministries would be followed by a high-level military dialogue early next year.

The U.S.-Thai diplomatic relationship dates back 182 years. Today, Thailand is less critical to American interests than it was during the Vietnam War, when it hosted 50,000 U.S. forces, but it remains a regional hub for the U.S. on issues like intelligence, law enforcement and counter-narcotics. Although the U.S. has restricted military assistance since the coup, Thailand continues to host

America's largest multilateral military exercises in the Asia-Pacific.

The Thai Ambassador to the U.S., Pisan Manawapat, said that the U.S. and Thailand have shared interests in the region, and hoped the strategic dialogue would elevate bilateral relations. “The U.S. knows well how to deal with its friends and allies in order to bring about shared outcomes,” he said.

Russel said that the two governments should “maximize our cooperation within the bounds of what's possible under current circumstances.” But he said the U.S. wouldn't “walk away” from its commitment to universal values like free speech.

“What ultimately is going to matter is that this story ends well,” said Russel. “My primary

concern is that the Thai nation emerges from this period of military rule with a stable, democratic, civilian-led, inclusive government.”

Thailand has been consumed by political turmoil for the past decade, since the military ousted populist but divisive leader Thaksin Shinawatra in 2006, sparking intermittent bouts of unrest and bloodshed between Thaksin supporters and pro-establishment opponents. On his January visit, Russel stirred a furor because he met with the prime minister ousted in the latest coup, Thaksin's sister Yingluck, and said in a speech that her parliamentary impeachment was politically motivated.

Russel is not expected to meet Yingluck this week, but will confer with political leaders, in-

cluding from the opposition.

The political atmosphere has only grown tenser in recent months as the Thai economy has flagged and concern grows over the health of King Bhumibol, a stabilizing force during his seven decades on the throne. Many analysts predict the military will be reluctant to make way for a new civilian government until Bhumibol's successor is in place.

Lese majeste cases have multiplied, with some people receiving sentences of more than 25 years for anti-royal comments on the Internet, amid signs the draconian law is being wielded to check political dissent.

The military has postponed elections until at least 2017. While that is straining Thailand's relations with the U.S., ties with China have deepened. For the first time last month, Thailand and China held a joint air force exercise.

But getting cozy with Beijing carries reputational costs for Bangkok. Thailand has drawn international condemnation for deporting Uighur Muslim migrants and U.N.-registered refugees back to China.

John Sifton, Asia policy director of Human Rights Watch, said Thailand's rights record has worsened in several ways, including repression of civil society. He called for the U.S. to keep restrictions on relations until Thailand restores democracy.

“Unfortunately, some governments have determined they have to do business diplomatically with Thailand because the junta is here to stay. But if there's no penalty for staying in power and abusing human rights, what motivation will force the junta to change course?” he said. **AP**

AD

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## AUSTRALIA

**Man charged  
in notorious  
Australian  
double killing**

A man accused of killing a woman whose bones were found in a forest was charged yesterday with the slaying of the woman's 2-year-old daughter, whose body was discovered dumped in a suitcase 1,200 kilometers away from her mother's remains.

Daniel Holdom, 41, was charged with the murder of Khandalyce Pearce, whose body was found on the side of a road in South Australia earlier this year, New South Wales police said.

The charges come two months after Holdom was charged with the murder of Khandalyce's mother, 20-year-old Karlie Jade Pearce-Stevenson, and seven years after police say the pair were killed at different times and in different locations.

Police believe Holdom killed the little girl days after killing her mother, Superintendent Mick Willing told reporters in Sydney on Tuesday. Both suffered "violent deaths," he said.

Holdom's lawyer did not immediately return messages seeking comment. Holdom, who has been in jail since the charges related to Pearce-Stevenson were filed, did not appear at a brief court hearing yesterday and was formally refused bail.

Pearce-Stevenson's bones were found in 2010 in the Belanglo State Forest, about 150 kilometers south of Sydney. Khandalyce's body was discovered in July after a driver spotted the suitcase dumped on the side of a highway near the small South Australia town of Wynarka.

The identities of both bodies had long stumped police until they received a tip on a crime prevention hotline in October. The caller suggested the girl in the suitcase might be Khandalyce, who left with her single mother from their Outback hometown of Alice Springs in 2008 to travel.

DNA tests confirmed the remains were indeed Khandalyce's. Police then used blood samples from the medical records of Pearce-Stevenson to identify her remains.

Holdom was arrested one week later and charged with Pearce-Stevenson's death.

Police have previously said that fraudsters used Pearce-Stevenson's cell phone for three years after her death to make family and friends believe she was still alive. They allegedly convinced Pearce-Stevenson's mother to deposit money into her bank account, which continued to receive government benefits. **AP**

## SINGAPORE

**Firm convicted of aiding  
N. Korean arms shipment**

Annabelle Liang, Singapore

A Singapore-registered shipping company was found guilty of transferring tens of thousands of dollars used to transport fighter jets and surface-to-air missile systems from Cuba to North Korea in 2013.

The haul, hidden under heaps of sugar and discovered by Panamanian authorities, was the biggest load of arms and related materials ever to be intercepted on its way to or from the isolated North.

In announcing the verdict, Singapore District Judge Jasvender Kaur said the firm, Chinpo Shipping Company, could have contributed to the nuclear-related programs or activities of North Korea.

The company was also found guilty of running a remittance business without a valid license for more than four years.

Chinpo had wired \$72,017 from its Bank of China account to a Panama-based shipping agent in July 2013 for the return passage of the MV Chong Chon Gang through the Panama Canal.

The MV Chong Chon Gang was managed by the North Korean company Ocean Maritime Management, a longtime client of Chinpo.

That month, Panamanian authorities found the ship loaded with arms and related materials weighing 474 tons, including two MiG-21 fighter jets, anti-tank rockets and SA-2 and SA-3 Russian surface-to-air missile systems. The military equipment was bound

for North Korea and hidden under 10,500 tons of sugar in the cargo hold.

Instead of asking its client for documentation to find out what the remittance was for, the company failed to conduct due diligence, the judge said.

"Accordingly, the prosecution does not have the legal burden of proving that the defendant company knowingly transferred that sum," she said. "Chinpo was aware of the U.S. and United Nations sanctions against DPRK. Since the second half of 2010, Chinpo stopped indicating the name of vessels in the outgoing remittance forms."

DPRK is the acronym for the North's official name, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Defense lawyer Edmond Pe-

reira argued that the company did not conduct remittance transactions for purposes of gain, and that remittances were contingent to its role as Ocean Maritime Management's general and special agent.

Chinpo had applied for a total of 605 outward remittances totaling \$40 million from 2009 to 2013 on behalf of North Korean entities. Chinpo's director, Tan Cheng Hoe, also heads associated companies Tonghee Shipping Agency and Great Best Trading.

When The Associated Press visited Chinpo's listed address, another company said it has occupied the premises for more than a year. The case was adjourned until Jan. 29 to give prosecution and defense lawyers time to make submissions.

Chinpo violated a United Nations law adopted by Singapore that prohibits the provision of financial services, assets or resources to North Korea that "may be reasonably be used to contribute to the nuclear-related, ballistic missile-related, or other weapons of mass destruction-related programs or activities." The maximum sentence is a fine of 100,000 Singapore dollars (\$71,000) and five years in jail.

North Korea recently has threatened to flex its nuclear muscles. The country's leader, Kim Jong-un, said Thursday that the North had developed a hydrogen bomb — a step up from the less powerful atomic bomb. The U.S. and others have raised doubts about the claim. **AP**

## THAILAND

**Leading seafood boss: AP shrimp probe 'wake-up call'**

THE president of one of the world's biggest seafood exporters expressed frustration and promised change today after saying an Associated Press investigation (published yesterday in MDT) that linked slave-peeled shrimp to his company should be a "wake-up call" to the industry.

Thiraphong Chansiri said Thai Union will spend millions of dollars to end reliance on poorly regulated contractors that have been responsible for much of the abuse. He added that under the current system, it's almost impossible to ensure that supply chains are clean.

Like other exporters in Thailand, his company has for years relied heavily on poor migrants working in factories in the port town of Samut Sakhon to peel, gut and devein shrimp.

The AP report revealed that many of these laborers are undocumented and can end up being tricked or sold into factories where they are forced to work 16-hour days with no time off and little or no pay for sometimes years at a time. Some end up locked inside. Others are allowed to go out, but only if they leave their children or spouse behind as a guarantee against running away.

Thiraphong said despite great efforts, Thai Union has been unable to keep labor abuses out of its supply chains. It has tried everything from spot checks by third-party auditors to regular meetings with external suppliers. But problems keep popping up.

"We realized that we could not ensure 100 percent," he said. "Even with the whole system that we established."



Children and teenagers sit together to be registered by officials during a raid on a shrimp shed in Samut Sakhon

He said Thai Union will exclusively use in-house labor for shrimp processing starting Jan. 1, a change he said would cost the company about USD5 million. **AP**

Michael R. Sisak

USA

# In schools, on streets and TV, children feel Muslim backlash

A backlash against American Muslims is leaving a mark on some of the nation's youngest minds.

After seeing presidential candidate Donald Trump call on television for barring Muslims from entering the country, 8-year-old Sofia Yassini checked the locks on her family's home in Plano, Texas, imagining the Army would take them away. She raced to her room and stuffed a pair of Barbie dolls, a tub of peanut butter and a toothbrush into a bag. She insisted on bringing boots for the long boat ride she imagined was coming.

When her mother, Melissa, arrived home from her work as a human resources manager, Sofia ran into her arms and cried. "I want people to understand the impact that their words have on these children," said Melissa Yassini, who described the experience in a Facebook post that had been shared more than 21,000 times as of yesterday. "We often forget, we're waging war on one another with words, and we're adults. We can take it. The kids are suffering with this. They go to school every day and they're afraid to tell people they're Muslim. This has to stop."

Anti-Muslim sentiment was building in the days before 14 people were killed Dec. 2 in the massacre at a disability center in Southern California by a Muslim couple investigators say were inspired at least in part by the Islamic State group. Some governors had already said they wouldn't allow Syrians fleeing



Sofia Yassini, 8, right, gets a hug from her mother Melissa Yassini after posing for a photo outside a mosque in Richardson, Texas

civil war into their states because of extremist fears. Experts say Trump's call Dec. 7 to keep all Muslims from entering the United States — a plan he said would apply only temporarily and to non-citizens — only fanned the flames.

Parents say their children hear disparaging remarks in their own communities, see hateful bumper stickers and T-shirts, and have had friends abandon them because of their faith.

Ahad Khan, 12, came home

from school in rural Westminster, Maryland, in tears because his best friend called him a future terrorist who couldn't be trusted, according to Ahad's father, Raza Khan.

Khan, the chairman of the science department at Carroll Community College, shared Ahad's experience in an open letter to Trump on Facebook. As of Monday, it had been shared more than 4,300 times.

"He is the engine right now for that fearmongering," Khan said in an interview. "I don't think he realizes that his words matter. He doesn't realize the damaging effect his words can have on people, especially kids."

In the minds of children — many long on imagination and short on political understanding — phrases like "total and complete shutdown of Muslims" can be traumatic, experts say.

"Children expect that society will be nurturing and protective," said Mark DeAntonio, a child psychiatry professor at the University of California Los Angeles. "Statements implying detention or exclusion for arbitrary reason like race ethnicity or religion create anxiety and trauma."

Some children have questioned their faith and place in

American society.

Kafumba Kromah, of Minneapolis, said his 8-year-old daughter asked him: "Why we are Muslims? Why can't we be what everybody else is?" His daughter encouraged him to cancel a trip to his native Liberia for fear he would be barred from returning.

Mehnaz Mahmood, of Dallas, said her 7-year-old son urged her to switch to a black-and-white hijab — so she would look more like a nun — after they were subjected to anti-Muslim remarks outside his school this week.

Sam Madi, of New Orleans, watched coverage of Trump's remarks with his 11-year-old son. He said he feared anti-

Muslim sentiment would set back progress in integrating Muslims into American society. Zane Madi plays soccer and spends most weekends with his mother helping the city's homeless.

"We're not prepared for this," said Madi, whose father fled Iraq in the 1970s. "We're not prepared to sit and educate our children why they're not any different from anybody else. I don't think any parent is prepared for that. I don't care what religion you believe or don't believe."

Parents needn't shoulder the burden themselves, said Patricia Greenfield, a psychology professor at UCLA. Teachers should talk about not generalizing Muslims and ask children to reinforce their friendships with Muslim students, she said in an email.

As Khan, the father in Maryland, tucked his son in last week, he left him with the words he recited when he became a U.S. citizen two decades ago: "One nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

"I don't know why, I don't know how people forget that," Khan said later, fighting back tears. "We have to; otherwise we're dividing ourselves." AP

**The kids ... go to school every day and they're afraid to tell people they're Muslim. This has to stop.**

MELISSA YASSINI  
MOTHER

COP 21

## Winners and losers in the Paris climate pact

Karl Ritter, Le Bourget

THE climate deal adopted in suburban Paris was the culmination of four years of negotiations on how to get nearly all countries to jointly reduce the greenhouse gas emissions that scientists say are warming the planet.

The talks were difficult and sometimes teetered on the brink of collapse. Every country made compromises to get the deal done, but some got more than others by the time the gavel dropped on Saturday.

Here's a look at winners in the Paris climate agreement and some who came up short:

### SMALL ISLANDS

The tiniest countries were arguably the biggest winners in the deal. Tuvalu,

Marshall Islands, Maldives, Kiribati and other island nations pushed hard for two things. First, a global commitment to at least try to limit Earth's warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius (2.7 degrees Fahrenheit) compared to pre-industrial times. Second, recognition that they're going to need help to deal with damage caused by rising seas, more extreme weather and other impacts of climate change. They got both, though with some caveats.

### UNITED STATES

The deal in some ways looks like a wish list from U.S. negotiators. It has no new legally binding emissions or financial targets, which would have prevented President Barack Obama from accepting it without approval from

the Republican-controlled Congress. It allows countries to set their own emissions targets, rather than having to negotiate them with other countries. And it requires everyone, not just rich countries, to set emissions targets and be transparent about what they are doing to meet them.

### FRANCE

Almost everyone involved in the talks heaped praise on France for making the deal come together. With masterful diplomacy, the French built bridges and gave every country confidence that its voice was being heard. France also earned respect for staying the course despite the bomb-and-gun massacres in Paris just weeks before the climate conference.

### CHINA

The world's biggest greenhouse gas polluter didn't have to cross any of its red lines. Though a strict firewall between developed and developing countries is gone, the deal still reflects different capabilities of rich and poor throughout the text, a key Chinese demand. Another win for Beijing is that, unlike at the chaotic climate summit six years ago in Copenhagen, China wasn't seen as blocking the talks in Paris.

### INDIA

Indian Environment Minister Prakash Javadekar blended praise with criticism in his post-deal speech, suggesting he had mixed feelings about the outcome. Knowing its emissions are expected to peak later than those of other major econo-

mies, India made sure the text includes some leeway for developing nations. It reluctantly accepted the 1.5 degree goal and failed to get the deal to oblige rich countries to provide clean technology free of intellectual property rights to poor ones.

### EUROPEAN UNION

The Europeans didn't come out of Paris looking like the leaders they want to be — and in many cases are — on climate change. They helped form a "high-ambition coalition" of rich and poor countries, but it wasn't clear whether the alliance was anything but symbolic. The EU successfully introduced a mechanism in the deal designed to ramp up emissions targets over time, but caved on demands that the targets be legally binding.

### SAUDI ARABIA

Oil-rich Saudi Arabia argued against the 1.5-degree temperature target and a long-term goal to phase out emissions. It lost both battles. However, the long-term goal doesn't specifically mention emissions from fossil fuels, a small win for the Saudis.

### FOSSIL FUELS

The biggest loser in the Paris agreement could be the fossil fuel industry. The deal signals to businesses that governments will enact policies over time to promote a shift toward cleaner energy sources, such as wind and solar power. Of course, it remains to be seen whether they follow up on their pledges. In response to the deal, the World Coal Association referred to projections that "electricity generation from coal would grow by 24 percent by 2040" even with the emissions targets countries have set so far. AP

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## what's ON



## ZHOU CHUNYA - NEW WORKS 2015

TIME: 10am-7pm (No admission after 6:30 pm, closed on Mondays)

UNTIL: January 3, 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

## WESTERN VIEWS ON CHINA: PAINTS OF THE 19TH CENTURY ABOUT CHINA

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

## FASHION POP-UP SHOP

TIME: 10am-8pm (closed on Mondays, open on public holidays)

UNTIL: January 3, 2016

VENUE: No. 47, Rua de S. Roque, Macau

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2835 3341

## CONCERT - THE MACAU PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA BAND

TIME: 8pm

VENUE: Grand Auditorium, Macau Cultural Centre, Avenida Xian Xing Hai, s/m, NAPE

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: 2855 5555

## THE COLLECTION EXHIBITION OF TAI FUNG TONG ART HOUSE

TIME: 2pm-6pm daily (Except Mondays)

VENUE: Tai Fung Tong Art House, Calçada da Igreja de S. Lázaro 7

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2835 3537 / 2834 6626

## 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

## Offbeat

## FIREFIGHTERS SPRAY WRONG PLANE WITH FOAM AT CHINESE AIRPORT

When crew members of a passenger plane reported sparks coming from an engine while taxiing at an airport in southern China, eight fire trucks responded within minutes. Then they covered the wrong plane with white foam.

The mistake at the Fuzhou city airport last Thursday was quickly amended and the firefighters turned their attention to the correct plane, but the other one — with passengers aboard — was delayed 10 hours and the entire incident delayed 30 flights, the airport said in a statement.

The Air China flight had reported the problems in a right-side engine of a Boeing 737-800 for a flight headed to Beijing. By the time firefighters arrived four minutes later, engines were switched off. However, a Fuzhou Airlines plane of the same make had exhaust fumes coming from its tail.

The firefighters sprayed the Fuzhou Airlines plane with foam until the airport's control center alerted them to the mistake, and then they sprayed the right plane, the airport said.

Fuzhou Airlines said its plane was covered with white foam and had to be towed away to check its engines. It took off about 10 hours later.

The airport apologized for the inconvenience.

## TV canal macau

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

## cinema

## CINETEATRO

10 DEC - 16 DEC



## POINT BREAK

ROOM 1

(2D) 2.30, 4.30, 9.30 pm

(3D) 7.30 pm

Director: Ericson Core

Starring: Teresa Palmer, Luke Bracey, Édgar Ramírez

Language: English (Cantonese)

Duration: 113min

## KEEPER OF DARKNESS

ROOM 2

2.30, 4.30, 7.30, 9.30 pm

Director: Nick Cheung

Starring: Nick Cheung, Kuo Tsai Chieh, Louis Chueng

Language: Cantonese (Cantonese/English)

Duration: 105min



## INITIATION LOVE

ROOM 3

2.30, 4.30, 9.30 pm

Director: Yukihiro Tsutsumi

Starring: Shota Matsuda, Atsuko Maeda

Language: Japanese (English and Cantonese)

Duration: 110min

## THE CROW'S EGG

ROOM 3

7.30 pm

Director: M. Manikandan

Starring: Ramesh, J. Vignesh, Iyshwarya Rajesh

Language: Tamil (Cantonese/English)

Duration: 91min

## MACAU TOWER

26 Nov - 16 Dec

## KEEPER OF DARKNESS

2.30, 4.45, 7.15, 9.30 pm

Director: Nick Cheung

Starring: Nick Cheung, Kuo Tsai Chieh, Louis Chueng

Language: Cantonese (Cantonese/English)

Duration: 105min

## this day in history



## 1955 QUEEN OPENS LONDON AIRPORT TERMINAL

The Queen has inaugurated new buildings in the centre of London Airport, part of a new complex designed to handle a growing number of air passengers.

Her Majesty arrived by car with the Duke of Edinburgh and was greeted by a guard of honour made up of air crews from the British and Commonwealth airlines, headed by BOAC Captain JT Percy.

The daughter of the Minister of Transport, Sarah Boyd-Carpenter, presented Her Majesty with flowers from around the world that had been flown in by four Commonwealth airlines.

The name of the new buildings was only revealed at the end of the Queen's speech as she unveiled a plaque naming it "The Queen's Building".

The Queen wore an air force blue coat, with a grey hat and a diamond brooch on her lapel in the shape of the BOAC Speedbird emblem.

In her speech she said: "The inauguration of this great terminal today marks an important stage in the story of London Airport.

"In the ten years which have passed since the earliest development of this site, the airport has grown in size and in international fame.

"Until today we may say with pride that it ranks among the foremost in the world.

"Whatever form air travel may take in the future, and we may be certain that striking changes lie ahead, London Airport will I am sure continue to grow in importance as one of the world centres of air traffic."

The Queen's Building houses the airlines' offices and the main entrance for visitors to the airport. It also boasts a post office, cinema, roof gardens, lecture hall and grill room.

It forms part of the new central terminal that has been in use since April and comprises the passenger Europa building and the new control tower.

London Airport was officially opened on 31 May 1946. The first arrival was a BOAC Lancastrian from Australia.

There was no passenger terminal and travellers had to wait for their planes in a temporary tent village on the north side of the airfield.

The tents were replaced with prefabricated concrete villages as building work began on permanent structures to handle the thousands of passengers using the airport.

Courtesy BBC News

## IN CONTEXT

The central terminal area is now known as Terminal 2. London Airport has since been renamed Heathrow and is one of the world's busiest airports with four terminals. Following the longest public inquiry in British planning history - a total of three years and 10 months - the government gave approval on 20 November 2001 for BAA to build a fifth terminal at Heathrow. Construction on the terminal five (T5) site began in 2002. T5 has the capacity to handle 30 million passengers a year.



YOUR STARS

Aries Mar. 21-Apr. 19 Someone needs your help -- but they may not know how to ask you. Make sure that you're really paying attention as you move through the day, as you can score bonus karma points!

Taurus April 20-May 20 You finally get that one friend or family member who's been so odd lately -- and the explanation is likely simpler than you would have thought. Just reach out and let them know you're savvy.

Gemini May 21-Jun. 21 You need to really hunker down and focus on communication today -- in all its creative forms. Your energy is better spent on poetry than on drafting that email to get a new job.

Cancer Jun. 22-Jul. 22 You need to enjoy what you've got today -- your energy is terrific, and almost anything you choose to do should make life sweeter and more enjoyable for you and your people. Go for it!

Leo Jul. 23-Aug. 22 Nothing is quite clear today -- you need to take a big step back before you can make sense of anything. That could work to your advantage, though, as you may spot details you'd never have seen otherwise.

Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22 Not much gets done today -- which could mean that you just need to deal with a backlog later. There's nothing wrong with that, especially as fighting too hard against today's pace could result in moving backward!

Libra Sep.23-Oct. 22 You need to stay flexible and enjoy life's little treasures -- there's no sense in walling over every little thing that goes wrong today! All should return to balance soon, and no one knows that better than you.

Scorpio Oct. 23 - Nov. 21 Your artistic license just got renewed -- make the most of it! All this great energy should make you a hit with your colleagues or friends, as long as you're free with your ideas.

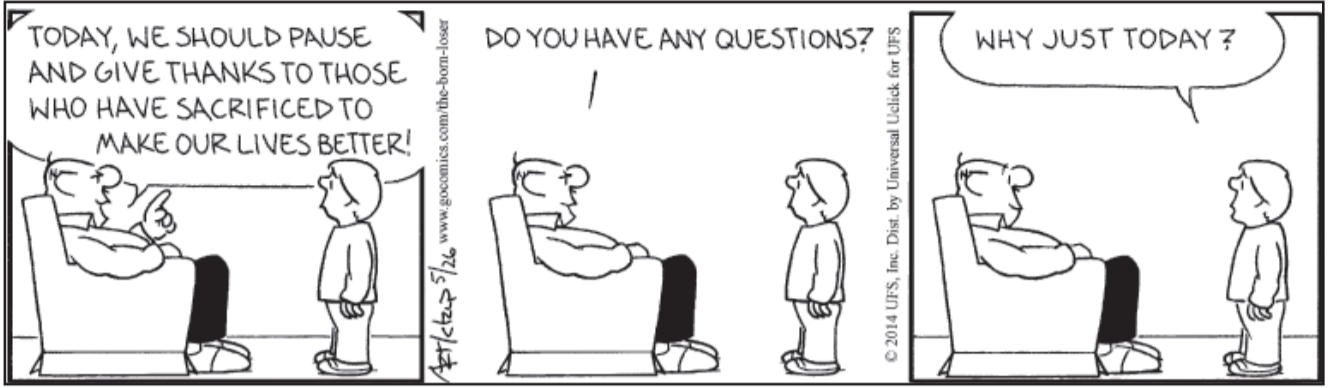
Sagittarius Nov. 22-Dec. 21 Try something totally new today -- it could be almost anything! Your personal energy is somewhat restless and seeking new inspiration. A new friend, a random website or even a cloud can give it to you!

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19 You have got to make social connections today -- though not necessarily new ones. Reach out to old friends (even old flames, possibly) to see if you've still got anything to talk about.

Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 18 Take a chance on that new volunteer opportunity or charity pitch, even if it doesn't quite seem right -- you can always back off later if it falls apart. You need to give back on a day like today.

Pisces Feb.19-Mar. 20 You've got to rethink things a bit -- but your great energy helps you do just that with ease. See if you can get your friends to pitch you new ideas for transformative activities. Use them all!

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Easy

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

Easy+

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

Medium

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

Hard

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

WEATHER

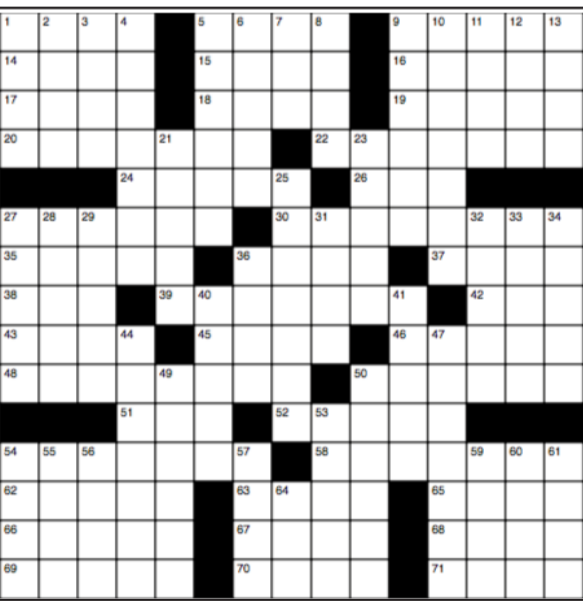
Weather forecast table with columns for MIN, MAX, and CONDITION for various cities in CHINA and the WORLD.

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Pitcher Hershiser; 5- Side; 9- Hermit; 14- Go it alone; 15- Author \_\_\_ Stanley Gardner; 16- Fred's dancing sister; 17- Langston Hughes poem; 18- Black cuckoos; 19- Bullwinkle, e.g.; 20- Professional hunting guide; 22- Chest related; 24- Madame de \_\_\_; 26- This \_\_\_ test; 27- Thoroughfare; 30- Inhabitant of Oahu, Mindanao, or Java; 35- Milo of 'Barbarella'; 36- Asleep; 37- Color quality; 38- Kung \_\_\_ chicken; 39- Continued a subscription; 42- Over there, old-style; 43- Pakistani language; 45- Metallica drummer Ulrich; 46- 'A Passage to India' heroine; 48- Writer of Hebrew prayers; 50- Threefold; 51- \_\_\_-hood; 52- Affirmatives; 54- College letter earners; 58- Account books; 62- Clear the board; 63- Type of D.A.; 65- \_\_\_-friendly; 66- Man of many words?; 67- Hula hoops?; 68- Capital of Yemen; 69- Domineering; 70- Waiting for the Robert \_\_\_; 71- Sounds of reproof;

DOWN: 1- Medical suffix; 2- Portnoy's creator; 3- 'The Time Machine' people; 4- Quick visual inspection; 5- Try to shred; 6- Tennessee \_\_\_ Ford; 7- Boxer Laila; 8- Pigsty; 9- San Diego suburb; 10- Something smelly; 11- It's a gas; 12- 'Born Free' lion; 13- Spool; 21- Shed \_\_\_; 23- SÃ£o Paulo feature; 25- Freedom; 27- Absorb; 28- Autocrats; 29- Role for Valerie; 31- Puts in stitches; 32- Senior member; 33- \_\_\_ Gay; 34- Pertaining to the kidneys; 36- Collections of anecdotes; 40- 'Silas Marner' author; 41- Challenged; 44- Hero of the Odyssey; 47- Revulsion; 49- Half; 50- Deadly fly; 53- Borden bovine; 54- Action word; 55- Buck ender; 56- Torn clothing; 57- Ivy League school; 59- Son of Isaac; 60- Lease; 61- Sp. ladies; 64- Choice: Abbr.;

Yesterday's solution



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Taxi 28 939 939 / 2828 3283
Fire department 28 572 222
Water Supply - Report 1990 992
PJ (Open line) 993
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## opinion

## Sport Views

Kavitha A. Davidson, Bloomberg

**MLB'S HARD ON ROSE,  
EASY ON GAMBLING**

Major League Baseball Commissioner Rob Manfred's decision to uphold Pete Rose's permanent ban for gambling should come as no surprise. Even for those who think the ban should be lifted so the all-time hits leader would be eligible for the Hall of Fame, Rose has made it increasingly difficult to defend him.

Since his initial ban in 1989, the league has left open the possibility of Rose's reinstatement, if he reforms his ways and rids his life of gambling. Rose hasn't just failed to show adequate contrition. He's also been quite brazen in flaunting his Las Vegas lifestyle, maintaining a constant presence at autograph signings and paid appearances in casinos.

It seemed MLB was extending an olive branch this year, when Manfred not only agreed to hear Rose's case for reinstatement but also announced that the league would allow him to participate in July's All-Star Game festivities in Cincinnati, where Rose spent 19 of his 24 seasons. Then in June, ESPN's "Outside the Lines" obtained documents that detailed Rose placing bets on the Cincinnati Reds while a member of that team, a charge he had repeatedly denied. Still, Rose was at the All-Star Game, and Manfred agreed to go ahead with their meeting in September.

At that meeting, according to Manfred's report, Rose eventually admitted he still bets on baseball to this day, having tried to deny it earlier in the conversation. Even as someone who thinks Rose's numbers have more than earned him a place in the Hall, I can see how his attitude and actions cause many, including senior MLB officials, to want him nowhere near the league. But his Hall of Fame eligibility is dependent on his reinstatement to the league, so the two are inextricably linked. It would be a fair compromise to induct him into Cooperstown while maintaining his distance from the game, but that's not how the ban works.

Manfred was put in a difficult position. Common sense and stats might say that Rose deserves to be in the Hall, but his failure to present "a reconfigured life" absent of gambling gave the commissioner no choice. That said, let's take this as an opportunity to shed skepticism on the cardinal rule underlying Rose's decades-long banishment, on the idea of gambling as baseball's original sin. There's a story behind such attitudes toward betting in baseball: the 1919 Black Sox scandal that nearly brought down the entire sport; the damaging effect it has on fan interest; the introduction of unsavory characters and a criminal element to a USD9 billion business. But we also know that MLB itself doesn't hold fast to "No Gambling."

If it did, the league wouldn't have an extended contract with DraftKings, the daily fantasy site in which MLB owns an equity stake and which also has deals with at least 27 teams. And Manfred wouldn't be working so hard to sell a "clear legal line" of gambling that puts DraftKings on the right side. As recent legal challenges have shown, that line is anything but clear. It certainly isn't clear to the State of New York, where MLB is based and where a state Supreme Court judge granted Attorney General Eric Schneiderman an injunction to halt DraftKings and its competitor FanDuel from continuing operations in the state.

It's easy to see from Rose's past and present actions why Manfred shows little sympathy toward him in the report on the decision to uphold the ban. Rose is an easy villain for the league to show that it's "tough on crime," without actually getting consistently tough on the offense at hand. (It found an even easier villain in Alex Rodriguez.) But just as MLB won't separate Pete Rose the player from Pete Rose the man in considering his reinstatement, we shouldn't let the league continue to draw a convenient line between two types of gambling.

# Chelsea in crisis as under pressure Mourinho lashes out

Steve Douglas, Sports Writer

**J**OSE Mourinho's belittling post-match tirade against his team wasn't even needed to underscore the crisis that has enveloped Chelsea.

That was abundantly clear in the performance and actions of his players during a 2-1 loss to Leicester that plunged the team's title defense into further embarrassment.

There was the sight of Diego Costa — a striker seemingly more interested in picking a fight than scoring goals — confronting Chelsea's defenders and gesturing to them that they are asleep.

There was Eden Hazard flicking a dismissive hand toward Mourinho as he stormed down the tunnel with an innocuously sustained hip injury.

There was John Terry getting substituted in the opening minutes of the second half after another display that showed, at 35, his time might be up.

And then there was Cesc Fabregas, Chelsea's best distributor of the ball, lobbing a pass under no pressure straight to a Leicester player with one of his first touches as a substitute.

No wonder Mourinho wore the look of a bemused, worried man after the match as he accused his players of betraying and shaming him. His stars are woefully out of form, his team is only one point clear of the relegation zone and in the midst of the biggest-ever collapse in English soccer.

"I don't think he sees a way out of this," Chelsea great Frank Lampard, who was a TV commentator for Monday's match, said of

AP PHOTO



Jose Mourinho

Mourinho. "Something has to change."

Roman Abramovich, Chelsea's billionaire Russian owner, is showing previously unseen restraint in not firing Mourinho after the team's nine losses in 16 league games this season. That is as many as Mourinho had over his first two seasons since returning to the club.

Maybe qualifying for the knockout stage of the Champions League has saved Mourinho. A 2-0 win over FC Porto last week meant Chelsea topped its group and was seen by many as a potential turning point in its season.

Clearly not. Against Leicester, Chelsea was as sluggish as it has been all season, and it seems Mourinho has had enough. It will be interesting to see how his players react to being publicly criticized.

"I am not afraid of a big challenge," Mourinho said. "I hope Mr. Abramovich and the board want me to stay because I want to stay."

The concern for the Chelsea

hierarchy will be that Mourinho has never been in this position in his coaching career. Success has followed him everywhere he has been.

He once accused rival Arsene Wenger, the Arsenal manager, of being a "spe-

## Maybe qualifying for the knockout stage of the Champions League has saved Mourinho

cialist in failure." Wenger, though, never had it this bad and it will be even more galling for Mourinho that the three coaches he often scorns — Wenger, Manuel Pellegrini (Manchester City) and Claudio Ranieri (Leicester) — are at teams holding the top three positions in the Premier

League.

The last time Chelsea made such a bad start to a season — in 1978 — the team ended up being relegated.

For things to change, Mourinho might need to buy a new striker in the January transfer window. The bad-tempered Costa has scored only three goals this season, is proving too easy for defenders to rile, and cannot be relied on.

Chelsea also needs leaders, but it still might be time to drop Terry and go with Gary Cahill and Kurt Zouma as a regular center back pairing.

As a group, Chelsea's players need to be working much harder. They were outfought in the loss to Bournemouth the previous weekend and again by Leicester on Monday.

A run of two or three wins might just turn things around, and the team has Sunderland and Watford at home in its next two games.

Lose them, and Mourinho — and his dream of a long second tenure at Stamford Bridge — could be over. **AP**

## Olympians association opposes blanket ban on all Russians

**T**HE global association of Olympic athletes says it's unfair that all Russia's track and field athletes have been banned from international competition because of allegations of state-sponsored doping.

The World Olympians Association calls for an "urgent solution" that allows athletes who have not been involved in doping to be able to

compete.

The WOA issued a statement Monday saying clean athletes should "have their rights and their reputations protected and honored."

Russia's athletics federation was suspended by the IAAF following a report by a World Anti-Doping Agency panel that detailed widespread doping. The sanction could

keep Russian track and field athletes out of next year's Olympics in Rio de Janeiro.

The WOA suggests that athletes from suspended countries who have clean doping records could undergo "extraordinary testing sessions" clearing them to compete.

The WOA has ties to Russia through its patron, Prince Albert of Monaco, who has vacationed in the past with Russian President Vladimir Putin. WOA president Joel Bouzou is an adviser to Prince Albert and received a Russian state medal in 2012. **AP**

opinion

**Macau Matters**

Richard Whitfield



**STIMULATING INDUSTRIAL CREATIVITY**

The South China Morning Post (SCMP) for Sunday 13 December contains a "Designers Shine with Shoe Creations" article on page 6. I do not want to criticise the SMCP, or Hong Kong, but this article exemplifies all that is wrong with the current fad for stimulating creative industries in Hong Kong and Macau. We need much more sophisticated thinking if we want to truly diversify the Macau economy by expanding creative industries.

The article was about a competition to colour in the printed profile of a stiletto shoe design proposed by Jimmy Choo. All the competitors could do was to colour in their designs, and Choo said that "I had to go to college to study shoe design but it seems that people taking part in this contest don't need to". I have never heard such rubbish. A simple colouring competition is not about improving design innovation, and to suggest that it is denigrates everything about what needs to change in Asia to compete with European and American design expertise.

I totally agree that the major "value add" in design is creating new product concepts and that if Asian companies want to move up the "value chain" they must create new and innovative products and services. However, to achieve this goal requires a major cultural shift which cannot be achieved overnight with stiletto shoe colouring competitions.

Fundamental social change to develop a creative and innovative community is a long term process that must integrate education systems that nurture creativity and innovation with business practices that value creative workers and government policies that allow for change and break oligopolistic practices.

Developing a creative and innovative workforce starts from primary and secondary schools that nurture innovation and creativity, and not the rote repetition of facts. But this cannot be achieved without teachers that understand what creativity and innovation is and know how to teach it. Unfortunately, currently in Macau teaching is a very underpaid profession that incorporates no certification of expertise in stimulating creativity or innovation. Until this changes you can forget any ideas about developing a creative and innovative workforce.

Similarly, creative and innovative businesses cannot develop without a social, political and business environment that encourages change and experimentation. Unfortunately, we do not have this in Macau. The typically corrupt business practices that you see here do not want change or innovation because they will lose their "rent seeking" business advantage. Similarly, most government departments do not understand or want change that breaks their "rice bowl". All the existing powers want to see is childish and trivial colouring competitions so that they can pay lip service to notions of increasing creativity and innovation without any actual change. But in Macau we must demand real change.

Unfortunately, lip service to ideas about creating better and more innovative industries in Macau will not achieve the necessary changes.

Macau people must demand long term social change, from primary schools up, and must accept that such basic social change takes 10-20 years to achieve, and anybody saying that it can be done in a few years is lying, and must be questioned. The shift from derivative "copy cat" industries to a truly creative economy is fundamental and cannot happen overnight without corresponding fundamental changes to education, business and government practices. We need the powers that be in Macau to initiate these changes if they truly want change, but I am not convinced that they are serious. I hope that they can prove me wrong.

**THE BUZZ CHINA, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES TO LAUNCH USD10 BILLION FUND**

China and the United Arab Emirates have agreed to launch a USD10 billion joint strategic investment fund.

Emirati state news agency WAM said the accord was one of several bilateral agreements signed in Beijing this week during a visit by the Abu Dhabi crown prince, Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan.

Abu Dhabi's government-backed Mubadala

Development Company, China Development Bank Capital and China's State Administration of Foreign Exchange will manage the fund. Each country would contribute equal funding to the project.

The fund will support development in sectors of mutual interest, such as conventional and renewable energy, infrastructure, technology and advanced manufacturing.

**Journalists behind bars: 2015 report highlights China, Egypt**

Cara Anna, New York

**C**HINA, Egypt and Iran top the list of the world's leading jailers of journalists in a new annual report by the New York-based Committee to Protect Journalists. Eritrea, Ethiopia and Turkey also figured prominently on the list.

The report released yesterday says a quarter of the 199 journalists worldwide who were in prison as of Dec. 1 because of their work were in China. The Communist Party-run country under President Xi Jinping had 49 journalists behind bars, the highest number for China since the CPJ began its annual survey in 1990.

The report also singled out three jailed Chinese who were not included on its annual list: the three brothers of a U.S.-based journalist with Radio Free Asia who covers China's treatment of his ethnic group, the Muslim Uighurs. CPJ calls the jailing of Shohret Hoshur's brothers an act of retaliation for his reporting and an example of "the lengths to which China is willing to go to silence its critics."

Egypt was second on the list with 23 journalists in prison, up from a dozen a year ago and zero in 2012.

"Perhaps nowhere has the climate for the press deteriorated more rapidly than in



**Egyptian photojournalist Mahmoud Abou Zeid, known by his nickname Shawkan**

Egypt," the report says, accusing President Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi of acting under the pretext of national security since he took office in 2014 a year after the military ousted Islamist President Mohammed Morsi. In August, el-Sissi approved a law that included heavy fines for journalists who don't follow the government line.

Washington Post reporter Jason Rezaian is among the 19 journalists that the CPJ lists as being behind bars in Iran, an Islamic republic under Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei and President Hassan Rouhani.

The new report calls the east African country of Eritrea "the world's worst abuser of due process," as no CPJ-listed journalist detained under

long-time President Isaias Afwerki has ever been publicly charged with a crime or taken to court for trial. Seventeen journalists are currently behind bars there.

The report expresses special concern about Turkey, where the number of jailed journalists doubled over the past year to 14. Late last month, hundreds of protesters chanted "Free press cannot be silenced" after journalists Can Dundar and Erdem Gul were jailed on terror and espionage charges for their reports on alleged Turkish arms smuggling to Syria. The journalists were investigated after President Recep Tayyip Erdogan filed a criminal complaint.

And in August, authorities detained three journalists reporting for Vice News in Turkey's restive Kurdish southeast. One of them, Mohammed Rasool, is still in custody. Rasool, an Iraqi citizen, had worked as a news assistant for the AP and other media organizations.

Ethiopia, under Prime Minister Hailemariam Desalegn, has 10 journalists behind bars. At the time of President Barack Obama's visit to Ethiopia in July, Desalegn defended his government's commitment to democracy and said the country needs "ethical journalism," not reporters that "pass the line." AP

**New Zealand picks new flag design to challenge current flag**

Nick Perry, Wellington

**T**HE British Union Jack once symbolized the reach of a powerful empire — but it may need to yield soon to a delicate silver fern. At least on New Zealand's flag.

New Zealand yesterday revealed the new flag design chosen by the public to be put up as a challenger to the current flag in a March vote.

The question of whether to change a national symbol that has endured for more than a century and harks back to a colonial past has raised plenty of passion, and skepticism, in this nation of 4.6 million.

People submitted more than 10,000 potential new flag designs, including bizarre ones like a kiwi bird shooting a green laser beam from its eye and a stick drawing of a deranged cat.

In the end, it came down to two flags by



**This undated illustration provided by the New Zealand Government shows a flag design; Silver Fern (Black, White and Blue) by Kyle Lockwood**

architectural designer Kyle Lockwood that featured the same design of a silver fern and four red stars, but with different background colors.

Results announced yesterday showed that Lockwood's black and blue flag just edged his red and darker blue flag 50.6 percent to 49.4 percent in a runoff postal vote. Even the designer himself found it a tough choice. AP

Station	Air quality
Roadside	50-70 Moderate
High Density Residential Area	30-50 Moderate
Ambient	35-55 Moderate

SOURCE: DSI/MG

**WORLD BRIEFS**



**PHILIPPINES** Typhoon Melor left at least one person dead and wide areas without power yesterday as it crossed over the central Philippines. About 730,000 people were evacuated to safer grounds before the storm hit. The typhoon had weakened but was still packing winds of 140 kilometers per hour and gusts of up to 170 kph as it passed over Oriental Mindoro province. Classes, flights and ferry trips remained suspended in affected areas.



**IRAN** The U.N. nuclear agency prepared to close the books on a decade-long probe of allegations that Iran worked on atomic arms, despite acknowledgement by its head that his investigation remains incomplete. The probe has to be formally closed as part of a deal between Iran and six nations to crimp present Iranian nuclear programs that could be used to make such weapons, in exchange for the removal of economic sanctions.



**USA** There's no legal or historical precedent for closing US borders to the world's 1.6 billion Muslims, but neither is there any Supreme Court case that clearly prevents a president or Congress from doing so. Legal experts are divided over how the high court would react to Republican presidential frontrunner Donald Trump's call for a temporary halt to Muslims entering the United States. More on p14

**HAWAII** The U.S. Air Force community is mourning the death of a 22-year-old senior airman from Hawaii who had been supporting Operation Christmas Drop 2015 when he collapsed following a training exercise. The Air Force said that Senior Airman Jeremy M. Jutba-Hake collapsed Sunday during post-flight duties at Andersen Air Force Base in Guam. He was taken to a hospital and later pronounced dead, The Pacific Daily News reported.