



FIREMEN BUSIER THAN LAST YEAR

P4



TUI REJECTS HO CHIO MENG'S APPEAL
The former Prosecutor General unsuccessfully contested the legality of the decision to put him under preventive custody

P5



'SHREK THE MUSICAL' TO ARRIVE IN MACAU
The English-language production will play at the Venetian Theater from July 22 to August 7

P6

TUE. 12
Apr 2016
T. 21°/ 24° C
H. 85/ 98%
Blackberry email service powered by CTM
N. 2535
MOP 7.50
HKD 9.50

MacauDaily 澳門每日時報®
Times

FOUNDER & PUBLISHER Kowie Goldenhuys EDITOR-IN-CHIEF Paulo Coutinho



"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN'"

WORLD BRIEFS

HIROSHIMA Foreign ministers from the Group of Seven industrialized countries, meeting yesterday in the atomic-bombed Japanese city of Hiroshima, called for a renewed push for flagging nuclear disarmament efforts as they wrestled with some of the intractable global problems facing their nations. *More on p13*

AP PHOTO



KOREAS A colonel from North Korea's military spy agency fled to South Korea last year in an unusual case of a senior-level defection. The announcement came three days after Seoul revealed that 13 North Koreans working at the same restaurant in a foreign country had defected to the South. *More on p12*

AP PHOTO



THAILAND may be going through its driest period in 20 years. But the country's military government wants visitors from around the globe to know that the biggest water fight in the world is still on. *More on p12*

PHILIPPINES The military says eight more Abu Sayyaf extremists have died and a top militant commander has been wounded as troops pressed a major offensive following the killings of 18 soldiers in fierce fighting over the weekend.

More on backpage



STUDY

The 'Fujianese connection' gamble with politics

P3

Protest against tighter regulations gathers few taxi drivers

P2 MDT REPORT

IPM art student wins British prize



Filipe Miguel das Dores from the Macau Polytechnic Institute (IPM) has won the John Purcell Paper Prize for the second time. Two art works by the Macanese artist, titled "Working Alone" and "The September after 18 years," were both selected to appear at the 204th Exhibition of the Royal Institute of Painters in Watercolour. "Working Alone" was also awarded the Leathersellers' Award. The student reportedly spent 300 hours working on his creations, where he depicts in extreme detail, the Livraria Portuguesa building as seen at night. Last year, for his work titled "Mario Night," the artist won the John Purcell Paper Prize for the first time.

Health condition survey

A survey aiming to assess the local population's health status will take place between April and June. The evaluation will include two parts, namely a household survey and, in some cases, physical examinations. The Health Bureau issued a statement yesterday informing residents that the survey would be conducted by uniformed personnel and that all information gathered would remain confidential.

Zhuhai-Macau entrepreneurship festival opening soon

The second edition of the Zhuhai-Macau International Entrepreneurs Festival & China's Entrepreneurial Grand Ceremony will open on April 23, Macao Daily News reported. Organized by the Zhuhai Entrepreneurship Fraternity, the festival will take place over two days at Inno Valley HQ. On the first day, forums and exhibitions will occur. During the second and final day, invited guests will share their personal experiences regarding entrepreneurship, while the organizers will announce a selection of role models, including both people and companies, from Zhuhai and Macau who have achieved success through entrepreneurship. Over 200 organizations and companies participated in last year's event, which saw close to 1,000 participants.

Renato Marques

APPROXIMATELY 20 taxi drivers gathered yesterday morning around the Border Gate area to protest against the new government-proposed policies that aim to regulate the taxi industry.

In a demonstration that ultimately gathered fewer people than expected (the public security police force had predicted attendance to be between 50 to 100 taxis), the protesters were in fact outnumbered by members of the police force, some in uniform and many others undercover.

Following a 15-minute trip commencing at the Border Gate area, the taxi convoy reached the headquarters of the Transport Bureau (DSAT), where they were supposed to deliver a petition outlining their objections to the policies.

In fact, there was no petition to be delivered because, according to Chan Ka Seng, the vice president of the Taxi Drivers Rights Association (TDRA), "the document was not yet ready." Chan, who led the group in the protest, said that in addition to the association's concerns was the fact that the proposed law aims to punish not only drivers for their infractions, but also the license and taxi owners.

Protest against tighter regulations gathers few taxi drivers



A cyclist who followed the protest and claimed to be a taxi owner also said that it was unacceptable to threaten the investments of taxi and license owners with potential revocations of their licenses.

Although there was no written petition to be delivered, a "symbolic" delivery of the concerns of the taxi drivers was staged at the site. The TDRA representative promised to deliver the real petition at a later time.

DSAT officials refused to address any comments regarding this particular petition, due to "not yet knowing its content."

A statement issued by DSAT yesterday indicated that "the

government is actively following the revision of the 'Legal Regime of Taxi Passenger Transport' in order to respond to the wishes of residents and tourists regarding the taxi service and improve the taxi industry operating environment."

The same statement recalled that during the revision process the government placed a great deal of weight on the opinions expressed during the public consultation period, and reaffirmed that the government "will not tolerate or be lenient with any offenses in the taxi service," urging taxi drivers "not to challenge the law."

Hoping to obtain a clearer idea

of the views within the sector, the Times spoke to two taxi drivers, who expressed opposing views on the subject.

Mr Cheong, a 63-year-old taxi driver with over 30 years experience in the business, in both Hong Kong and Macau, showed no interest in the topic saying, "I have no interest in politics. For me it's the same everyday and just a normal job."

Regarding the complaints of fellow taxi drivers Mr Cheong said, "Those complaining must be the ones that were making 'big bucks' before. Those people are suffering more now. For me it's the same because I always did an honest job. Normal taxi," he said.

Mr Chan, another taxi driver, had a different view, saying, "the regulation is too heavy! Fines of MOP2,000 are too much!"

The same driver added that "law enforcement treats drivers differently," concluding, "I hope that in the end [of the protests] there will be no fines at all."

Other drivers contacted by the Times refused to comment, claiming that they were "very busy."

Electoral Law consultation this month

THE government will launch a public consultation on planned revisions to the Legislative Assembly (AL) Electoral Law by the end of the month, the Secretary for Administration and Justice, Chan Hoi Fan, told reporters on Sunday.

Chan explained that the government needs to be careful when dealing with the revision process, as the election mechanism was pivotal to Macau's political development.

She also added that the revisions proposed thus far have already taken public opinion into account, following an official report de-

tailing the proposals published in December for the fifth AL election, which is scheduled for next year.

Commenting on other issues covered by her portfolio, the Secretary mentioned that the government would this year submit proposals regarding eight statutes to the Assembly. She said this was in line with the government's legislative plan for the current year.

In addition, Chan stated that the revision of regulations relating to passenger services operated by designated light vehicles and taxis was likely to be completed this year.



Sonia Chan

Noting that there has been opposition from some parties regarding various proposed changes to taxi regulations, Chan said that the government must balance the views of residents with those of the sector, given that taxis are a form of public transportation.

COOPERATION

Lisbon, Bissau visits promote Lusophony trade link

A delegation from Macau, organized by the Institute for Trade and Investment Promotion (IPIM), last week took part in the "Business Opportunities Forum between China, Portugal and the MSAR," held in Lisbon.

The meeting saw the parties hold discussions on bilateral trade between China and Portugal, business promotion sessions and exchange contact details.

IPIM further reported that the local delegation took part in a separate but related meeting between businesspeople from China and the Portuguese-speaking countries – "Guinea-Bissau in 2016" – on April 9 and 10 in the capital, Bissau.

The president of IPIM, Jackson Chang, said that Macau is gradually achieving its "Centre and Platform" goal, inclu-

ding establishing the city as an "Events Capital" and a "convention and exhibition center for trade and economic cooperation between China and the Portuguese-speaking countries."

The Department Director of the China International Chamber of Commerce, Han Meiqing, said on behalf of the CCPIT that China is the largest trading partner of Portugal in Asia

and that the two economies can complement each other by taking advantage of Macau to boost their links with all Portuguese-speaking countries.

IPIM also said that it has invited Portugal to be a "partner country" of MIF, a new form of institutional cooperation that aims to strengthen bilateral cooperation and develop Macau's role as a regional business service platform.

www.macaudailytimes.com.mo

MDT's Website has logged over 120 million page views since January 1st, 2012 up to today.

Thank You!

Like us? facebook.com/mdtimes

MacauDaily 澳門每日時報

DIRECTOR AND EDITOR-IN-CHIEF_Paulo Coutinho paulocoutinho@macaudailytimes.com
MANAGING EDITOR_Paulo Barbosa paulo.barbosa@macaudailytimes.com
CONTRIBUTING EDITORS_Eric Sautedé, Leanda Lee, Severo Portela

DESIGN EDITOR_João Jorge Magalhães magalhaes@macaudailytimes.com | NEWSROOM AND CONTRIBUTORS: Albano Martins, Annabel Jackson, Daniel Beitler, Emille Tran, Grace Yu, Irene Sam, Jacky I.F. Cheong, Jenny Lao-Phillips, João Palla Martins, Joseph Cheung, Juliet Risdon, Renato Marques, Richard Whitfield, Robert Carroll (Hong Kong correspondent), Rodrigo de Matos (cartoonist), Ruan Du Toit Bester, Sandra Norte (designer), Viviana Seguí | ASSOCIATE CONTRIBUTORS_JML Property, MacauHR, MdME Lawyers, PokerStars | NEWS AGENCIES_Associated Press, Bloomberg, Lusa News Agency, MacauHub, MacauNews, Xinhua | SECRETARY_Yang Dongxiao amy@macaudailytimes.com

SEND NEWSWORTHY INFORMATION AND PRESS RELEASES TO: NEWSROOM@MACAUDAILYTIMES.COM WEBSITE: WWW.MACAUDAILYTIMES.COM.MO

A MACAU TIMES PUBLICATIONS LTD PUBLICATION

ADMINISTRATOR AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Kowie Geldenhuys kowie@macaudailytimes.com

SECRETARY Juliana Cheang juliana@macaudailytimes.com

ADDRESS Av. da Praia Grande, 599, Edif. Comercial Rodrigues, 12 Floor C, MACAU SAR Telephones: +853 287 160 81/2 Fax: +853 287 160 84

Advertisement advertising@macaudailytimes.com

For subscription and general issues:

general@macaudailytimes.com | Printed at Welfare Printing Ltd

Daniel Beitleer

Hong Kong scholars investigate Fujianese connection to gaming

AN article examining the influence and relationship between the Fujian Tongxianghui (association of people from the same hometown), electoral politics and casino interests in Macau was recently published in the *Journal of Contemporary Asia*.

The article, entitled “Casino Interests, Fujian Tongxianghui and Electoral Politics in Macau,” was co-written by Hong Kong Institute of Education scholars Sonny Lo and Eric Chong, who claim that there exists in the MSAR a “triangular relationship” between the three elements.

The scholars examine the impact of the Fujianese community, which they say has been mobilized by prominent leaders – such as the United Citizens Association of Macau’s (UCAM) Chan Meng Kam – to simultaneously influence electoral participation and protect the interests of gaming operators.

According to Lo and Chong, although there are no official statistics on the number of Fujianese who have migrated to Macau during the territory’s historical development, some have estimated that by 2014 there may have been as many as 110,000 people, roughly equivalent to 19 percent of the population.

“The framework of ethnic and sub-ethnic politics can be seen as similar to clan politics, for they act as interest groups with a common identity shared among group members and articulate their interests vis-à-vis the government in power,” the two scholars write. They add that such ethnic and sub-ethnic interest groups “can lobby the state for the protection of their interests and even compete among themselves.”

In Macau, UCAM maintain a conspicuous balance between the realization of three central commitments: the electoral mobilization of the Fujianese community, the protection

PHOTO ARCHIVE



Fujian-born UCAM leader, Chan Meng Kam

of gaming interests owned by influential Tongxianghui leaders, and the actual day-to-day challenges of ordinary Fujianese citizens who overwhelmingly reside in the less-wealthy northern district.

This balance is the result of the growing disparity of wealth created in Macau since the liberalization of the gaming industry, which has created new political pivots and legitimate economic concerns over the consequences of what Lo and Chong describe as the “casino-state”.

With regard to this latter point, the scholars express a

somewhat critical opinion of the “casino-state” when they explain that it designates “a situation where the political institutions of Macau lose significance and the casino industry operates like another government.”

Chan Meng Kam is himself a gaming magnate who began his political campaign in Macau after the liberalization of gaming as the face of his Casino Golden Dragon.

Chan strengthened his electoral mandate in the most recent Legislative Assembly (AL) elections in 2013, when his association garnered the highest

number of votes (26,385) and the largest proportion of the popular vote (18.02 percent). His party also secured the most number of seats held by a single party (3).

However, Chan is not unique in simultaneously acting as a casino stakeholder and a representative in the legislature. As of the 2013 elections, there are at least five other legislators who are casino operators or are seen to have a direct interest in the casino industry. They include Melinda Chan, Victor Cheng, Chan Chak Mo, Fong Chi Keong, and Angela Leong.

Lo and Chong note that casino-backed legislators have withdrawn their pro-gaming platforms during recent elections, especially the 2013 AL election, where UCAM “adopt[ed] a low-profile approach to dealing with casino interests [...] a deliberate strategy of

Prominent leaders have mobilized the community to influence electoral participation and protect the interests of gaming operators

acquiring votes from a variety of voters, including those who did not have casino-related interests.”

Despite this “low-profile approach,” UCAM nevertheless made an “unprecedented move” in 2009 when it invited junkets to discuss a proposal for the government to impose legal penalties on gamblers who fail to repay loans.

Chan and UCAM remain to this day highly popular within the MSAR – particularly, although not exclusively, with the Fujianese community – a popularity which is largely attributed to the association’s focus on livelihood politics, its business connections and outreach, and Chan’s personal charitable contributions.

PROFILE | CHAN MENG KAM

From poor migrant to Macau magnate

CHAN Meng Kam first arrived in Macau as the son of a poor Fujian farmer, where he began his transformation into one of Macau’s most influential politicians and businessmen.

His initial successes as a casino owner and then as the president of its holding company made the

Fujian-born businessman very wealthy. When he entered mainstream politics in 2005, Chan was successful in rallying Macau locals of Fujian-descent to his cause. His prominent positions in business and politics have now made Chan a highly influential figure in Macau.

He is the president of the

Golden Dragon Group, a company that Chan and a “group of four to five partners” started in 1990. It has expanded to include industries such as gaming, hotels, retail and real estate. He is also the co-owner of U Wa, a shareholder in Pearl Oriental Enterprises, president of the Macau Paralympic Commi-

tee, and chairman of the City University of Macau. A Commission Against Corruption (CCAC) investigation was launched after the 2013 election to look into an alleged case of vote-buying by members of Chan’s party. Two staff members from the campaign team were found guilty earlier in 2015

and each was sentenced to over a year in prison. Chan has denied the accusation, claiming that “the law had been selectively applied,” and suggesting that the CCAC ought to investigate other political parties.

According to asset declarations made by senior officials, Chan now owns the highest number of proper-

ties of any Macau official.

Chan is alleged to have underground connections with local groups in Macau, or to have had these connections in the past. In an interview with TDM he confessed to having committed an illegal act of smuggling in Macau by entering the MSAR wearing clothing merchandise intended for sale.

In a cable on Macau politics and society exposed in 2011 by Wikileaks, US diplomats nicknamed him “the godfather.”

THE Fire Services Bureau (CB) has released operational data for the first quarter, showing that all categories of operations have increased in comparison to the same period last year.

This quarter, 11,692 incidents were lodged, up 3.54 percent from last year. In 297 of the cases, firefighters were called, but only 12 of those instances required the use of water hoses. As explained by the deputy chief of CB, Lam Io Fan, "the number of incidents with no traces of fire increased." The department reported that the main cause of triggered fire alarms was stoves or flames left unattended.

Moreover, the CB dispatched ambulances 10,046 times, representing an annual increase of 3 percent. One of the biggest increases concerns rescue operations,

Firemen busier than last year

of which there were 331 instances (a 6.77 percent growth), slightly higher than the 310 from the first quarter of 2015.

When questioned about the overuse of ambulances, Lam acknowledged that 1,972 cases were considered to be inappropriate use of the resource by the Centro Hospitalar Conde de São Januário (CHCSJ). "We really hope our residents can assess whether or not to call for an ambulance," said Lam, hoping to save resources.

When referring to the recent fire in the A-Ma Temple, Lam noted that other departments exist to administrate the protection and security of the region's temples. Nonetheless, the CB is also engaged in collaborating



on world heritage protection. In order to celebrate the 133rd anniversary of the department,

“We really hope our residents can assess whether or not to call for an ambulance.”

LAM IO FAN

CB will soon be organizing a series of events, including an Open Day on April 17 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the CB headquarters. **Staff reporter**

Casino cruise ship in dire straits

A casino cruise ship operated by Arising International Holdings Ltd may now be facing bankruptcy following a wage dispute with 46 crew members, who claim that they are suffering from irregular supply of water,

food and energy.

Mr Wong, who identified himself as a representative of the company which owns the ship, the New Imperial Star, told the South China Morning Post (SCMP) that bankruptcy is a real possi-

bility, although it remains a worst-case scenario.

"Our investors are devastated and suffering a great loss," he said. "We really don't want to see [bankruptcy] happen because, by that stage, the ship will have to be sold very cheaply."

Wong added that he has spent HKD20 million to ensure the ship passes a safety inspection which thus far it has not been able to achieve.

According to the SCMP, the ship has been hit – like many in the casino cruise industry – by a drastic drop in the number of mainland tourists and by Beijing's anti-cor-

ruption campaign and crackdown on gaming.

Wong said that in the past the daily turnover of the ship could reach as much as HKD10 million, with a daily attendance of more than 400 passengers, however last year's income may have been reduced by as much as 90 percent.

The crew told the SCMP that they are planning to

apply for legal aid next week to take their employer to a local court in the hope of recovering more than five months' worth of unpaid work.

Sixty-three-year-old shipmaster Valeriy Lyzhyn said, "I feel hopeless [...] my greatest concern is about wages, food and repatriation of the crew members."

AD

30m pageviews per year

www.macaudailytimes.com.mo



Times App

New look more features



Times App on App Store & Google Play



MacauDaily 澳門每日時報 Times

“THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN’”

advertising@macaudailytimes.com

RANKING

Angela Leong among 'Asia's 50 Power Businesswomen'



Angela Leong

FORBES last week announced its list of Asia's 50 Power Businesswomen for 2016, recognizing 50 powerful businesswomen in Asia and acknowledging the progress women are making in the corporate world.

China and Hong Kong dominated the list with 14 women, followed by India with eight, Thailand with five and Japan with four. Singapore, Australia, Indonesia and Vietnam each have three candidates while South Korea and The Philippines have two. Macau, Taiwan and New Zealand are each represented in the list once.

Nita Ambani, an Indian businesswoman who is the director of the board of Reliance Industries and founder-chairperson of Reliance Foundation, has topped the list.

Moreover, despite the corruption crackdown in China, a few of this year's winners are accumulating wealth in the country's manufacturing sector. This list includes Ma Xiuhui, who started a company producing traditional light bulbs and now

lights homes around the world with her Oppe LED lighting, and Mou Jinxiang, whose Lianhe Chemical sells specialty chemicals to giants such as Dow Chemical and BASF.

In Macau, Angela Leong, managing director of SJM Holdings and chairman of L'Avenue International Holdings, has been included in the list of powerful businesswomen.

Forbes points out that the business she created last year to consolidate her assets, L'Avenue International Holdings, is anchored by two trophy properties: the Entertainment Building, a commercial tower in Central Hong Kong, and L'Avenue Shanghai, a luxury shopping mall co-developed with French conglomerate LVMH.

SJM, one of the six casino operators, posted a 63 percent drop in net profits for 2015 to USD 318 million, as revenue slumped almost 39 percent to USD6.25 billion.

Leong's wealth of US\$1.5 billion has also earned her a spot in Hong Kong's 50 richest people in 2016.

Forbes is famous for its lists and rankings, including rankings of the world's top companies and the world's billionaires list.

To make it on the list according to Forbes, candidates must be active in the upper positions of business in Asia, wield significant power and have access to robust financial resources. **Staff reporter**

COURTS

TUI rejects another Ho Chio Meng appeal

THE Court of Final Appeal (TUI) has rejected an appeal by the former Public Prosecutor General, Ho Chio Meng, contesting the legality of the decision to put him under preventive custody.

In a decision signed by judge Viriato de Lima, TUI argued that under the current legal framework it is not possible to further appeal the decision. "Nothing prevents the law from being changed, with high officials and magistrates being judged by another court," the judgment reads, adding that a similar solution is being implemented in Hong Kong and mainland China.

Ho Chio Meng claimed that according to the magistrates' statute, magistrates cannot be arrested or subjected to preventi-



ve custody before being formally accused or having the date of their hearing set.

However, TUI maintains that Ho Chio Meng was not a magistrate at the time of his detention.

"There is no contradiction in accepting that TUI is the correct court to hear the former prosecutor's case, considering that he is not a magistrate and thus can't benefit

from the provision that exempts [magistrates] from preventive custody, except in special cases," the dispatch reads.

TUI had previously rejected a habeas corpus claim (a request to determine if a person's imprisonment or detention is lawful) presented by Ho Chio Meng, who is being charged with fraud, abuse of power and document forgery. **PB**

KTRANZ

TRANSLATIONS LIMITED

ACCURATE, TIMELY & COMPETITIVE TRANSLATIONS

Languages
 ENGLISH, CHINESE,
 PORTUGUESE, JAPANESE,
 KOREAN, SPANISH,
 FRENCH, ARABIC,
 RUSSIAN

Services
 TRANSLATIONS,
 PROOFREADING, COPYWRITING,
 DATA INPUT, NEWS MONITORING

We translate +10,000 words a day

Contact: Ms Juliana Cheang
 Email: juliana@ktranz.com.mo
 Tel: +853 2871 6081/2 Fax: +853 2871 6084

Av. da Praia Grande, 599, Edif. Comercial Rodrigues, 12 Floor C, MACAU SAR

優悅牙科護理中心
ICQ Oral Health Center

I Care for Quality

ICQ dental team is a group of dental specialists with internationally recognized qualifications. We provide all range of dental services:

- Oral examination and radiology investigation	- Oral and Dental implant Surgery
- Restorative and Cosmetic Dentistry	- Endodontic Treatment
- Children Dentistry	- Periodontal Treatment
- Orthodontic Treatment	- Emergency Treatment

We are committed to deliver high quality dental services with personalized care. We ensure the highest level of infection control.

Website: www.icqoral.com
Facebook: www.facebook.com/icqoral

CONSULTATION BY APPOINTMENT: OFFICE HOUR: 10:00AM-19:00PM
 CLOSE ON SUN, TUE AND PUBLIC HOLIDAY

RM1907, 19/F, AIA TOWER, NOS. 251A-301, AVENIDA COMMERCIAL DE MACAU, MACAU SAR
 TEL: (853)28373266 FAX: (853)28356483 EMAIL: info@icqoral.com www.icqoral.com

New Sunshine Cleaning Services Ltd.

Cleaning Especialists
FREE ESTIMATES

• Residential	• Office / Home Carpet Cleaning
• Move In / Out	• Restaurant / Kitchen Cleaning
• One-Time Cleanings	• Industrial Garbage Removal
• Window Cleaning	• Grease Trap Pumping
• Office / Home General Cleaning	• Portable Chemical Toilet
• Pest Control-Home / Offices	Hiring & Daily Cleaning
• Marble Crystallization	

Call: 2883 3008

Member of General Association of Macao Cleaning Service Industrv

New loan approvals fall



New approvals of residential mortgage loans (RMLs) and commercial real estate loans (CRELs) both witnessed decreases in February, according to data released yesterday by the Monetary Authority of Macau. In February new RMLs approved by local banks decreased by 29.5 percent month-on-month to MOP2.3 billion, 91.8 percent of which was extended to residents. Meanwhile CRELs fell 49.6 percent from the previous month to MOP2.7 billion, of which 87.9 percent was granted to residents. On an annual basis, new RMLs fell by 57.1 percent, while CRELs fared similarly, observing a drop of 43.4 percent. At the end of February 2016, the delinquency ratio for RMLs was 0.09 percent, up 0.01 percentage points from January and also from end-February 2015. The ratio for CRELs remained virtually unchanged from a month ago.

Bus lane trial opens today

The Transport Bureau (ID) will be running a trial today of the recently installed bus lane that passes along A-Ma to Rua do Lam Mau, Macau Daily News reported. The lane will open at 10:30 a.m., enabling buses to drive from R. da Ribeira do Patane towards Avenida do Almirante Lacerda. The trial will last for one hour, during the course of which, roads connected to the exit of the Pak Kong car park and to Travessa da Guelra will see a reduction in the number of permitted traffic.

Urban Renewal Committee website launched

The government has launched a new website for the Urban Renewal Committee, to provide the public with more information about the committee's work. The Secretary for Transport and Public Works, Raimundo do Rosário, announced the government's plans for the website on Friday, following the second meeting of the Urban Renewal Committee, of which Rosário is the chairman. The secretary said he encourages all public bodies under his portfolio to increase the amount of information they share online. The new website (<http://www.cru.gov.mo/zh/news.php>) is available in Chinese and Portuguese.

CRIME

Physician drugs friend to sexually abuse him

Renato Marques

TRUST me, I'm a doctor" is a well known saying that got a Hong Kong citizen into trouble during a trip to Macau, according to a police report that was disclosed yesterday.

The case goes back to December 2015 when the victim, a 57-year-old man, decided to visit the city with a group of Hong Kong friends to have fun at a local karaoke parlor.

Among them was a long-time friend, a 51-year-old medical doctor also from the neighboring region. On December 12, before heading to the karaoke bar as planned, the suspect handed the victim two capsules, which he claimed was a drug to protect his liver since they were planning to spend the night drinking.

The victim took the capsules and after some time started to feel unwell. He was escorted to his hotel room by the suspect, who reportedly asked him to take two more capsules, which the victim did due to his trust in the suspect both as a friend and physician.

As a result of the medication, he lost consciousness, waking up next day at the hospital, where he was taken by his other friends when they discovered him unresponsive.

Although he had been drugged to a point where he lost consciousness, he still vaguely recalled someone touching him and decided to file a complaint

with the PJ.

The police investigation determined that he had been drugged with a soporific drug and that the suspect had spent about two hours with him in the room before he was discovered.

On April 10, when trying to enter the territory from Hong Kong, the suspect was intercepted at the Outer Harbor Ferry Terminal.

He confessed that he had touched the victim's body and tried to have sex with the victim, although he did not manage to do so. The suspect was charged by the Public Prosecution Office with the crime of sexual coercion.

In a separate case, on the morning of April 8, the mother of a 13-year-old girl reported the disappearance of her daughter,

who had not returned home for three days.

The mother suspected that she would be with a 17-year-old boy, the girl's boyfriend.

The investigation found the girl on the afternoon of the very same day at the boyfriend's house where he confessed that they had sexual relations.

The mother decided to press charges for child sexual abuse.

Mobile phone theft gets landlord in trouble

A theft of a mobile phone from a convenience store instigated an investigation with an unexpected outcome, the Public Security Police Force (PSP) reported during a press conference held yesterday.

The story started on the night of April 6 when a convenience store employee could not find his mobile phone in the shop and contacted the police.

Officers attended the call and went to the shop to verify the surveillance camera recordings, which showed two suspects who turned out to be two 30-year-old Mongolian men.

The next day, officers found a man with a similar appearance to one of the suspects, and intercepted him. During the investigation he was taken to the apartment where he lived, where the police officer found the other suspect from the recordings. In addition to that man, another man and a group of four women were found living in the house, all from Mongolia.

A further search of the apartment found clothes amongst the men's possessions that matched the ones in the video of the theft. This discovery led the suspect to admit his guilt in the theft case.

However, in an unexpected twist, the case did

not finish with the confession of the two men. The search of the apartment revealed many items in the room occupied by the four Mongolian women, including lots of clothing items, small jewelry and bijoux items that were suspected to have been stolen by the women, as well as several tools used for theft including handbags lined with foil (to mask alarm triggers), a powerful magnet and 15 anti-theft alarm devices usually used by shops to protect their products.

When questioned by the police, two of the four women, aged 28 and 30, confessed to having stolen the items and being in possession of stolen goods. Even further, one of the women was discovered to have overstayed her visa.

The investigation revealed that the house was rented by a Chinese man to one of the Mongolian men, who was sub-renting it to his fellow Mongolian citizens at a daily rate of HKD300.

The two men and two women were formally charged with theft. One of the women was also charged with illegally remaining in the territory, and the landlord was charged with the crime of providing accommodation to an illegal person. The case was also referred to the Macau Government Tourism Office on suspicion of hosting illegal lodgers.

ENTERTAINMENT

'Shrek The Musical' to arrive in Macau

SHREK The Musical" will take to the stage in Macau as part of its first international tour. The play is based on the Oscar-winning DreamWorks Animation film that tells the story of an ogre who embarks on a mission to rescue a feisty princess. The English-language production will play at the Venetian Theater from July 22 to August 7.

"Shrek The Musical" features a story and lyrics by Pulitzer Prize winner David Lindsay-Abaire ("Rabbit Hole," "Good People"), music by Olivier Award-winner Jeanine Tesori. It is choreographed by Chris Bailey and directed by Stephen Sposito, who served as associate director for the Broadway revival of "How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying."

"We are so excited to bring this musical to Macau, as part of our entertainment strategy to bring international shows to



the region. It reaffirms our commitment to offer entertainment for all ages and this show will appeal to both adults and chil-

dren alike," said Dave Horton, global chief marketing officer of Las Vegas Sands Corp. and Sands China Ltd.

Jeep[®]

EVERYWHERE
STARTS FROM HERE

*ADVENTURE FUELED BY
THE POWER WITHIN*
WRANGLER

A tough, authentic legend born to rule the trails and the open road, the Wrangler is made to make every day behind the wheel a thrilling adventure.



* about the picture may be different from Macau specifications

Xin Kang Tai Auto Parts & Motor Seviles Limited
Showroom: Advenida do Dr. Francisco Vieira Machado, No. 459, Edifcaio Industrial Nam Fung, R/C, C-D, Macau

Tel : 2871 7762



Find us on
"Jeep Macau"



BBAM
澳門英國商會
British Business Association of Macao

**Business Luncheon on Thursday 21st April
with Guest Speaker: Ms. Queenie Wong**

GM of Marketing at Hengqin FTZ Business Development Centre and Merchants President of Hengqin Development Ltd. Liability Company.

Hengqin: Time to Invest?

Hengqin now has a clear value proposition for foreign investors based on its status as China's second Free Trade Zone, its infrastructure and location. Featured industries include tourism, cultural and creative industries, financial services, business services, hi-tech, healthcare, science and education.

In this session Ms. Queenie Wong will present what Hengqin offers today and will invite you to be part of the city's tomorrow.



Venue: The Vista, Level 3

MGM MACAU

12.30: Drinks

12.55 pm: Lunch

1.30 pm: Presentation by Queenie Wong

2.30 pm: Close

Strict No-Show/Late Cancellation Policy applies for this event

BBAM/ Members – MOP/HKD 400

Non-Members – MOP/HKD 600

Deadline to book Friday 15th April

RSVP

bbam@britchammacao.org or phone +853 8798 9697



C&C LAWYERS
C&C 律師事務所



合伙人 PARTNERS:

官樂怡 Rui José da Cunha • 山度士 Álvaro Rodrigues • 馬天龍 Nuno Sardinha da Mata • 趙魯 Zhao Lu ••

聯營律師 ASSOCIATES:

馬傑安 João N. Marques
高文軒 Adelino Correia •
羅善齡 Zelina Rodrigues
馬德龍 Nuno L. Martins
白秀蘭 Susana Batalha
杜慧盈 Rita Andorinho
馬潔冰 Maria J. Marques
陶義德 António I. Azeredo

白穎怡 Iclia Berenguel
洗玲鳳 Mariana A. Esteves
薛明恩 Maria A. Giestas
飛嘉華 Carlos S. Ferreira
黃保毅 Wong Pou Ngai, Karen
杜力信 Nelson de Azevedo
宋哲言 João Gonçalves Assunção
羅桃 Luo Tao, Elina
巴慧雅 Vera Bastos
曹樂萌 Cao Lemeng, Rui

莫永誠 Rui Velez de Moura

實習律師 TRAINEE LAWYERS:

楊越華 leong Ut Wa
羅成軒 José J. Rodrigues
歐文傑 Miguel Evanisto
王洋玲 Ema Wong
陳祖恩 Joana Chan
顏曉蓉 Teresa, Xiaorong Yan

• 私人公證員 Notary Public • 中國委託公證人 China Appointed Attesting Officer



WWW.CCADVOG.COM
TEL: (853) 2837 2642 / 2837 2623



Help, please save me! Thermomix will save you!



Save Money

Save on your grocery bills by swapping expensive pre-packaged items for 'whole' foods and pantry staples. Plus, Thermomix has an advanced heating system that cooks with minimized energy consumption, so you can enjoy savings on your household bills!

Save Time

Thermomix gives you more time to enjoy life! Thermomix reduces preparation time by finely chopping ingredients in seconds. Its versatility means that while Thermomix gently cooks and stirs your food, you're left free for other things.

Save Space

Less is more. Thermomix brings together 12 different functions in one compact unit. The ergonomic design means anyone can master it, from young children just starting out to experienced cooks. With Thermomix you won't only taste the difference, you'll feel it too. Please contact us for a free demo:

Tong Jia de Ramirez
Phone Number : +853 6668 1771.

HNA agrees to buy airline caterer Gategroup for USD1.5 billion

CHINESE conglomerate CHNA Group Co. agreed to buy Swiss airline catering company Gategroup Holding AG for 1.4 billion francs (USD1.5 billion), as billionaire Chen Feng continues on an acquisition spree of aviation assets around the world.

Shareholders would get 53 francs a share as well as the previously declared 30 centimes per share dividend, HNA said in a statement yesterday. The offer price is about 20 percent more than the closing price Friday.

The acquisition builds on the airline and aviation assets the hotels-to-supermarkets conglomerate has made from Brazil to Switzerland. Private companies in China are starting to rival state-owned enterprises in heeding the government's call to go global. Chinese buyers have announced plans to spend more than \$77 billion this year through February, according to data compiled by Bloomberg.

Upon completion of the public tender offer, HNA intends to delist Gategroup, according to the statement.

Shares in Gategroup rose 0.8 percent to 44.10 francs on April 8. They are little changed this year.

The Swiss company's directors unanimously supported the offer, according to the statement. Credit Suisse Group AG acted as the financial adviser and Homburger AG as legal adviser to Gategroup, according to the statement. UBS Group AG is acting as financial adviser to HNA. **Bloomberg**

Yuan advances for third day as producer prices signal recovery

THE yuan strengthened for a third day as the first monthly increase in China's factory gate prices since 2013 added to signs of an improving economy and easing capital-outflow pressures.

The producer price index accelerated 0.5 percent in March versus the previous month, and narrowed its decline on a yearly basis, according to data released yesterday. Consumer inflation rose 2.3 percent from a year earlier, matching February's pace. The figures come after data last week showed a surprise increase in the nation's foreign-exchange reserves on reduced depreciation expectations and slower capital outflows.

"The producer price index is clearly signaling an improvement in real economic activities," said Gao Qi, a Hong Kong-based currency strategist at Scotiabank. "A question re-



mains on how long the recovery will sustain, but at least for now, things look bright."

The yuan rose 0.04 percent to 6.4654 a dollar as of 12:05 p.m. in Shanghai after climbing as high as 6.4637, according to China Foreign Exchange Trade System prices. The People's Bank of China raised the daily reference rate by 0.13 percent, the most in more than a week, to 6.4649. The currency traded offshore in Hong Kong gained 0.04 percent to 6.4761, according to data compiled by Bloom-

berg.

A Bloomberg replica of the CFETS RMB Index, which tracks the yuan against 13 exchange rates, fell to 97.5, the lowest level since November 2014. The official gauge, which is released on a weekly basis, dropped to 97.6 on April 8, the lowest since the CFETS began releasing the data in November. The Bloomberg Dollar Spot Index capped a second weekly retreat on Friday.

"The weakness in the yuan against the basket of currencies is mainly due to the dollar's de-

cline," said Gao. "If the People's Bank of China has to keep the yuan stable against the basket as it claims, then it has to keep the yuan's appreciation less than other currencies."

ING Groep NV and Commonwealth Bank of Australia, the two best forecasters in Bloomberg rankings last quarter, both expect the yuan to appreciate by year-end and predict the nation to be an anchor for its neighbors through the rest of this year, driving gains in their currencies.

The yield on government bonds due January 2026 rose one basis point to 2.91 percent, according to National Interbank Funding Center prices. The cost of one-year interest-rate swaps, the fixed payment to receive the floating seven-day repurchase rate, was unchanged at 2.35 percent, according to data compiled by Bloomberg.

Increasing signs of an economic rebound have prompted economists to lower their forecasts for further monetary easing, including for cuts to interest rates and lenders' reserve requirement ratios. Australia & New Zealand Banking Group Ltd. expects the PBOC to be less aggressive in providing stimulus after yesterday's inflation report and is now predicting only one further reduction in the reserve ratios this year, instead of three.

Bloomberg

Spanish, Angolan rivals reach deal over Portuguese bank

THE Lisbon stock exchange suspended trading in shares in Banco Portugues do Investimento as the market awaited details yesterday of a takeover agreement between the bank's Spanish and Angolan shareholders.

Spain's Caixabank, S.A., which owns 44 percent of the Portuguese bank, has for more than a year been negotiating to buy the 18.6 percent stake held by Angolan businesswoman Isabel dos Santos after European banking authorities ordered Portugal's second-largest listed bank to lower its

exposure to Angola.

Banco BPI, as the bank is known, said in a statement yesterday its two major shareholders had clinched a deal, with details being made public in coming days.

Caixabank is widely expected to launch a bid for other BPI shares it doesn't own in the latest move toward consolidation in the Iberian banking sector, which is being encouraged by European supervisors keen to strengthen the industry. The International Monetary Fund said this month the Portuguese banking sector is

"hobbled by low profitability and poor asset quality."

Dos Santos is a daughter of longtime Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos and is one of Africa's most successful businesswomen. Analysts predict she will get a controlling stake in Banco de Fomento Angola, where BPI has a 50.1 percent stake.

BPI's announcement came on the last day of a deadline from the European Central Bank to reduce its Angolan bank assets. The ECB regards Angolan banking supervision as poor. **AP**

corporate bits

MELCO CROWN WELCOMES LOCAL DESIGN STUDENTS TO STUDIO CITY

Melco Crown Entertainment recently offered a behind-the-scenes tour of Studio City to students from the School of Arts at the Macao Polytechnic Institute.

Twenty-six lecturers and students majoring in design toured the 5,000-seat Studio City Event Center and the House of Magic, unlocking the secrets of the magic show from backstage. According to a press release, the delegation was briefed on the design, construction and operation of the Batman Dark Flight, the world's first flight simulation ride based on the "Batman" franchise. The tour concluded at the Golden Reel, the



world's highest figure-eight Ferris wheel.

As a keen supporter of promoting the creative and entertainment industries in the city, the company is proud to showcase these attractions to the local community, aiming to inspire local talent.

ST. REGIS MACAO CELEBRATED IN TTG CHINA TRAVEL AWARDS

The St. Regis Macao, Cotai Central was awarded the "Best New Hotel in Macao" at the Ninth Annual TTG China Travel Awards 2016 in Shanghai.

The St. Regis features 400 guestrooms and suites, ranging in size from 53 to 477 square meters. According to a press release, the hotel also celebrates Macao's reputation as a world-class gastronomic destination through its restaurant, The Manor, and offers the signature St. Regis Butler Service to all guests, a first for any hotel in Macao, providing a 24-hour anticipatory service.

The TTG China Travel Awards ceremony is a TTG Travel Trade Publishing Event organized by TTG China and



held annually in Shanghai. The TTG China Travel Awards have been recognizing the best of Greater China's travel industry since 2008. This prestigious annual event honors stellar travel suppliers in the region, including airlines, hotels and resorts, serviced residences and travel services.

CEM TO HOLD CAMP TO PROMOTE ENERGY SAVING

CEM is set to hold an "Experience Life without Electricity Camp" for the first time this August, targeting youngsters to help them understand the importance of conserving energy.

A press release stated that activities at the camp would include learning how power is generated, learning about local generation, visiting the facilities of CEM and learning ways to deal with power outages.

The activity, co-organized by the Scout Association of Macao, the Women's General Association and the Youth Center of Macao Federation of Trade Unions, invites local full-time secondary school students in forms four to six to attend in teams of five to six people.



All participants will have the chance to win awards, with cash prizes of MOP4,000, MOP2,000 and MOP1,000. Other awards include the "Best Teamwork Award" and the "Loving Care Award", whose winners will receive round-trip tickets for two to Taiwan for the former, and two sets of Hong Kong Disneyland tickets plus round-trip jetfoil tickets for the latter award.

Teresa Cerojano, Manila

WORLD BANK REPORT

East Asian growth to remain over 6pct in 2016 despite China slowdown

GROWTH in developing East Asia and the Pacific is expected to remain resilient despite the slowdown in China and a gloomy global outlook, the World Bank said yesterday.

The U.S.-led development bank forecasts that developing East Asia will expand at a still robust pace of 6.3 percent this year and 6.2 percent in 2017-2018, down from 6.5 percent in 2015 and slightly lower than its forecast in October. The Philippines and Vietnam will lead growth in Southeast Asia.

Indonesia, the biggest economy in Southeast Asia, is forecast to grow by 5.1 percent in 2016, 5.3 percent in 2017, and 5.5 percent in 2018. But that will depend on the success of recent reforms and follow-through on ambitious public investment plans.

China, the world's second-biggest economy, is shifting from export and investment-led growth to a greater reliance on consumer spending. The World Bank's latest estimate puts growth at 6.7 percent this year, 6.5 percent in 2017, and 6.2 percent in 2018, down from 6.9 percent in 2015.

"The resilience of growth of the economies in this region is particularly striking when you realize that this has been achieved against the backdrop of fairly gloomy global growth," said Sudhir Shetty, the bank's chief economist for East Asia and the Pacific region.

But he cautioned that "it's a very volatile time for the global



A worker takes his break on a bulldozer parked near a construction site at the Central Business District of Beijing

economy."

In 2015, developing East Asia and the Pacific accounted for almost two-fifths of global growth, more than twice the combined contribution of all other developing regions, said Victoria Kwakwa, incoming World Bank East Asia and Pacific Regional Vice President. The 14-country region includes China but excludes India, Japan, South Korea and Singapore.

"The region has benefited from careful macroeconomic policies, including efforts to boost revenue in commodity-exporting countries," she said. "But sustaining growth amid challenging global conditions will require continued progress on structural reforms."

The report called for close monitoring of economic risks, particularly those associated with high levels of debt, pri-

ce deflation, slower growth in China, and high corporate and household debt in some large economies.

China reported yesterday that its inflation remained steady at 2.3 percent in March, while wholesale prices paid by manufacturers, the producer price index, dropped 4.3 percent. To counter that deflationary trend, authorities plan to eliminate much of the country's excess

factory capacity, especially in the steel sector.

The World Bank report urged China to continue reforms of its restrictive household-registration system, and to shift public spending from infrastructure toward public services including education, health, social assistance and environmental protection.

Elsewhere in developing Asia, the World Bank said the Philippine economy was expected to expand 6.4 percent in 2016, up from 5.8 percent last year. Vietnam is seen growing 6.5 percent this year, down from 6.7 percent last year.

The Southeast Asian economies most likely to be adversely affected by China's tapering growth include Indonesia, Mongolia, Malaysia, Vietnam, Laos and Myanmar.

Cambodia's growth is forecast at slightly below 7 percent in 2016-2018 due to weaker prices for agricultural commodities, constrained garment exports, and moderating growth in tourism.

"Countries should adopt monetary and fiscal policies that reduce their exposure to global and regional risks, and continue with structural reforms to boost productivity and promote inclusive growth," said Shetty. **AP**

ECONOMY

Stocks climb most this month as commodity shares advance

CHINA'S stocks rose the most this month, led by commodity producers and financial companies, amid signs of a pick-up in industrial demand.

The Shanghai Composite Index climbed 1.6 percent, with a gauge of materials shares closing at a three-month high. The nation's producer prices increased 0.5 percent last month from February, the first gain since September 2013, official data showed yesterday. Inflation was 2.3 percent in March versus a year earlier, unchanged from the previous month's gain.

The increase in producer prices adds to evidence of a stabilization in the world's second-biggest

economy, including central bank data released last week showing an unexpected rise in foreign-exchange reserves. China also announced plans late Friday to ease risk-management curbs on brokerages in the latest sign that regulators are gradually normalizing policy measures since last summer's USD5 trillion stock-market rout.

"The producer-price index number has delivered a signal that the economy is picking up and the consumer-price index is also acceptable as long as it doesn't accelerate too fast," said Wu Kan, a fund manager at JK Life Insurance in Shanghai. He said the China Securities Regulatory Commission's

plans to reduce the net capital ratio for brokerages would be positive for equities.

The Shanghai Composite closed at 3,033.96, after declining 0.8 percent last week, while the CSI 300 Index added 1.4 percent. Hong Kong's Hang Seng China Enterprises Index advanced 1.2 percent and the Hang Seng Index rose 0.4 percent for a fourth day of gains, the longest winning streak since December.

Steelmakers led commodity producers higher, with a sub-index of material stocks jumping 2.5 percent as the biggest gainer among the CSI 300's industry groups. Wuhan Iron & Steel Co. and Xiamen Tungsten Co. both

rose by the 10 percent daily limit, while Baoshan Iron & Steel Co. climbed 6.4 percent.

Producer price declines narrowed to 4.3 percent year-on-year from a drop of 4.9 percent in February. Food prices jumped 7.6 percent. While some price gains may be seasonal and therefore temporary, a property recovery and rebound in commodity prices suggests the worst of the deflation threat may be in the past.

The CSRC's move to ease curbs on brokerages comes amid a rebound in the Shanghai Composite, which jumped 12 percent in March, halting two months of declines. The easing will release funds



for brokerages to develop capital-intensive businesses such as securities lending and margin financing that helped fuel the stock market bubble last year.

Under the proposed changes, the ratio of minimum net assets to debt at brokerages will be cut to 10 percent from 20 percent while the ratio of net capital to net assets will be lowered to 20 percent from 40 percent,

Zhang Xiaojun, a CSRC spokesman, said Friday. Brokerages will only need to fulfill one leverage requirement in future from two previously, the spokesman said.

Sealand Securities Co. paced gains among brokerages yesterday, climbing 6.5 percent. Citic Securities Co. added 2.7 percent in Shanghai and Haitong Securities Co. advanced 2 percent. **Bloomberg**

opinion

Views on China

Christopher Balding, Bloomberg

HOW BAD IS CHINA'S DEBT PROBLEM, REALLY?

For months now, China's regulators have been warning about the dangers of rapidly expanding credit and the need to deleverage. With new plans to clean up bad loans at the country's banks, you might conclude that the government is getting serious about the risks it faces.

But there's reason to doubt the effectiveness of China's approach. In fact, it's running a serious risk of making its debt problems worse.

After the financial crisis, China embarked on a credit binge of historical proportions. In 2009, new loans grew by 95 percent. The government offered cheap credit to build apartments for urban migrants, airports for the newly affluent and roads to accommodate a fleet of new cars.

Yet as lending grew at twice the rate of gross domestic product, problems started bubbling up. Companies gained billion-dollar valuations, then collapsed when they couldn't profit. Enormous surplus capacity drove down prices. Excessive real-estate lending led to the construction of "ghost cities." Asset bubbles popped and bad loans mounted.

China's policy makers say they recognize these problems. The government's most recent five-year plan, released in December, notes the need for deleveraging. The People's Bank of China has talked up the party line about slowing credit growth and making high-quality loans.

Yet officials still say that only about 1.6 percent of commercial-banking loans are nonperforming. Some analysts put the real figure closer to 20 percent. And Beijing's primary plan to address the problem — allowing companies to swap their debt with banks in exchange for equity — actually creates new risks.

For one thing, while a debt-for-equity swap may help excessively indebted firms, it will wreak havoc with banks. Directly, a given bank will no longer receive the cash flow from interest and principal payments. Indirectly, it won't be able to sell equity to the PBOC or to other banks as it could with a loan.

Valuing the equity could present a bigger problem. In China, banks must count 100 percent of loans made to non-financial companies against their reserve requirements. When they invest in equity, however, they must set aside 400 percent of the value of the investment. If the debt isn't worth face value to the bank, it seems unlikely that the equity is worth far more — suggesting that large write-downs will be required.

The swaps program also creates a number of big-picture problems. Consider the tight relationship between banks and large government-linked companies. If banks were under pressure to roll over loans when they were creditors hoping to get repaid, what will their incentive be when they own the firm and have essentially unlimited lending capacity?

Another problem is that Chinese industry exists in a deflationary debt spiral: Prices have been falling for years, raising the real cost of repaying loans. If companies are relieved of their debt, they'll have an incentive to reduce prices to gain market share, thus worsening one of the primary causes of the current malaise.

All this leads one to think that the government doesn't recognize the severity of the problem. Debt-for-equity swaps and loan rollovers simply aren't long-term solutions for ailing companies on the scale China faces.

While the government will probably approve a 1 trillion yuan plan to address bad debts, for instance, this should only be considered a down payment: Solving the problem will likely require recapitalizing the banks. Likewise, if failing firms are relieved of their debts but allowed to stay in business, it will only perpetuate the problems of excess capacity and moral hazard. Until firms are allowed to fail, they'll keep coming back, hats in hand, asking for more bailouts — thus increasing the debt and ultimately the cost of restructuring.

In short, China needs to face up to its debt addiction. It was able to outgrow a similar problem a decade ago. It's unlikely to catch lightning in a bottle twice.

BLOOMBERG



Panel hears first transgender discrimination case

A Chinese arbitration panel held a hearing yesterday in what is believed to be the country's first transgender employment discrimination case, according to the lawyer in the case.

A ruling by the Yunyan district labor dispute board in the southern city of Guiyang would be issued later in the case of his client, who has identified himself only as Mr. C, Huang Sha told The Associated Press by telephone.

C, 28, sued for compensation and an apology after being fired from his job at a medical services company because, although born a woman, he dressed like a man.

The case comes amid growing awareness of les-

bian, gay, bisexual and transgender issues in China, where society and the government have generally frowned on non-traditional expressions of gender and sexuality.

While homosexuality is not illegal in China, the country's LGBT movement is still in its infancy

While homosexuality is not illegal in China, the country's LGBT movement is still in its infancy and it is rare for same-sex couples to live openly as such.

Tomorrow a court in the central city of Changsha is scheduled to hold a hearing in the country's first

same-sex marriage case. The couple are suing the local government for refusing to register their marriage despite a lack of any stipulation that they must be of the opposite gender.

China doesn't legally recognize same-sex marriage and officials with the central government have said they do not see the law changing soon.

Members of China's legislature, the National People's Congress, have drafted anti-employment

discrimination legislation that would include references to gender identity, but the draft has so far garnered support from just 36 of the almost 3,000 congress delegates, according to media reports.

In an interview with the newspaper Guizhou Metropolitan, C. said he had not listed his gender when applying for a sales job with the medical services company in April 2015. "Moreover, they knew about my special gender situation," he said.

However, after only a week, C said he was told he was being fired because his expression of gender "did not conform to traditional notions."

"My sales job performance was in no way negatively affected by appearance. To fire me for this reason is to discriminate against me," C said.

C and Huang are asking for a week's salary plus another month in compensation.

Company officials have declined to speak with the media about the case, citing the ongoing arbitration process. **AP**

Authorities said to probe Nanjing peer-to-peer lender

CHINESE regulators are investigating Nanjing Easy Richness Financial Information Service Co., a regional peer-to-peer lender that has raised at least 10 billion yuan (USD1.6 billion) from investors, people familiar with the matter said.

The firm's branch in Shaoxing was checked by authorities last week and the probe may be extended to other outlets, said the people, who asked not to be identified as they aren't authorized to speak publicly. The probes don't mean the firm violated any rules, according to the people.

Easy Richness hadn't received any notice from regulators regarding an extended probe, said an official at the firm, who declined to be named, citing company policy.

Authorities had made a routine check on its Shaoxing branch, the company said in a statement on its official Wechat account on Sunday. It also denied a China Business Journal report, which claimed there was a discrepancy between details provided by the company on its projects and U.S. partner and information in public records in the U.S.

and China.

China has tightened regulations on thousands of online peer-to-peer lenders as failed platforms and suspected fraud highlight risks within a booming industry. The number of so-called "problematic platforms" rose to 1,523 as of March 31, accounting for 38 percent of the total, according to Yingcan Group, which tracks the data. Just 126 new platforms were established in the three months through March, down from 410 in the previous quarter, the data showed. **Bloomberg**

A colonel from North Korea's military spy agency fled to South Korea last year in an unusual case of a senior-level defection, Seoul officials said yesterday.

The announcement came three days after Seoul revealed that 13 North Koreans working at the same restaurant in a foreign country had defected to the South. It was the largest group defection since Kim Jong Un, North Korea's young leader, took power in late 2011. South Korean media reported that the restaurant is located in the eastern Chinese city of Ningbo.

Defections are a bitter source of contention between the rival Koreas, and Seoul doesn't always make the high-profile cases public. Liberal lawmakers and media outlets have linked the recent defection announcements to what they say is an attempt by the conservative government of South Korean President Park Geun-hye to muster anti-Pyongyang votes ahead of this week's parliamentary elections. The government denied this.

The colonel who defected worked for the North Korean military's General Reconnaissance

KOREAS

Seoul: Senior North military officer defects to South



A man watches a TV news program showing file footage of North Korean leader Kim Jong Un at Seoul Railway Station in Seoul

Bureau before fleeing to South Korea, according to Seoul's Defense and Unification

ministries. Both ministries refused to provide further details, including a motive for the de-

fection.

The Unification Ministry said that a North Korean diplomat

based in Africa separately defected to South Korea last year. It didn't elaborate.

The reconnaissance agency was believed to be behind two deadly attacks blamed on Pyongyang that killed 50 South Koreans in 2010.

There have been occasional reports of lower-level North Korean soldiers defecting, but it is unusual for a colonel to flee to the South.

The highest-level North Korean who took asylum in South Korea is Hwang Jang-yop, a senior ruling Workers' Party official who once tutored Kim's late dictator father, Kim Jong Il. Hwang's 1997 defection was hailed by many South Koreans as an intelligence bonanza and a clear sign that the North's political system was inferior to the South's. Hwang died in 2010.

More than 29,000 North Koreans have defected to South Korea since the end of the 1950-53 Korean War, according to South Korean government records. Many defectors have testified that they wanted to avoid the North's harsh political system and poverty. Pyongyang usually accuses Seoul of enticing North Korean citizens to defect. AP

THAILAND

Forget the drought, national water fight is on

Jocelyn Gecker, Bangkok

DROUGHT? What drought? Bring out the water guns!

Thailand may be going through its driest period in 20 years, but the country's military government wants visitors from around the globe to know that the biggest water fight in the world is still on.

So, get your buckets, hoses and other gear ready for the three-day nationwide street party that begins tomorrow to mark the Thai New Year.

"We can still use water for the new year festival. It's not that dry," said government spokesman Sansern Kaewkamnerd. The government has instructed the Tourism Ministry to make sure foreign tourists don't misunderstand the severity of the drought and cancel holiday plans out of concerns the water supply will be cut off, he said.

After all, there are millions of dollars at stake.

The Tourism Authority of Thailand expects this year's holiday to generate more than 15 billion baht (USD427 million) for the tourism sector and attract half a million visitors in a



A Thai woman splashes water on people from the back of a truck during the Songkran water festival to celebrate the Thai New Year in Bangkok

span of five days.

Songkran, as the festival is known, has the spirit of a soggy Mardi Gras and is a major tourist attraction. Revelers line the streets, or prowl the roads in pickup trucks, armed with water guns and plastic bowls, and douse anyone in sight. Some areas are closed to traffic for wet and wild street parties with loud music, booze and dancing.

Rare controversy has preceded this year's water fight, with environmentalists and other critics calling for festivities to be curtailed.

"Instead of mindlessly wasting water, New Year revelers should be mindful of the crushing drou-

ght," The Nation newspaper said in an editorial last week calling for "a dry Songkran" to show solidarity with the country's farmers.

Twenty-seven of Thailand's 77 provinces have been declared drought zones, with the lowest level of rainfall in more than two decades. Farmers have been ordered to curtail their water use and scale back planting. Tap-water rationing is in effect in some provinces.

And yet Thailand's military government is playing down the dry spell and says it is powerless to crimp such a popular national holiday.

"As the prime minister has said, Songkran brings

happiness to the Thai people, and canceling it would be too difficult," Sansern said.

A ban would also be hugely unpopular both with Thais and tourists.

In past promotions, the tourism authority has played up the party scene, urging tourists "to get wet and wild" and "be part of the largest street water fight the world has to offer." In 2011, the tourism authority used the holiday to organize a Guinness World Record attempt for the world's largest water pistol fight, drawing more than 3,400 people to a 10-minute shootout in central Bangkok.

The prime minister, a former general who has dictatorial powers after toppling a civilian government in 2014, has bristled at the notion of canceling Songkran.

"I will not ban water throwing, that's impossible," Prayuth Chan-ocha, the prime minister, said in response to a proposal for government controls on holiday water use. He added dismissively, "Parents should teach their children to use less water and not splash it around for three days and three

nights."

Prayuth is calling for strict measures this year during the festivities, but not related to water rationing. The junta is putting a damper on dancing and indecent attire, saying specifically that women and transgenders who show too much skin will face arrest.

"I have told officials, police and soldiers that there should be no women — or transgender women — dressed provocatively or dancing on the backs of trucks," Prayuth said. "If they do, they will be arrested."

Environmentalists say the government should get its priorities straight.

"The government should tell people the truth, that the drought is bad. They should not try to cover up the truth," said Smith Thammasaroj, chairman of the Foundation of National Disaster Warning Council. "If people keep thinking we have enough water, it could badly hurt agriculture and farmers."

"They shouldn't worry about clothing and covering up the body," he said. "They should worry about the drought."

Some cities, including

Bangkok, have taken it upon themselves to dilute this year's festivities.

Bangkok city hall has ordered a 9 p.m. curfew on water fights and is trying to keep the festival to three days, excluding the weekend — measures that it says will save 5 billion liters (1.3 billion gallons) of water.

Wanlop Suwandee, the chief adviser to Bangkok's governor, made a highly publicized proposal that partygoers put down their guns and instead use handheld spray bottles, the kind used on indoor plants to make leaves wet.

The idea struck many as laughable in a city where water guns are not mere pistols, but large pump machine guns often with water storage tanks worn as backpacks.

Krit Pongchaiassawin, a 22-year-old university student, said he had no plan to enter into battle firing a gentle mist.

"Are you kidding me?" said Krit, while shopping for a water gun at a Bangkok outdoor market. "I would get laughed off the street if I had a spray bottle. People would see that and just dump more water on me." AP

Bradley Klapper, Hiroshima

HIROSHIMA

Kerry makes gut-wrenching visit to site of A-bomb

A gut-wrenched John Kerry said Hiroshima's horrible history should teach humanity to avoid conflict and strive to eradicate nuclear weapons as he became the first U.S. secretary of state to tread upon the ground of the world's first atomic bombing.

Kerry's emotional visit yesterday to the Japanese city included him touring its peace museum with other foreign ministers of the Group of Seven industrialized nations and laying a wreath at the adjoining park's stone-arched monument, with the exposed steel beams of Hiroshima's iconic A-Bomb Dome in the distance.

The U.S. attack on Hiroshima in the final days of World War II killed 140,000 people and scarred a generation of Japanese, while thrusting the world into the dangerous Atomic Age. But Kerry hoped his trip would underscore how Washington and Tokyo have forged a deep alliance over the last 71 years and how everyone must ensure that nuclear arms are never used again.

"While we will revisit the past and honor those who perished, this trip is not about the past," he told Japanese Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida, a Hiroshima native. "It's about the present and the future particularly, and the strength of the relationship that we have built, the friendship that we share, the strength of our alliance and the strong reminder of the imperative we all have to work for peace for peoples everywhere."

Kerry's appearance, just footsteps away from Ground Zero, completed an evolution for the



Japan's Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida (left), and U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry talk after offering wreaths at the cenotaph at Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park in Hiroshima

United States, whose leaders avoided the city for many years because of political sensitivities.

No serving U.S. president has visited the site, and it took 65 years for a U.S. ambassador to attend Hiroshima's annual memorial service. Many Americans believe the dropping of atomic bombs here on Aug. 6, 1945, and on the Japanese city of Nagasaki three days later were justified and hastened the end of the war.

Kerry didn't speak publicly at the ceremony, though he could

be seen with his arm around Kishida and whispering in his ear.

The otherwise somber occasion was lifted by the presence of about 800 Japanese schoolchildren waving flags of the G7 nations, including that of the United States. They cheered as the ministers departed with origami cranes in their national colors around their necks. Kerry was draped in red, white and blue.

Hours afterward, the top American diplomat still seemed to be

absorbing all that he saw.

"It is a stunning display, it is a gut-wrenching display," he told reporters of the museum tour, recounting exhibits that showed the bomb, the explosion, the "incredible inferno" and mushroom cloud that enveloped Hiroshima on August 6, 1945. "It tugs at all of your sensibilities as a human being. It reminds everybody of the extraordinary complexity of choices of war and what war does to people, to communities, countries, the world."

Kerry urged all world leaders to visit, saying: "I don't see how anyone could forget the images, the evidence, the recreations of what happened."

Japanese survivors' groups have campaigned for decades to bring leaders from the U.S. and other nuclear powers to see Hiroshima's scars as part of a grassroots movement to abolish nuclear weapons.

As Kerry expressed interest, neither Japanese government officials nor survivor groups pressed for the U.S. to apologize. And Kerry didn't say sorry.

"I don't think it is something absolutely necessary when we think of the future of the world and peace for our next generation," Masahiro Arimai, a 71-year-old Hiroshima restaurant owner, said of an apology.

Yoshifumi Sasaki, a 68-year-old, longtime resident, agreed: "We all want understanding."

Both wished for Obama to follow in Kerry's footsteps next month.

The president still hasn't made a decision about visiting Hiroshima and its memorial when he attends a Group of Seven meeting of leaders in central Japan in late May, and Kerry made no promises. During his first year in office, Obama said he would be "honored" to make such a trip.

"Everyone in the world should see and feel the power of this memorial," Kerry wrote in the museum's guest book. "It is a stark, harsh, compelling reminder not only of our obligation to end the threat of nuclear weapons, but to rededicate all our effort to avoid war itself."

"War must be the last resort — never the first choice," he added.

Wading into U.S. politics, both Kerry and his Japanese counterpart rejected Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump's recent suggestion that Japan consider developing its own nuclear weapons to defend itself against nuclear-armed North Korea.

Kishida said, "For us to attain nuclear weapons is completely inconceivable." AP

G-7 foreign ministers push nuclear disarmament in Hiroshima

FOREIGN ministers from the Group of Seven industrialized countries, meeting yesterday in the atomic-bombed Japanese city of Hiroshima, called for a renewed push for flagging nuclear disarmament efforts as they wrestled with some of the intractable global problems facing their nations.

A joint communique condemned the usual suspects: recent extremist attacks from Turkey and Belgium to Nigeria, Ivory Coast and Pakistan; North Korea's nuclear test and missile launches; and Russia's "illegal annexation" of the Crimean peninsula in Ukraine.

The international community used to share common values that main-

tained stability and prosperity, Japanese Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida said at a news conference.

"Today, the world is now facing challenges to change such common values and principles unilaterally, such as terrorism and violent extremism," he said.

On terrorism, the top diplomats from the U.S., Japan, Britain, Canada, France, Germany and Italy pledged to complete a G-7 action plan that the leaders of their nations can adopt at their summit in Japan's Ise-Shima region in late May.

U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry said it's essential to reduce the number of terrorists who may try to return home from Syria

and other areas. He also said it's key to stem the flow of refugees around the world.

"The refugee crisis demands a global response, and we all agreed on that here," he said.

A separate statement took aim at China's land reclamation in the South China Sea, where it is enmeshed in a series of overlapping territorial disputes with Southeast Asian nations.

"We express our strong opposition to any intimidating, coercive or provocative unilateral actions that could alter the status quo and increase tensions," the statement said, without mentioning China by name.

It also expressed concern

about the situation in the East China Sea, where Japan and China both claim some uninhabited islands.

Japan gave the issue of nuclear nonproliferation added significance by making Hiroshima the venue for the two-day foreign ministers meeting.

Kerry — the highest-ranking American official to visit Hiroshima since World War II — and the foreign ministers jointly laid flowers for the victims of the U.S. atomic bombing in 1945.

They issued two statements on nonproliferation, including a "Hiroshima Declaration" that calls on other political leaders to visit Hiroshima.

"In this historic meeting, we reaffirm our commit-



G7 foreign ministers walk together after placing wreaths at the cenotaph at Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park in Hiroshima

ment to [...] creating the conditions for a world without nuclear weapons," the declaration said.

The task is made more complex, it said, by the deteriorating security environment in countries such as Syria and Ukraine, as well as by North Korea's "repeated provocations."

The Hiroshima declaration aims to revitalize and restart the effort toward a nuclear-free world, which seems to have shrunk,

said Kishida, the Japanese foreign minister.

"To that end, it was significant that the G-7 ministers saw the reality of the atomic bombing," he said, noting that the group includes both nuclear and non-nuclear states. "It is crucial for both nuclear and non-nuclear weapons countries to cooperate and together raise awareness of what happens when nuclear weapons are used." AP

知得更多

KNOW
MORE
LIVE
BETTER

活得更好

MACAUCLOSER.COM

生活藝術雜誌 LIVING & ARTS MAGAZINE

follow us      available on  



D2 CLUB

WWW.D2CLUB-MACAU.COM

Macau Fisherman's Wharf, Edif. New Orleans III
澳門漁人碼頭新奧爾良館 III
Tel : (853) 2872 3777

MAGNUS SECURITY SERVICES

馬格納斯 保安 (澳門) 有限公司

License No. 5/2010

MAGNUS SECURITY (MACAU) LTD

Avenida Leste do Hipodromo N.S 25-69

Edif. Ind. Fok Tai, 12 floor "B", Macau SAR

Tel.: (853) 2822 1341

Fax.: (853) 2822 0824

MAGNUS SECURITY (MACAU) LTD MAGNUS SECURITY (MACAU) LTD MAGNUS SECURITY (MACAU) LTD MAGNUS SECURITY (MACAU) LTD MAGNUS SECURITY (MACAU) LTD MAGNUS SECURITY (MACAU) LTD MAGNUS SECURITY (MACAU) LTD



SECURITY SERVICES
全面保安服務
EVENTS SECURITY
活動場地保安
SPECIAL OPERATIONS
特別行動
SECURITY SYSTEMS
保安及安全系統
RISK ASSESSMENT &
RISK MITIGATION
風險評估及應對措施
SECURITY FORCE TRAINING
& EVALUATION
保安部隊訓練及評核

MAGNUS SECURITY (MACAU) LTD MAGNUS SECURITY (MACAU) LTD MAGNUS SECURITY (MACAU) LTD MAGNUS SECURITY (MACAU) LTD MAGNUS SECURITY (MACAU) LTD MAGNUS SECURITY (MACAU) LTD MAGNUS SECURITY (MACAU) LTD

www.magnus-security.net

"MAGNIFYING YOUR SECURITY"

contact@magnus-security.net

USA

Immigrant students blocked from enrolling in school, report says

Garance Burke, San Francisco

IMMIGRANT children living in the U.S. without legal status have been blocked from registering for school and accessing the educational services they need, according to a report on school districts in four states by Georgetown University Law Center researchers.

Such students have faced long enrollment delays and have been turned away from classrooms as the result of some districts' arbitrary interpretations of residency rules and state laws, the researchers said.

All children — including those living in the U.S. illegally— must attend school through at least the 8th grade or until they turn 16 under compulsory education laws in all 50 states. Many states allow students to enroll beyond that age, according to the Education Commission of the States.

But some districts' elaborate paperwork requirements effectively have kept immigrant youth out of school, while lack of translation and interpretation services have left their families uninfor-



Teacher Eddison James works with students at Liberty High School in Houston

med about the process, the report found.

The Obama administration's efforts to find and deport the tens of thousands of unaccompanied Central American children and families who arrived during the 2014 surge of illegal crossings have further complicated the situation, prompting some students to avoid school for fear that they will be picked up by authorities, the report's authors said.

"U.S. law is clear on this point — no child in the United States should be excluded from public education," said Mikaela Harris, a Georgetown law student who co-wrote the study issued

by the university's Human Rights Institute and the nonprofit Women's Refugee Commission. "That doesn't always play out in practice."

In May 2014, then-Education Secretary Arne Duncan issued joint guidance with the Justice Department reminding districts that a 1982 Supreme Court ruling gives all children the right to enroll in school, regardless of immigration status.

The report, which studied school districts in Florida, New York, Texas and North Carolina, calls for a strengthening of federal outreach to districts unaccustomed to serving newcomer po-

pulations and better assurances that educational access continues amid immigration enforcement.

Researchers said they had presented their recommendations to the Department of Education.

"We remain vigilant about our responsibility to protect the civil rights of all students, including immigrant students, undocumented students and unaccompanied immigrant students," Education Department spokeswoman Dorie Nolt said. "We have provided a number of resources to communities in order to do so."

The agency is committed to working with federal agencies and community organizations to address any issues, she added.

U.S. Immigration Customs and Enforcement spokesman Bryan Cox said he had not seen the report so could not comment on it, but said agency policy in general precludes any enforcement activity at schools and other sensitive locations.

The report analyzed barriers to education faced by the 775,000 children under the age of 18 estimated to be living in the United

States without legal permission, according to a Pew Research Center analysis of 2012 Census figures. Since fall 2013, more than 100,000 unaccompanied children from El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras also have sought refuge in the U.S. and have been placed in communities across the country after being apprehended at the border.

Researchers said an additional estimated 1.6 million school-aged immigrant children who were brought to the U.S. legally may live in mixed-status families and face similar barriers. Public school districts are entitled to request and vet paperwork to establish students' residency, but some have gone a step beyond, requiring immigration documents, researchers found.

"Under federal law, schools are not allowed to discriminate against children due to their racial or ethnic background," the report said. "And yet, some communities have barred immigrant children from enrolling or meaningfully participating in school by creating intentional and unintentional barriers." **AP**

PANAMA PAPERS

Law firm usurped name of Red Cross to hide money

MOSSACK Fonseca law firm routinely usurped the name of the Red Cross and other charities to help obscure the origin of millions of dollars in questionable funds, two newspapers involved in the investigation reported.

France's Le Monde and Switzerland's Le Matin Dimanche said the firm created dummy foundations with high-minded names such as the "Faith Foundation" to hold shares in around 500 offshore companies. The foundation's beneficiary was routinely listed as "the Red Cross," a designation which served the dual purposes of hiding the firms' real beneficiaries and of draping them in an "NGO aura," the papers wrote.

Mossack Fonseca didn't immediately return an email seeking comment, but a leaked email cited by the publications appeared to lay out the firm's reasoning.

"Given that banks and financial institutions are today asked to obtain information about economic beneficiaries, it has become difficult for us not to divulge the identity of those of the Faith Foundation's," the email said, according to the papers. "That's why we've implemented this structure designating the 'International Red Cross.' It's easier that way."

Another email cited by the papers suggests Mossack Fonseca deliberately kept the Red Cross in the dark about the maneuver. **AP**

Obama: 'No political influence' in Clinton email probe

PRESIDENT Barack Obama is guaranteeing that evidence, not politics, will dictate the outcome of the FBI's investigation into Hillary Clinton's handling of emails as secretary of state.

Obama's comments came during an appearance on "Fox News Sunday," his first as president with the cable TV news channel. Obama said he continues to believe Clinton didn't jeopardize America's national security with her private email server, but he added that "there's a carelessness in terms of managing emails" that she has recognized.

Obama said no one has suggested that Clinton's handling of government emails detracted in any way "from her excellent ability to carry out her duties." When asked specifically whether he can guarantee that Clinton will "not be in any way protected" during the course of the investigation, Obama said he maintains a strict line about not

talking to FBI directors about pending investigations.

"I guarantee that there is no political influence in any investigation conducted by the Justice Department, or the FBI, not just in this case, but in any case," Obama said during an interview that was taped during his visit to the University of Chicago School of Law, where he taught and aired on Sunday.

The FBI is investigating whether sensitive information that flowed through Clinton's email server was mishandled. The inspector generals for the State Department and U.S. intelligence agencies are separately investigating whether rules or laws were broken.

Obama touched on several issues during the interview, including the nomination of Merrick Garland to the Supreme Court and how he deals with the threat of terrorism.

— On Garland's nomination, Obama said he will stick with him through the

end of his term. "What I think we can't have, is a situation in which the Republican Senate simply says, 'Because it's a Democratic president, we are not going to do our job, have hearings, and have a vote,'" he said.

— On terrorism, Obama said he doesn't think Americans have made too much of the threat of terrorist attack. He also said he hasn't

let acts of terror disrupt some of his regular activities because it's important to communicate a message of resilience and "that we don't panic, that we don't fear."

— On what he most looks forward to when leaving office: "Being able to take a walk outside."

— On his best and worst day in office. Obama said the best was the day health insurance reform passed and the worst was the day he traveled to Newtown, Connecticut, after the massacre at the Sandy Hook elementary school. **AP**

PALESTINIANS HOPE FOR PRESIDENT CHANGE OF HEART WITH UN VOTE

WITH PRESIDENT

Barack Obama in his last months in office, the Palestinians are hoping he will follow up his historic breakthroughs with Iran and Cuba with a push for their cause as well. The first step is reintroducing a United Nations Security Council resolution the United States vetoed back in 2011 seeking "accountability" for Israeli West Bank settlement building.

In an interview, Palestinian Foreign Minister Riad Malki said the hope is that Obama, freed of re-election concerns, will break with American protocol and refrain from vetoing it this time around. "There are indications that President Barack Obama may try to put a basis for a new era regarding the Palestinian-Israeli issue before leaving the White House after his achievements in Iran and Cuba," Malki said.

what's ON



NO. 0528 PLANET

- HO CHEN HUNG SOLO EXHIBITION

TIME: 10am to 7pm (Mondays to Sundays)

UNTIL: April 30, 2016

VENUE: Flugent ART Gallery, Rua S. Paulo 54-58B

ADMISSION: free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2872 3428

"POST MODERN STILL LIFE" DRAWING & PAINTING
BY MARCO SZETO

OPENING HOURS: 10am-6:30pm

UNTIL: May 15, 2016

VENUE: CalcadaDaBarra, No. 16 R/C LJ A, Edif.

San Chak, Macau Admission with free ticket

ORGANIZER: Dare to Dream Gallery

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2896 2820

SOU PUI KUN'S WORK "MUSIC BOX"

IN EXHIBIT OF CONTEMPORARY SCULPTURE

TIME: 10am-7pm

(no admittance after 6:30 pm, closed on Mondays)

UNTIL: June 19, 2016

VENUE: The Handover Gifts Museum of Macau,

Av. Xian Xing Hai, s/n, NAPE

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8791 9814

PAINTINGS AND CALLIGRAPHY DONATED
BY JAO TSUNG-I

TIME: 10am-6pm Daily (No admission after 5:30

pm; Except on Mondays, open on public holidays)

VENUE: Avenida do Conselheiro Ferreira de

Almeida, No. 95 C-D, Macau

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2852 2523

ARTS IN THE MANDARIN'S HOUSE

TIME: 10am-6pm daily

(No admission after 5:30 pm, closed on
Wednesdays, opens on public holidays)

ADMISSION: free

VENUE: Travessa de António da Silva, No. 10

(near Lilau Square)

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2896 8820

WHERE THE WORLD HERITAGE SHINES

- PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION OF THE HISTORIC
CENTRE OF MACAU

TIME: 10am-8pm

UNTIL: April 16, 2016

VENUE: Old Court Building,

Avenida da Praia Grande, Macau

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8504 0802

Offbeat

DUBAI'S ISLAMIC AUTHORITIES
ISSUE FATWA AGAINST WiFi THEFT

Dubai's top religious authorities say that stealing WiFi from your neighbor would not be proper Islamic conduct.

That's according to a religious edict - known as a fatwa - from Dubai's Islamic Affairs & Charitable Activities Department. It was available online on the department's website yesterday as a response to a question asked by an anonymous reader.

The edict says: "There is nothing wrong in using the line if your neighbors allow you to do so, but if they don't allow you, you may not use it."

The fatwa matches others issued by other regional clerics in recent years.

Dubai's Islamic Affairs & Charitable Activities Department answers a variety of online questions. They range from prayers and religious matters to modern issues like cosmetic surgeries and illegally downloading movies.

TV canal macau

13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
17:35	Fillers
17:40	Trail of Lies (Repeated)
18:30	TDM Sport (Repeated)
19:30	Soap Opera
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	Non-Daily Portuguese News
21:10	TDM Interview
21:50	Happy Endings S3
22:10	Trail of Lies
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Drama
00:15	Fillers
00:20	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
00:50	RTPi Live

cinema

CINETEATRO

07 APR - 13 APR



THE HUNTSMAN: WINTER'S WAR_

ROOM 1

(2D) 2.30, 6.30, 9.30 pm

(3D) 7.30 pm

Director: Cedric Nicolas-Troyan

Starring: Chris Hemsworth, Charlize Theron,

Emily Blunt

Language: English (Cantonese)

Duration: 114min

BATMAN V SUPERMAN: DAWN OF JUSTICE_

ROOM 2

2.15, 7.00 pm

Director: Zack Snyder

Starring: Amy Adams, Jesse Eisenberg, Diane Lane

Language: English (Cantonese)

Duration: 153min

ZOOTOPIA_

ROOM 2

5.00, 9.45 pm

Director: Byron Howard, Rich Moore

Language: Cantonese (Cantonese/English)

Duration: 108min

TRIVISA_

ROOM 3

2.15, 4.00, 5.45, 9.30 pm

Director: Jevons Au, Frank Hui, Vicky Wong

Starring: Richie Jen, Jordan Chan, Ka Tung Lam

Language: Cantonese (Cantonese/English)

Duration: 97min

ZOOTOPIA_

ROOM 3

7.30 pm

Director: Byron Howard, Rich Moore

Language: Cantonese (Cantonese/English)

Duration: 108min

MACAU TOWER

24 MAR - 27 APR

BATMAN V SUPERMAN: DAWN OF JUSTICE_

1.15, 4.00, 6.45, 9.30 pm

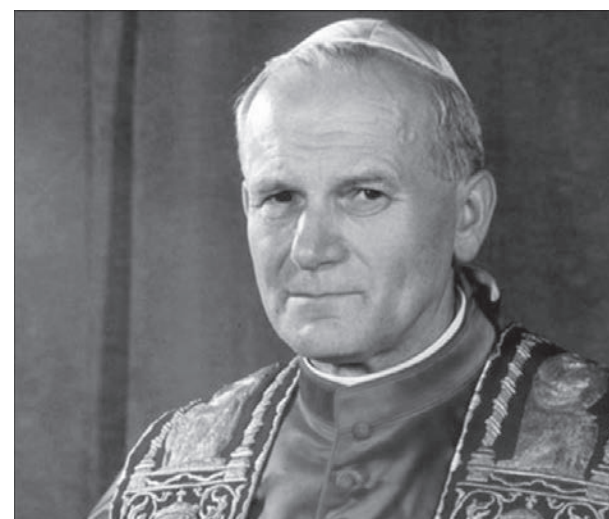
Director: Zack Snyder

Starring: Amy Adams, Jesse Eisenberg, Diane Lane

Language: English (Cantonese)

Duration: 153min

this day in history

1997 BOSNIAN BOMB PLOT FAILS
TO STOP POPE

The Pope arrived in the Bosnian capital, Sarajevo, this afternoon at the start of a two-day visit to the war-torn city undeterred by the discovery of a plan to kill him.

Just hours earlier Bosnian police found at least 20 anti-tank mines under a bridge on the road between the airport and the city - the route planned for the Pope and his entourage.

They found the explosives after a tip-off from a member of the public. He had seen someone acting suspiciously in the area, which had been checked by security forces only last night.

Roads near the bridge were closed while the bombs were taken away and defused.

A Vatican spokesman played down the incident and said the travel schedule would go-ahead as planned.

Pope John Paul II had wanted to visit Sarajevo at the height of the war in September 1994, when the city was under siege by Serbs. But the Serbs had said they could not guarantee his safety and the trip was cancelled.

Today at Sarajevo International Airport the frail pontiff was protected by an unprecedented number of police, as Nato helicopters circled over head.

He waved to crowds from the door of his plane, then made his way down the ramp to kiss a box filled with Bosnian soil.

The visit aims to ease tensions between, Orthodox Christians, Roman Catholic Croats and Muslims, living together in a federation created by the Dayton Peace Accord two years ago.

He preached reconciliation in Serbo-Croat, saying: "Never again war. Never again hatred and intolerance."

But Bosnia is still a deeply divided nation - so much so that Serbian and Croatian members of Bosnia's three-member presidency could not agree on a national anthem and none was played for the Pope's arrival.

Momlino Krajisnik, the Serbian member of the presidency, refused to attend the welcoming ceremony because, as an Orthodox Christian, he does not recognise the Pope.

But the Muslim member and chairman of the presidency, Alija Izetbegovic, was there to greet the Pope in "this martyr city".

He praised the pontiff for speaking out about Bosnia's suffering during the Balkan War that lasted 43 months.

The Pope then travelled by glass-topped, armoured Popemobile along the road once referred to as Sniper Alley waving to the faithful until he arrived at the Roman Catholic cathedral for Mass.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

Between 1992 and 1995 around 250,000 people died in the conflict between Bosnian Muslims, Croats and Serbs - part of the break-up of Yugoslavia. A Nato-led Stabilisation Force, S-For, remains responsible for safeguarding peace and stability. The Pope's visit in 1997 came in the wake of a series of tit-for-tat bombing attacks on Catholic churches and mosques.

The day after his arrival, he held a mass at the Kosevo sports stadium for about 40,000 people.

Once again security was extremely high with about 11,000 police on duty, snipers on rooftops and Nato helicopters flying overhead.

Apart from the tensions in the region, there was good reason for the tight security as there had already been one assassination attempt on the Pope in 1981, when he was shot and seriously wounded in St Peter's square.

Pope John Paul II died at 21:37 (19:37 GMT) on Saturday 2 April 2005 after he failed to recover from a throat operation due to breathing problems.

YOUR STARS

Aries
Mar. 21-Apr. 19
Patience just isn't doing the trick. Hard work pays off in the end, but in the mean time you could use a little advance. Ask for one in a direct manner, but be tactful, of course.

Taurus
April 20-May 20
You can indulge without being decadent. Know when to say you've had enough - of spending, of consuming, of living for the future, of whatever the issue of the day is. Go only so far and no further.

Gemini
May 21-Jun. 21
Thinking deeply has never been one of your better qualities. It's not even a hidden strength. But that's what it takes to figure out your finances these days. Put on your thinking cap.

Cancer
Jun. 22-Jul. 22
You need to surround yourself with the familiar. Being with friends and family or eating lunch at home are good scenarios for how you receive the financial news. Whether it's positive or negative is beside the point.

Leo
Jul. 23-Aug. 22
Being your own boss is proving to be quite a challenge. There's none of the appeal that you always dreamed about and all of the sweat and self discipline. Stick with it, though. Your money responds best to your touch.

Virgo
Aug. 23-Sept. 22
Your thoughts are on all things foreign, and not just currency. The travel bug has bitten you where it hurts. Stick with what's realistic, though. A dinner in a foreign restaurant is all you can afford.

Libra
Sep. 23-Oct. 22
You're looking for a money magnet when old fashioned hard work is a more realistic way of making gains. As long as you have a few creature comforts, the larger luxury items can wait.

Scorpio
Oct. 23 - Nov. 21
Don't indulge greedy feelings, even when it comes to people instead of objects. Do you really want someone in your life or would they just look good there? How would you feel if money weren't an issue?

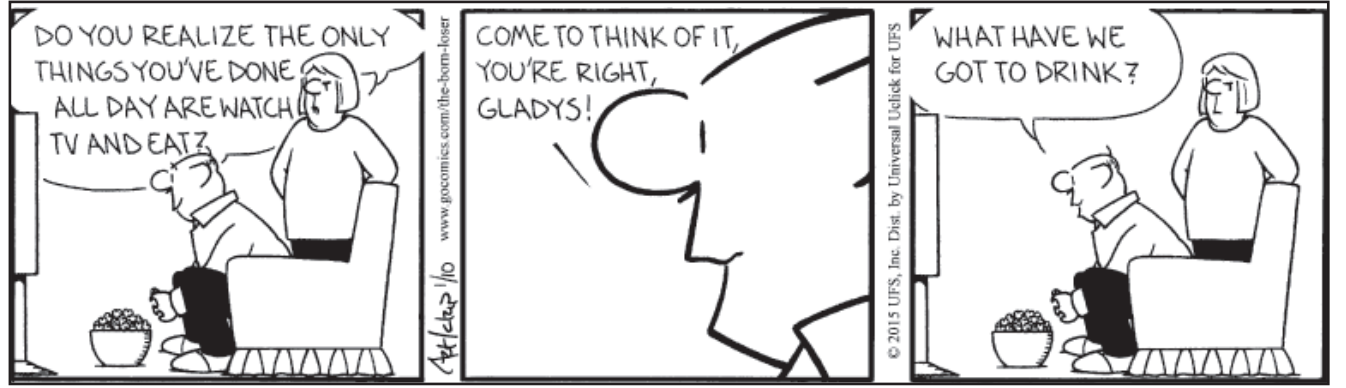
Sagittarius
Nov. 22-Dec. 21
Everyone thinks you're going to be their own personal bail out. Admit it, it feels sort of nice to be seen that way. And as long as it doesn't involve money, be happy to oblige, both yourself and them.

Capricorn
Dec. 22-Jan. 19
Being conscientious is a good thing but even you need some fun in your life. That doesn't mean you have to start letting bills slip behind the refrigerator, though. It's not an all or nothing thing.

Aquarius
Jan. 20-Feb. 18
Along with the belt tightening, you've picked up a few other changes, peculiarities among them. It's okay. Everyone has their little eccentricities. Consider yours war wounds of your financial battles.

Pisces
Feb. 19-Mar. 20
If no one is writing you love letters, then write one yourself. It doesn't matter whether it's to you, someone else or to the universe, as long as it uses beautiful words and doesn't mention money.

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Easy

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

Easy+

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

Medium

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

Hard

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

WEATHER

	MIN	MAX	CONDITION
CHINA			
Beijing	8	20	drizzle/cloudy
Harbin	2	7	cloudy/drizzle
Tianjin	9	20	drizzle
Urumqi	5	18	clear
Xi'an	15	27	cloudy
Lhasa	3	18	cloudy
Chengdu	14	24	moderate rain/cloudy
Chongqing	18	24	shower/moderate rain
Kunming	12	27	clear
Nanjing	14	24	overcast/cloudy
Shanghai	15	20	drizzle
Wuhan	15	25	cloudy
Hangzhou	14	24	shower/overcast
Taipei	21	28	cloudy/drizzle
Guangzhou	21	25	overcast/rain
Hong Kong	20	23	thundershower
WORLD			
Moscow	2	14	drizzle
Frankfurt	5	16	cloudy/drizzle
Paris	5	14	drizzle
London	5	16	drizzle/clear
New York	11	16	cloudy/drizzle

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- "The covers of this book are too far ____" à€" Bierce; 6- Flight of steps; 11- Grounded bird; 14- Big rigs; 15- Porcelain tableware; 16- Put on; 17- Come together; 18- Continental cash; 19- Baseball execs; 20- Forceps; 22- ___ de menthe; 24- Fine sheer fabric; 28- Roman general; 29- Yom Kippur observer; 30- ___ of Two Cities; 32- Hourglass filler; 33- Fighting; 35- Small amounts; 39- ... saw Elba; 40- Piece of cloth, tabloid newspaper; 41- Actor Lugosi; 42- Round object, often used to store computer data; 43- Analyze a sentence; 45- Russian range; 46- Open-mouthed; 48- Bigot; 50- Mail-related; 53- Bone disease; 54- Computer key; 55- Slope; 57- Wide shoe size; 58- Step; 60- ___ a customer; 65- ___ Tin Tin; 66- Keep an ___ the ground; 67- Chad neighbor; 68- ___-Cat; 69- Ascended; 70- Deep black;

DOWN: 1- Sun Devils' sch.; 2- Compose; 3- French friend; 4- Mus. slow-up; 5- Deadly fly; 6- View; 7- Ruffian; 8- Broadcasts; 9- Daughter of Cadmus; 10- Mischievous person; 11- Peripheries; 12- Mell Lazarus comic strip; 13- Big name at Indy; 21- Other, in Oaxaca; 23- African antelope; 24- Stationed; 25- Video game pioneer; 26- Musical sounds; 27- Betoken; 28- Jalopy; 30- Cognizant; 31- License plates; 34- Snare; 36- Hawk's home; 37- Explosion; 38- Old sailors; 43- Comrade; 44- ___ Brockovich; 47- Device for holding up a stocking; 49- Broadway opening; 50- Equals; 51- ___ a million; 52- Note taker; 53- Radioactive gas; 55- Sun. speeches; 56- Overdue; 59- Thor Heyerdahl craft; 61- Penpoint; 62- Self; 63- Sawbuck; 64- Kid of jazz

Yesterday's solution

H	E	S	S	B	A	R	B	S	L	O	R	E
A	L	T	I	A	L	E	R	O	A	W	A	Y
R	I	A	S	N	O	D	A	L	R	E	N	E
T	O	Y	Z	Y	G	O	G	E	N	E	S	I
E	T	A	L	I	A	A	C	A	D			
T	A	N	T	I	C	I	R	O	N	E	D	
E	T	H	I	C	S	A	S	S	Y	A	R	E
D	O	O	R	A	L	B	U	M	O	N	E	A
Y	A	M	O	N	E	I	F	A	V	O	I	D
S	T	E	A	L	S	N	I	E	C	E	S	
O	G	E	E	G	E	N	E	V	A			
L	I	B	R	A	R	Y	C	A	R	D	C	E
A	N	E	T	I	R	A	T	E	L	O	R	I
M	A	N	A	N	I	L	E	S	E	N	D	S
A	N	T	S	E	R	I	E	S	O	D	I	E

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

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



AD

<p>FOR SALE www.JMLProperty.com</p> <p>FOR RENT More info, please contact us Info@JMLproperty.com (853) 2835 2699 Office</p>	<p>H Unit Gladiolus Court Coloane 2,530 sq ft / HKD 11.8M HKD 4,664sq ft Roof Top Terrace Ref: 11115275</p>	<p>Chun Leong Car Park, Taipa 0sq ft / HKD 1.8M HKD 0sq ft Car park for Sale Ref: 15050514</p>	<p>Kam Long, Lilau Square Macau 1,100 sq ft / HKD 4.9M HKD 4,454sq ft Renovated in 2004 Ref: 15085452</p>	<p>Family Apartment Hellene Gardens, Macau 1663 sq ft / HKD 7.8M HKD 4,690sq ft Includes 1 Parking Space Ref: 16020571</p>
	<p>Cherry Court, Ocean Garden Taipa 2 Bedrooms Apartment Ocean Garden Parks Views HKD 12,000 / 1,200 sq ft Ref: 16020573</p>	<p>Houston Court Coloane Village 2 Bedroom Apartment Lovely Roof Terrace HKD 12,500 / 740 sq ft Ref: 15110549</p>	<p>Modern Apartment Old Taipa 2 Bedroom Apartment Newly Renovated HKD 14,000 / 820 sq ft Ref: 16020564</p>	<p>The Buckingham Taipa 2 Bedrooms Apartment Fully Furnished HKD 18,000 / 1,350 sq ft Ref: 16020558</p>

FOOTBALL

Leicester qualifies for Champions League for 1st time

LEICESTER qualified for the Champions League for the first time and moved closer to the Premier League title with a 2-0 win at struggling Sunderland.

Jamie Vardy scored both goals to take his tally for the season to 21 goals, ending a five-game drought. The goals kept Leicester seven points clear of Tottenham, which beat Manchester United 3-0, and guaranteed a top-four finish for the central England team.

Although fourth place only secures a place in the Champions League playoff round, Leicester is unlikely to be dislodged from the top three — and has a firm grip on top spot.

Sunderland, though, is four points from safety with six games remaining - experiencing a relegation battle Leicester was embroiled in last season.

The hosts held off the leaders until the 66th minute when Vardy met Danny Drinkwater's high ball. The England striker tapped in his second in stoppage time after rounding goalkeeper Vito Mannone.

It might have been very different at Sunderland had Leicester goalkeeper Kasper Schmeichel not managed to react quickly to keep out Fabio Borini's deflected shot as the first half drew to a close.

But now it appears little can stop Leicester completing its amazing transformation from a team fighting relegation a year ago to lifting the league trophy in May.

"We've got a few games left. It's a step but a very big one," Drinkwater said. "Coming off the Sunderland fans were clapping us as well which is brilliant. It was a great game,

we knew it would be tough but managed to grind it out."

Leicester started on the front foot as Sunderland defender Younes Kaboul found himself under intense pressure from Vardy and Shinji Okazaki. Vardy headed wastefully wide after meeting Danny Simpson's inviting 12th-minute cross.

Leicester captain Wes Morgan was equally profligate after being picked out from a corner by Christian Fuchs, but as the home side settled it started to make an impact.

Borini fired into the side-netting after taking a poor first touch from Jan Kirchhoff's through ball, and Kaboul powered a header over from the influential Wahbi Khazri's cross.

Both teams had penalty appeals waved away - Sunderland after Patrick van Aanholt's cross struck Robert Huth's arm



Leicester City's Jamie Vardy celebrates his goal during the English Premier League soccer match against Sunderland at the Stadium of Light, Sunderland, England

as he slid in and Leicester after Riyad Mahrez's shot thumped into Kaboul's elbow.

Sam Allardyce's Sunderland nearly snatched the lead two minutes into first-half stoppage time.

Borini found space on the right side of the penalty area and drilled in a shot that momentarily wrong-footed Schmeichel after clipping Morgan, but the goalkeeper did well to block with his legs.

Borini again came close to breaking the deadlock after the break when he drilled a rising drive wide. But Leicester responded with Okazaki firing over after exchanging passes with N'Golo Kante and Mannone taking advantage of Danny

Drinkwater's heavy touch from Vardy's teasing 54th-minute cross to intercept.

Leicester took the lead after Kaboul lost Vardy as the striker set off in pursuit of Drinkwater's long ball, and his finish was unerring.

Substitute Jack Rodwell passed up a great opportunity to level with eight minutes remaining after Van Aanholt's shot had been blocked into his path 10 yards out.

Although Vardy missed one chance to wrap up the win late on from Drinkwater's pull-back, he did so deep into stoppage time as he out-muscled Van Aanholt and rounded Mannone before steering the ball into the empty net. **AP**

AD



www.rcr-macau.com

RRC Electronics (Macau) Ltd.

中葡電子(澳門)有限公司

<p>ELV Systems Specialists 專業的弱電系統</p>			<p>Surveillance Systems 監控系統</p>
<p>Design & Budgets 設計和預算</p>			<p>Intrusion Alarm Systems 入侵警報系統</p>
<p>Project Management 項目管理</p>			<p>Access Control Systems 門禁系統</p>
<p>Maintenance & Service 維修和服務</p>			<p>AV/TV, Telephone & Display Systems AV/TV,電話和顯示系統</p>
<p>Risk Assessment & Management 風險評估和管理</p>			<p>Fire Detection & Supression Systems 火焰偵測和滅火系統</p>
<p>Survey & Troubleshooting Services 檢驗和故障診斷與維修服務</p>			<p>Network & Structure Cable 網絡和綜合佈線</p>

澳門馬場東大馬路25-69號福泰工業大廈12樓B座

TEL: + (853) 2822 1341 FAX: + (853) 2822 0824

Avenida Leste do Hipodromo N.S 25-69, Edif. Industrial Fok Tai, 12 Floor "B", Macau

www.rcr-macau.com email: contact@rcr-macau.com

FOOTBALL | CHAMPIONS LEAGUE PREVIEW

Real Madrid hopeful of avoiding shocking elimination to Wolfsburg

Tales Azzoni, Madrid

Wednesday, 2:45am
Real Madrid v Wolfsburg
H 1.22, D 8.4, A 16

ZINEDINE Zidane was still playing when Real Madrid last produced the kind of comeback it needs this week to avoid elimination to surprising Wolfsburg in the quarterfinals of the Champions League.

The last time Madrid overcame a first-leg loss in the European tournament was in the 2001-02 season, when it overcame a 2-1 loss at Bayern Munich by winning 2-0 at the Santiago Bernabeu to reach the semifinals and eventually win the title for the ninth time.

"As a coach I live these days before the knockout tie with more tension than as a player," Zidane said. "We know it will be an exciting game, great to play in. We know what we have to do and what we're playing for. We're going to prepare well, rest up and play at our best on Tuesday [tomorrow, 2:45am]."

Madrid needs to erase a 2-0 away loss to Wolfsburg, which is playing in the knockout stage of the Champions League for the first time and was a heavy underdog coming into the quarterfinals against the 10-time European champion.

Another team needing to reverse a first-leg loss will be Atletico Madrid, which fell 2-1 to Spanish rival Barcelona at the Camp Nou. Bayern Munich travels to Portugal carrying a 1-0 advantage over Benfica, and Manchester City hosts Paris Saint-Germain following a 2-2 draw in France.

Wolfsburg has been struggling in Germany but arrives in Madrid boosted by a good away record in European competitions, losing only twice in its last nine games.

Madrid has failed to reverse a first-leg loss the last eight times it needed to, including five times when the return match



Wolfsburg's Luiz Gustavo (left), and Real Madrid's Cristiano Ronaldo challenge for the ball during the Champions League first leg quarterfinal soccer match between VfL Wolfsburg and Real Madrid in Wolfsburg

was at the Bernabeu. It has to remain optimistic this time considering it won all four games at home in this season's Champions League by outscoring opponents 15-0.

"We have 90 minutes left to play and in front of our fans we want to stage a comeback," Real Madrid defender Dani Carvajal said. "We will fight to the death and try to overcome our rival."

Here are a look at the other matches this week:

Wednesday, 2:45am
Man City v PSG
H 2.8, D 3.75, A 2.6

The matchup between teams trying to establish themselves as European powers is the tightest of the quarterfinals following a 2-2 draw in France.

With the French title long secured, PSG now has the luxury of focusing its resources on Europe, and forward Zlatan Ibrahimovic and winger Angel Di Maria were among first-team regulars rested for last weekend's win at Guingamp.

Manchester City is locked in a tough scrap to hold onto

fourth place in the Premier League, and despite eight years of big spending, it is still heavily reliant on one of only three players in the City team from when it last hosted PSG in 2008: Captain Vincent Kompany.

The defender has been out for almost a month with a right knee injury but could return to full training ahead this week's game.

"It is difficult but we will see," coach Manuel Pellegrini said of Kompany's fitness.

Thursday, 2:45am
Atletico Madrid v Barcelona
H 3.6, D 3.55, A 2.25

Atletico Madrid has plenty of reason to remain positive despite the loss to Barcelona last week, when it played most of the match with 10 men.

In addition to playing at home this week, the 2014 runners-up will be high on confidence after cutting Barcelona's lead to only three points in the Spanish league after favorable results on the weekend. Atletico won 3-1 at Espanyol, and Barcelona lost 1-0 at Real Sociedad.

Atletico has won six of its

last seven league games, while Barcelona's confidence has been dented by three winless games, including a 2-1 home loss to Real Madrid.

Atletico eliminated Barcelona in the quarterfinals of the Champions league in the 2013-14 season after drawing 1-1 at the Camp Nou and winning 1-0 in the second leg.

Thursday, 2:45am
Benfica v Bayern
H 5.9, D 4.05, A 1.7

Winner of its last six games, Bayern Munich heads to Portugal needing a draw to reach the Champions League semifinals for the fifth straight season.

"We'll travel to Lisbon with respect. It's going to be a tough match, but the result in the first leg wasn't so bad," Bayern chairman Karl-Heinz Rummenigge said after the 1-0 home win.

Benfica, which kept its Portuguese lead by beating Academica 2-1 on Saturday, is trying to reach the semifinals for the first time since the European tournament became known as the Champions League. **AP / Oddschecker.com**

AMERICAN FOOTBALL

Warrant: Ex-Saints player Will Smith was shot in back, torso



Former New Orleans Saints player Will Smith was shot in the back and side, according to a warrant read in

court yesterday before a magistrate set a USD1 million bond for the man accused of killing him. Police said Smith, 34, was killed in a case of road rage by a man who had rear-ended his car. They arrested Cardell Hayes, 28, on a charge of second-degree murder. Prosecutors have 60 days to decide whether to bring that charge against Hayes. Hayes' Humvee H2 rear-ended Smith's Mercedes G63 around 11:30 p.m. Saturday in New Orleans's upscale Lower Garden District, pushing it into a Chevrolet Impala driven by two of Smith's acquaintances. The two argued, and Hayes shot both Smith and Smith's wife, Racquel, police said. She was taken to a hospital with a leg wound.

MOTORSPORT

Davis dies from injuries sustained in drag racing crash

Ronnie "The King" Davis died Sunday from injuries sustained Saturday in a crash during a drag racing event at Rockingham Dragway. The track said Sunday that the 66-year-old Davis, from Suwanee, Georgia, had completed a final qualifying run in the PDRA Spring Nationals when his 1963 Corvette turned left and shot across the track in front rival Mark Malcuit's car. Davis' car cleared the right-side guardwall and barrel-rolled. Davis was taken to Moore County Regional Hospital in Pinehurst and later to UNC Medical Center in Chapel Hill. Davis was a five-time IHRA season champion. Early in his career, he was almost unbeatable at Atlanta Speed Shop Dragway, where he earned his nickname by dominating a competition called "King of the Hill."

GOLF

Willettt leads strong showing by Englishmen at the Masters



Sheffield's Danny Willett (pictured) joined three-time winner Nick Faldo as the only Englishmen to win the Masters. Sunday was a huge day for several of his countrymen, too. Five

English players had top-10 finishes at Augusta National. Lee Westwood tied Texan Jordan Spieth for second at 2-under 286, three shots behind Willett. Paul Casey was fourth at 1 under, Matthew Fitzpatrick was in a three-way tie for seventh for even par, and Justin Rose tied for 10th at 1 over. It was a cocktail of seasoned vets like Casey, Westwood and Rose mixed with up and comers, including Fitzpatrick, 21 and Willett, 28. "I hope we're not changing the guard just yet," Casey said. "Give us another five years or so." In fact, Willett, Casey and Fitzpatrick seemed in perfect synch in the final round. All shot 67s. Nobody was better over those final 18 holes than the three Englishmen.

opinion

Our Desk

Lynzy Valles



ON THE PLIGHT OF DOMESTIC HELPERS

In a recently published article in MDT, the Consul General of The Philippines, Ms Deapera stated that migrant workers, specifically Filipinos, are "doing well" in Macau. Not that I disagree with this, but how do you really define "doing well" especially in a region where domestic workers commonly earn less than MOP4,000 while living in city with the smallest units costing over MOP6,000?

I bet the housing prices and the city's high standard of living are just some of the challenges which migrants face in what has already become a "normal" situation.

In addition, these migrant workers with low-paying jobs can encounter either exploitative employers or forced labor, which a local expert says is "less likely" to happen in the city, unlike in Hong Kong where domestic helpers are forced to work for their employers 'til who-knows-when' because they "live in" with them.

At some point, the words "less likely" triggered my suspicion. All of these workers are prone to exploitation - having been surrounded by household helpers, 90 percent of whom have experienced forced labor. And these workers are voiceless. I don't think they can do anything about it because they consider themselves to be "minority" workers in the territory under a specific "contract," a contract which only very few understand since it's usually only written in either Chinese or Portuguese.

I'm convinced that it's fair to say that migrant workers in general play a huge part in Macau's society and it's unjust for them, especially household helpers, not to have access to Macau's regulations and laws in order to exercise their rights.

A recent report even stated that exploited workers tend to be hesitant to approach the labor bureau. The reason is simple. They feel intimidated because they do not have any knowledge or idea of their "basic" rights. And if they have the guts to ask questions about their rights, they still won't receive an accurate answer because aside from only having them listed in two languages, there is also an inconsistency in those rules and regulations.

Therefore, the problem here is not about whether the helper is "staying in" or "staying out" of the employer's residence, but about how employers should abide by the working hours stipulated in the signed contracts, which should also be available in English.

I know numerous domestic helpers who work over 60 hours per week and get paid an amount less than MOP3,500 per month. Though the government has set a minimum salary for this category of work, I don't think it's fair to only get the minimum wage for any overtime hours worked.

That is why I'm convinced that exploitation is not "less likely" to happen in Macau because as long as these workers, who are blue card holders, are under a "contract," there is still a high chance that they will be exploited and underpaid. These employees do not really have a choice because aside from not having access to information about their labor rights, most of them are the sole provider for their families.

I have to agree with Mr Paul Pun, Caritas secretary, who said, "The human resources should periodically review the yearly work salary [of domestic workers] for them to have a clear reference salary, [...] a decent salary."

In Hong Kong, where household workers usually "live in," the minimum wage recently rose to HK4,210, while in Macau, the minimum housing allowance of MOP500 has remained stagnant despite housing prices tripling over the last ten years. Some workers even live in a flat with 10 fellow domestic helpers just to reduce costs.

The gist here is that a "decent" salary with a "decent" housing allowance would be much appreciated by them, and only then we will be able to say that they're "doing well."

THE HARRY POTTER: GCHQ 'INTERVENED OVER 'HALF-BLOOD PRINCE' LEAK'

GCHQ, the UK's surveillance agency, intervened to help prevent the sixth Harry Potter installment leaking online, the book's publisher has said.

Bloomsbury's Nigel Newton said GCHQ contacted him in 2005 after it apparently discovered an early copy of "The Half Blood-Prince" on the internet, BBC reported.

However, after a page was read to an editor, it

was determined to be fake.

A spokesperson for GCHQ told the Sunday Times: "We don't comment on our defence against the dark arts."

According to the BBC, GCHQ is a secret intelligence agency which monitors electronic communication to prevent terrorism and tackle serious and organized crime.

Station	Air quality
Roadside	35-55 Moderate
High Density Residential Area	35-55 Moderate
Ambient	25-45 Good

SOURCE: DSI/MG

WORLD BRIEFS



BANGLADESH is closing its notorious 18th-century prison where sensational political killings over decades have targeted people on both sides of the South Asian country's 1971 war for independence from Pakistan.



INDIA Medical teams yesterday tended to hundreds of people injured in a massive fire that killed at least 110 people, while authorities searched for those responsible for illegally putting on the fireworks display that caused the weekend blaze at a Hindu temple in southern India. Police detained five workers for questioning about fireworks stored at the site, hoping to learn more about who owned the fireworks and who had contracted the pyrotechnical display.



PORTUGAL's Supreme Court has rejected a former CIA operative's appeal against extradition to Italy to serve a six-year sentence for her part in the U.S. extraordinary renditions program, a court official said yesterday. Sabrina De Sousa's (pictured) only remaining recourse to avoid being sent to Italy would be to appeal to Portugal's Constitutional Court, arguing her extradition order is unconstitutional. De Sousa's lawyer is Manuel Magalhaes e Silva, a former member of a pre-handover Macau government.

NATURE The world's count of wild tigers roaming forests from Russia to Vietnam has gone up for the first time in more than a century, with 3,890 counted by conservation groups and national governments in the latest global census, wildlife conservation groups said.



ROYAL TOUR
Prince William, wife Kate meet young entrepreneurs in Mumbai

Britain's Prince William drives a Formula E simulator at an event on young entrepreneurs in Mumbai, India

Nirmala George, New Delhi

THE Duke and Duchess of Cambridge met with young entrepreneurs in India's financial capital of Mumbai yesterday to speak with the country's next generation of business leaders about their start-up ideas.

On the second day of their weeklong royal tour of India, Prince William and his wife, the former Kate Middleton, spent nearly an hour with the entrepreneurs and the venture capitalists likely to fund some of their enterprise ideas.

Kate, dressed in a cream

wool crepe outfit, smiled and waved at crowds of on-lookers who had gathered outside the cafe where the meeting was held.

Later, the royal couple flew to New Delhi, where they laid a wreath at a memorial to honor Indian soldiers who had died in World War I.

They were also due to pay respect to Mohandas K. Gandhi and tour a museum near the spot where India's independence leader was assassinated.

In the evening, the couple was to attend a garden party to celebrate Queen Elizabeth's 90th birthday, which

is April 21. William was expected to speak to the large gathering of prominent Indians at the reception about his grandmother, who is Britain's longest-reigning monarch.

William and Kate are traveling without their two children — 2 1/2-year-old Prince George and 11-month-old Princess Charlotte. They had taken George to Australia with them in 2014 on their last royal tour.

Tomorrow, the royal couple will sit down for lunch with Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, before traveling to the Kaziranga National Park, home to two-thirds of the world's Indian one-horned rhinos, in the northeastern state of Assam.

They'll also take a one-day trip to neighboring Bhutan at the invitation of the Himalayan kingdom's King Jigme Khesar Namgyal Wangchuck and Queen Jetsun Pema.

William and Kate will then head back to India, where they'll wind up their tour with a visit to the Taj Mahal, retracing the steps of a 1992 visit to the monument of love by William's mother, the late Princess Diana. AP



Britain's Prince William (second left), and his wife Kate (left), the Duchess of Cambridge, arrive at young entrepreneurs' event in Mumbai