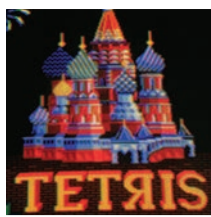


VIPS WOODED TO TROPICAL ISLES
Local gaming promoters are betting they can make money by bringing high rollers to casinos in Southeast Asia

P5 GAMING



STUDIOS PLAN MOVIE ON TETRIS GAME
A Chinese-American studio hopes to turn the Tetris video game into a blockbuster movie

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ZHANG'S VISIT PUTS HK IN LOCKDOWN



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"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN'"

WORLD BRIEFS



CHINA Garbage picker Zhao Shunli's transformation takes place several times a week in a simple bedroom filled with Mao Zedong memorabilia, its concrete walls lined with posters portraying the founder of the communist state. *More on p10*



CHINA-TAIWAN Beijing is staging joint war games featuring mock beach landing, helicopter assaults and tank battles along its east coast facing Taiwan, just days before the inauguration of the self-governing island's new independence-leaning president. *More on p11*



PHILIPPINES President Obama offers his congratulations to the new presumptive president of the Philippines Rodrigo Duterte who has attracted both controversy over his iron-fisted approach to law and order and praise by communist rebels. *More on p13*



US-NORTH KOREA Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump says he's open to speaking with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un to try to halt the communist nation's nuclear program. *More on p13*

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Q&A ALLAN ZEMAN
ENTREPRENEUR

'The numbers in Macau were great but not real'

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Q&A ALLAN ZEMAN
ENTREPRENEUR

‘The numbers in Macau were great but not real’

ALLAN Zeman, known as the “Father of Lan Kwai Fong,” is a Hong Kong business magnate who sits on the board of Wynn in Las Vegas and also serves as Wynn Macau’s vice chairman. In his opinion, Macau needs to continuously develop its non-gaming market, and he emphasized that the city’s recent economic downturn will teach young entrepreneurs to be “better business people.” The Times interviewed Mr Zeman yesterday on the sidelines of the G2E Asia Conference, which concludes today.

Macau Daily Times - This year’s G2E Asia has put more emphasis on the non-gaming market. Is Macau capable of being like Las Vegas where it could effectively offer both gaming and non-gaming entertainment?

Allan Zeman - I think if Macau does not do that, it will never grow. If we just stick with the gaming alone, I think the crazy years from

Now you have to go back to running a business through providing a good service, through thinking how you could be better than your competitors.

ALLAN ZEMAN

before when China was booming with a lot of corruption and a lot of problems... the numbers in Macau were great but not real. What we have today is a new norm and I think that will con-

tinue. And I think it’s very important that Macau looks at the non-gaming part because that’s what really drove Las Vegas’s growth. Now non-gaming accounts for 60 percent of the business in Las Vegas. I think that is something that is very important for Macau – we need to break out of just the retail, restaurant and gaming sectors. I think we have to move beyond [...] with different shows and different forms of entertainment, like Las Vegas did. [...] Macau has the ability, they’ve got the money, the government has the money, the operators certainly have the money, I think this is time for companies to slowly change their product [...] especially with gaming. It’s a business regulated by concessions, but those who have them need to differentiate themselves from one another. [...] I think the non-gaming things are more important than the gaming because in gaming, they’re all the same.

The non-gaming drives the gaming and it will make the gaming stronger and stronger.

MDT - What do you think Macau can learn from the recent gaming downturn?

AZ - I think that the recent gaming downturn was actually strong; it’ll make Macau stronger. In the old days, the way businesses were in Macau... it was just too easy. It was attracting wrong elements, [which is] not good for Macau people. I think now you have to go back to running a business through providing a good service, through thinking how you could be better than your competitors. Before you didn’t have to think, you just opened your doors and the crowd would just come in. Now you really have to run your business well, which will teach the young generation in Macau how to be better businesspeople, how to be better operators. It will improve the youth in Macau, and I think that’s much better. In the long term, Macau will become stronger and stronger.

MDT - What impact could the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau bridge have on the three cities?

AZ - I think that will change dramatically. [...] The cities will become bigger, in essence. It has created a bond, a family of cities under one umbrella [...] If we use it and

if we market it right, it’ll be able to attract more people from all over the world, not just from China. [...] Macau is unique in offering gaming, shows, entertainment and restaurants. Hong Kong has its theme parks. [...] So the integration will be much closer [...] This changes everything. You’ll have an integration of people coming and going and it will just change the whole dynamic of the Pearl River Delta.

MDT - In terms of the cocktail and bar culture in Macau, it’s not as strong as it is in Hong Kong, but new bars are emerging in the city. How do you think Macau could learn from Hong Kong?

AZ - When we talk about bars and that kind of thing, I always say it’s the people that make the place, that make the party. You need the right people and energy to create that atmosphere, and I think that’s something really important. Macau right now is still quite scattered. You don’t have an area where high-class people [hang out]. Some of the clubs in Macau attract the “wrong element,” which is a remnant of the old days. It resembles the old days of clubbing. [...] Clubbing today is much more sophisticated. It’s not just a DJ and loud music. Today the millennials want a much more relaxed atmosphere, a place where they can talk and enjoy themselves. You know that will change as well, but it takes time because what you have now is a new culture that has just evolved here, but I think it has to change.

MDT - Macau has allegedly spent MOP6 million on the Rubber Duck and some people are not so happy with it. According to organizers the project aims to “promote art and culture”...

AZ - The rubber duck is known all over the world. I think it’s not a bad thing. I think at the end of the day, it just shows that Macau can also be one of those cities that appreciates culture. [...] Unhappiness of the masses [occurs when] they have a harder life, so they think it’s too much money being spent. But I think at the end of the day, you need more of this, it’ll educate people and make them more appreciative of culture. **Staff reporter**

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Human Resources Office to merge with DSAL

THE Human Resources Office will merge with the Labour Affairs Bureau (DSAL) on May 28, the Executive Council (ExCo) announced yesterday during a press conference. After merging, the DSAL will be responsible for dealing with applications by local companies for permission to hire non-local workers.

During the press conference, DSAL director Wong Chi Hong commented on the purpose of the merge: "We will try

“ We will try to prioritize the requests made by SMEs.

WONG CHI HONG
DSAL DIRECTOR

to prioritize the requests made by SMEs in order to avoid cases where those companies have to

close [due to a lack of human resources].”

Wong also added that the merge would strengthen the government's understanding of human resources, and allow the authorities to be better informed of said companies' staffing requirements.

The DSAL will continue to be headed by one director, who will be assisted by two deputy directors. The office will comprise six departments and twelve divisions.



DSAL will assume the responsibility for dealing with applications for work permits, commonly know as "blue cards" (right) from May 28

The number of DSAL staff will be increased from the current 228 to 320, as all of the workers from the Human Resources Of-

ice will be transferred to the DSAL. The Human Resources Offices' budget will now also be allocated to the DSAL.



Fishing boats sit in the Inner Harbor

THE annual South China Sea fishing ban started on Monday and will be in place until August 1. Local fishermen have reported a 20 percent decli-

ne in business revenues since last year. This time around, few, if any, expect much change following the ban, according to reports by local media.

Fishermen expect to move to other industries

The Macau Fishermen's Mutual Help Association (MFMA) have stated that the decreased revenue came as a consequence of the diminished fishing hauls that took place after the Chinese New Year. According to Chan Meng Kam, vice president of MFMA, the reduced amount of fish has been due to several factors, in-

cluding weather and the reclamation of territories around the Pearl River estuary, as well as being linked to other seasonal reasons.

Chan also noted that a significant number of fishermen have already left the fishing industry, even before their retirement age, due to a lack of confidence in the future.

One fisherman interviewed by the Macao Daily News stated that he has already sought to find employment in an alternative industry but has been constantly turned down due to his lack of higher education. He hopes that the government will organize more training programs for fishermen in order to assist them to

transition into other industries.

The fishing ban period affects not only the fishermen, but also the buyers. Some of the customers interviewed by TDM have expressed concerns about the potential for rising fish prices, while a number of other customers remained unaffected by potential price increases.

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"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN' "

MACAU'S gaming promoters are betting they can make money bringing high rollers to casinos in Southeast Asia and other tropical destinations as increased government control crimps casino revenue in the world's biggest gambling center.

Imperial Pacific International Holdings Ltd.'s said it will invest USD7.1 billion through 2020 to expand its casino presence on the island of Saipan in the western Pacific Ocean and will debut a permanent casino there early next year. Melco International Development Ltd. is exploring a casino business in Vietnam, said Andy Choy, the company's chief gaming officer on the sidelines of the G2E conference in Macau.

"Junkets are diversifying from Macau," said Shen Yan, Hong Kong-based Imperial's president of global capital markets. "The junket business in Macau has been really difficult because of the shrinking margin. It's natural for these people to go abroad and take their customers to locations where clients want to go to and junkets can make money."

Gaming promoters, also known as junkets, were dealt another blow this month when the Macau government banned phone betting, as tightened regulations called for stricter accounting transparency. Macau's \$30 billion gaming industry has seen revenue declines for nearly two years amid China's slowing

GAMING

VIPs wooed to tropical isles as Macau tightens rules



economy and anti-corruption campaign.

Macau plans to raise capital requirements for junkets and is preparing to set up a credit database to help weed out risky gamblers, the government said this month as part of an interim review of the gaming industry. Macau's VIP revenue, as measured by their favorite baccarat card game, was worth \$16 billion last year, after plunging by 40 percent from 2014.

The middlemen, who loan

money to high-end clients to gamble, have quickly moved business to countries such as the Philippines and Vietnam where phone betting is allowed after Macau's sudden ban, said Tony Tong, vice chairman of the Macau Gaming Information Association. Operators are looking abroad for destinations with stable governments and favorable tax structures and policies for gaming, Tong said at the G2E gaming conference.

“Many leading junkets in Macau are looking for ways that they can make money by capitalizing on their existing customer base.”

TONY TONG
GAMING INFORMATION ASSOCIATION

Imperial Pacific's temporary casino on Saipan, which opened last November, has delivered better-than-expected revenue, according to Yan. A junket law has been approved on the island earlier this year, and he expects gaming promoters can bring more big gamblers to the tropical island.

The company is in talks with a number of Chinese property developers interested in investing in the Saipan project

expansion, Yan said. Imperial Pacific will announce which developer it will take on as a strategic investor in the third quarter, he said. The developer will build one to two hotels for the Saipan project early next year, according to Yan.

Meanwhile, Melco International, the biggest shareholder of Macau-based casino operator Melco Crown Entertainment Ltd., is looking at Vietnam and other destinations for its expansion, said Choy. Melco Crown already operates a casino resort in the Philippines.

Junket promoters such as Suncity Group and Jimei International Entertainment Group Ltd. are now attracting Chinese high rollers to the gaming tables and crystal blue waters of Vietnam, Cambodia and other Southeast Asian gaming attractions. The fun tourist activities, along with gambling, have become a draw for VIP gamblers, said Tong.

"Many leading junkets in Macau are looking for ways that they can make money by capitalizing on their existing customer base," Tong said.

MDT/Bloomberg

G2E ASIA

Nepal, Sri Lanka and Vietnam have potential to develop

SEVERAL emerging markets are benefiting from the downturn of Macau's gaming industry, experts noted during a debate titled "Beyond the Major Markets – What are the next frontier markets in Asia and Western Asia?" The event took place at the G2E Asia conference, which concludes today.

Rui Pinto Proença, partner at MdME Lawyers, claimed that some jurisdictions have faced difficulties in regard to their gaming industries. However, he believes that there is "space for a VIP-based growth."

"Some [difficulties] have to do with infrastructure, accessibility... all these are too late in setting up the right lane to redeem the right type of investors," said Proença, suggesting



From left: Andrew Scott, Rui Proença, Tim Shepherd and moderator David Rittvo

that the region should concentrate on diversifying its offerings.

Tim Shepherd, executive director and president of Business Development at Silver Heritage Limited argued that there are massive numbers of proxy betting cases. "What they're betting on the tables is not what they're betting at home," stressed Shepherd. "That's the market nobody talks about."

The Philippines and Cambodia are obvious places where proxy betting is occurring, according to Shepherd. He revealed that casinos in Cambodia make almost "nothing", as it is the proxy betting business that makes the fortunes.

In Macau, May 9 was the first day that casinos were required to prohibit the use of mobile phones at gaming tables and only

accept bets from gamblers who are physically present.

The Times reported that according to Ben Lee, managing partner at Macau-based consultancy IGamiX, the impact is likely to be minimal, as proxy betting only accounts for around five percent of Macau's VIP gross gaming revenue.

Meanwhile, Shepherd commented on Nepal's

potential for growth in its gaming market, claiming that the country's gaming regulations allow foreigners to build casinos and apply for a casino licenses. However, he noted that this is "an opportunity nobody is taking" despite the large emerging population in the region.

Conversely, Proença argued that the scarcity of licenses is also an important issue for casino control commissions. "You've got to create some scarcity otherwise, if everybody can get a license, your license is worthless. And that is not going to regain the type of volume of investment that jurisdictions want to attract," he said.

Meanwhile Andrew Scott, CEO of World Gaming Group Ltd, claimed that Vietnam could possibly see large growth in its

gaming industry, stating that it is a rapidly growing economy, despite being a "young country" in terms of gaming.

"The service there is awesome. After being in Macau for so many years and then going to Vietnam, the service there was much higher quality," said Scott. "There are a number of Chinese speakers who are not Chinese. And they also have a proxy-betting operation that hasn't been shut down," he added.

Mr Proença suggested that Sri Lanka would be a great destination for setting up a gambling resort. He also added that as well as having an international airport, the region has a good relationship with China, and thus could become a "good mass market" for China. **Staff reporter**



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PAULO MARTINS CHAN

Gaming regulator expresses support for industry revamp

THE director of the Gaming Inspection and Coordination Bureau (DICJ), Paulo Martins Chan, gave a speech yesterday at the G2E conference. Addressing the fact that revenues in Macau's gaming sector have been in decline for 23 straight months since 2014, Chan revealed that the city is working towards the transformation of its casino-driven economy into a more diversified economic structure in search of innovation. "The innovation that we plan involves the adopting of innovative ways to give a new look to our gaming industry, for it to become an industry that promotes improvement, integrity and quality," said Chan.

Chan noted however, that changes should not only take place in the gaming sector but "also in Macau companies." Moreover, he encouraged all operators to expand their working paradigm beyond gaming offerings.

Chan claimed that in 2016, the Macau government would be constantly working to optimize Macau's economic structure, and to promote cooperation with neighboring regions. He said that the government is seeking "to accelerate the promotion of regional cooperation in order to develop strong economic relationships and to create opportunities for tourism integration." **Staff reporter**



Paulo Martins Chan



MGEMA chairman Jay Chun

MACAU GAMING SHOW

Cocktail reception held ahead of show

THE Macau Gaming Equipment Manufacturers Association (MGEMA) held a networking cocktail reception last night at the Conrad Hotel. The event forms part of the body's international relations program, which was launched earlier this year at the International Casino Expo in London.

The association organizes the MGS Entertainment Show, reportedly the only large-scale gaming and entertainment exhibition run by Macau-based organizations. The fourth edition of the MGS will be held at The Venetian Macao between November 15 and 17.

"The time is right to drive home the message that Macau is open for business."

JAY CHUN

Hosted by MGEMA chairman Jay Chun, the cocktail reception last night brought together around a hundred members of the trade association and key figures from the global gaming community.

"Over the last three years MGEMA has made considerable progress in representing the interests of the major forces in Asian business," said Chun. "Part of this success is due to our relationship with the Macau government, which has extended a series of grants and support programs to aid our development."

Chun took to the stage last night to address reception attendees, before inviting guests of honor to join him on stage to officially open the event.

"Now we feel the time is right to drive home the message that Macau is open for business. This reception is an excellent opportunity to

explain how the economic diversity plan for Macau can open a wealth of opportunity for business in the region," he said.

The association aims to strengthen trading, commercial and cultural links abroad, through MGEMA's self-proclaimed unique ability to "bring mainland China to the world."

"MGS is probably the most unusual meeting place in the world. Chinese come here because they see it as a gateway to the international market. The emerging Asian territories come because they see it as a gateway to mainland China," reads a statement from the association. **DB**

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E-COMMERCE

Jack Ma cancels keynote speech at counterfeit group meeting



Jack Ma

JACK Ma, the head of Chinese e-commerce giant Alibaba, is withdrawing from an anti-counterfeiting convention in Florida just two days before he was scheduled to give the keynote speech.

Alibaba announced the move following last week's suspension of the company's membership in the International Anti-Counterfeiting Coalition, a small but influential group that lobbies

U.S. officials and testifies before Congress.

Ma is a self-made billionaire, and Alibaba, which he founded in 1999, went public in 2014 in the biggest initial public offering of stock to date. But some IACC members view the company as the world's largest marketplace for fakes.

Members of the IACC rebelled against Alibaba's membership in the group and were further upset about

conflicts of interest involving the group's president, Robert Barchiesi.

According to an investigation by The Associated Press, Barchiesi had stock in Alibaba Group Holding Ltd., had close ties to an Alibaba executive and had used family members to help run the coalition. The conflicts of interest weren't fully disclosed to the IACC board, and it has since hired an independent firm to review its corporate

governance policies.

The IACC website listed Ma scheduled to talk today about the importance of e-commerce and Alibaba's efforts to protect intellectual property rights on its platforms.

Instead, Alibaba President Michael Evans will represent the company at the annual spring conference in Orlando, Florida, and will "reinforce Alibaba's commitment to fighting counterfeits and the importance of strong collaboration between brands, governments and intermediaries."

Alibaba also alluded to its suspension from IACC, calling it a "step in the wrong direction and regrettable. It highlights a fundamental difference in how we want to solve this problem."

After Alibaba's controversial inclusion in the group, in April, Michael Kors and Gucci America quit in protest. Then Tiffany walked out, citing concerns over governance issues. Gucci is suing Alibaba in U.S. court, alleging that the e-commerce giant knowingly profits from the sale of fakes. Alibaba has dismissed the case as "wasteful litigation."

The Washington, D.C.-based coalition has more than 250 members. U.S. Ambassador to China Max Baucus still plans to deliver his keynote at the conference as scheduled, Benjamin Weber, a spokesman for the U.S. Embassy in Beijing, said yesterday.

Ma was spotted departing the White House campus yesterday [Macau time], exiting from a gate alongside the Eisenhower Executive Office Building. It was unclear whom he met with; asked by reporters to describe his meeting, he said "maybe later" and "very good" before getting into a waiting black vehicle. **AP**

M&A

China's Midea makes USD5.2b offer for German robot maker Kuka

CHINESE appliance maker Midea made a USD5.2 billion takeover offer yesterday for German industrial robot maker Kuka, a move that it says would help it capture a larger share of the "future service robots market."

Midea said it would offer 115 euros (\$130) a share to buy all the Kuka stock it doesn't already own. The cash offer values Kuka at 4.57 billion euros (\$5.2 billion).

Investors seemed bullish on the offer price, pushing shares in Kuka up a stunning 31 percent to 108.8 euros on the news.

The Chinese company, which is based in southern China's Guangdong province, raised its stake in Kuka to 10.2 percent in February. Indirect holdings of Kuka stock bring its current total ownership to 13.5 percent.

Chinese companies have been on an overseas acquisition spree as they use their cash hoard to buy up foreign technology to bolster their competitive positions at home.

Midea, which makes air conditioners, fridges and washing machines, said Kuka's technology would help it boost manufacturing efficiency.

Industrial firms in China are looking to boost their automation levels to replace humans as the pool of workers shrinks and wages soar.

Midea said the acquisition would also help it develop new smart home devices and service robots, product markets that are expected to see strong growth as demand rises from China's swelling middle class consumers.

Kuka AG is based in Augsburg, Germany, and says it has annual revenues of about 3 billion euros and employs 12,300 people globally. **AP**

corporate bits

SANDS MACAO OFFERS BOXED MEALS TO TAXI DRIVERS



Sands Macao celebrated its 12th anniversary yesterday with one of its annual traditions – providing complimentary boxed lunches for the city's taxi drivers.

Over 120 meal packs were offered to taxi drivers arriving at the hotel yesterday. The packs featured "double-boiled pork rib soup with Chinese herbs, poached chicken la princesse with ginger dip and braised slices of sea whelk and fish maw with black mushroom," according to a statement issued by Sands China.

Sands Macao has been expressing its appreciation for the region's fleet of cab drivers as part of its anniversary celebrations since the opening of the hotel and entertainment complex in 2004.

BURBERRY ANNOUNCES COST-CUTTING PLANS AS REVENUE FALLS



Luxury clothes maker Burberry has announced wide-ranging cost-cutting plans after reporting a drop in earnings due in part to weak sales in Asia.

The company said yesterday it planned at least 100 million pounds (USD144 million) in cost-cutting by the fiscal year 2019.

The move comes as it reported that net income dropped to

310 million pounds in the first quarter, from 336 million pounds in the year-earlier period. Revenue fell to 2.51 billion pounds from 2.52 billion pounds, with a poor performance in Hong Kong and Macau.

Luxury goods makers are struggling with the slowdown in the global economy and falling demand from high-end consumers in China.

CEO Christopher Bailey said the brand remains strong despite the "challenging environment" that is expected to continue in the luxury sector. The company did not provide details of its cost-cutting plans, indicating it aims to "reduce complexity and simplify processes" to fuel future growth.

Richard Hunter, research chief at Wilson King Investment Management, said "the ambitious cost-cutting program will be aligned with an attempt to boost productivity, but in the meantime metrics such as earnings per share and profits have moved in the wrong direction."

He said it is not clear when Asian consumers will start spending freely on luxury items again.

Louise Watt, Beijing

CINEMA

Hoping for a blockbuster, studios plan movie on Tetris game

IT lacks the building blocks of characters and a plot for now, but a Chinese-American studio hopes to turn the Tetris video game into a blockbuster movie.

Threshold Global Studios is budgeting USD80 million to strategically rotate, slide and drop the famed 1980s stacking game into a sci-fi thriller.

The project is the first for the studio, a newly formed joint venture between Chinese entertainment investor Bruno Wu's Seven Star Works and producer Larry Kasanoff's California-based Threshold Entertainment Group, which produces live-action movies.

"For our debut project, Threshold Global Studios will bring one of the most beloved, cross-generational gaming brands in the world to the big screen as an epic, sci-fi thriller," Kasanoff said in a statement.

The video game requires players to arrange and clear bricks that fall faster and faster into a rectangular matrix at the bottom of the screen before they run out of space. Tetris has survived the transition from desktop to console to smartphone better than most other popular video games from the 1980s, such as Pac-Man. Whether it will survive the transition to the



The puzzle video game Tetris at Barcade in the Brooklyn section of New York

big screen is less clear.

"The fact that I loved playing Tetris when I was an elementary student doesn't mean I will see the film at all. Actually, the idea of making it into a film sounds extremely silly," said personal trainer Xu Jie, 30, in-

terviewed in downtown Beijing yesterday.

A hairdresser who only gave his surname, Ju, said that although he played Tetris as a boy, that wouldn't be enough to entice him to watch the movie. "I don't think I will go to the

Shooting will begin next year and there are plans to film in China and feature Chinese actors

cinema to see a film like that, because I don't see any interesting story there. It doesn't sound appealing at all," said Ju, 29.

Tetris was invented in 1984 by Russian Alexey Pajitnov, who drew inspiration from a puzzle board game. He named it after the Greek word "tetra," meaning "four," and "tennis," his favorite sport. In China, the game translates as "Russian Cube Block."

The Sino-U.S. co-production fits into Hollywood's own strategy of teaming up with Chi-

nese companies in the hope of striking big with the fast-growing Chinese market, now the world's second-largest box office behind North America.

The joint venture "will make cross-cultural movies for the global market," the studio statement released yesterday said. Kasanoff added that the 32-year-old Tetris "is a perfect first project for this strategy."

Shooting will begin next year and there are plans to film in China and feature Chinese actors.

The movie, which wasn't named in the studio's statement, follows in the mold of such computer game-inspired film productions as "Resident Evil," "Tomb Raider" and "Mortal Kombat."

Kasanoff produced two "Mortal Kombat" movies. Wu is founder and CEO of Sun Seven Stars Media Group, a private media and entertainment investment company in China. AP

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CULTURAL REVOLUTION

Garbage picker in military attire sings Mao's praises

Gerry Shih, Luoyang

ZHAO Shunli's transformation takes place several times a week in a simple bedroom filled with Mao Zedong memorabilia, its concrete walls lined with posters portraying the founder of the communist state. Once his army jacket buttons up and his white gloves snap on, Zhao the garbage picker becomes Zhao the People's Liberation Army veteran.

Known as a fixture in a public square in the ancient city of Luoyang, Zhao has made it his personal mission to proudly sing the praises of the Great Helmsman, as Mao is widely called.

As the 50th anniversary of the start of the Cultural Revolution unfolds this week, many Chinese recall Mao's political movement that claimed at least a million lives through violent persecution and suicide. Countless more lives were ruined in a decade that tore apart Chinese families, workplaces and society.

But armed with his scratchy loudspeaker, Zhao will carry on his almost-daily song-and-dance routine in Luoyang's main plaza, extolling the visionary who he says fought for humble men before dying in 1976, leaving China in the hands of corrupt leaders and "capitalist traitors" who led the country astray.

"The test of time over the past 30 years has shown that reform and opening up has been a mistake," says the sprightly 63-year-old, referring to the relatively liberal policies enacted after 1976 that are credited with transforming an impoverished, battered nation into the world's second-largest economy. "It hasn't brought the country, or the people, or the factories or the companies any develop-



Zhao Shunli sings near a banner promoting Mao Zedong's ideology on Zhouwangcheng plaza in Luoyang in central China's Henan province

ment," Zhao says.

Although China's Communist Party is credited with lifting millions out of poverty, vast numbers of Mao's modern-day followers — mostly the disgruntled, poor and elderly in the country's hinterlands — say they haven't seen any of the benefits, only worsening inequality.

"Injustice led me to believe that by propagating our hero, his thinking and positive energy, we can push our country to make a sweeping

turn back toward real socialism, a real pro-worker society," said Zhao, who defends the Cultural Revolution as necessary to keep China on the communist path.

Zhao's life reached its zenith when he joined the army at 17, he says. He left military service five years later and was not assigned a job in a state company because his peasant status prevented him registering as an urban resident.

Zhao bounced from farming to making clothes in the city

to other manual labor, never managing to escape poverty. In the early 1980s, the woman he had hoped to marry left him. She later moved in with a wealthy village cadre 20 years her senior, others told him.

"In that reform-era atmosphere, I was someone without money," he says. "I was a veteran, but money opened a girl's eyes. Our values weren't the same."

Today he lives alone in a tiny room sublet to him at a dis-

count by a generous friend. He survives by collecting garbage and food thrown out by hotpot restaurants.

The plaza, where he draws dozens of viewers a day by belting out Mao-era "red songs" with only the humming and finger-snapping of like-minded friends as accompaniment, has lent him purpose for the first time since his military days.

Before heading out one recent morning, Zhao checked on a pot steaming with nearly rotten tofu and chicken feet. Hanging on the wall was a plastic bag full of

Known as a fixture in the ancient city of Luoyang, Zhao has made it his personal mission to proudly sing the praises of the Great Helmsman

dried mushrooms he had scavenged. One or two books on Maoist thought and a small golden Mao statuette sat on a dresser. A few pieces of clothing hung from a wire strung between two walls.

Bitterness softened into pride as he took out two carefully folded cotton uniforms from a plastic bag and explained the accessories. He usually dons white gloves and a leather holster. A field towel goes around the water canteen. There are two options for headwear: a vintage combat helmet and a cloth billed hat that he puffs up just the right way with the help of a rearview mirror taken off a truck.

He balances a 1-meter high loudspeaker, amplifier and cordless mic system precariously on his electric motorcycle, salutes and opens his building's large metal gate to head to the plaza. AP

TAIWAN

Panda's 'proof of life' photo debunks death rumors

THE subject of the photo looks out from behind bars, with newspapers arranged in front of him to prove what day it is. This "proof of life" shot is not a scene from a kidnapping but an effort by the Taipei Zoo to debunk rumors that a prized panda re-

cently died.

Photos released by the zoo this week show Tuan Tuan looking at the papers laid out in front of his inner enclosure. The zoo's director said in a statement that Tuan Tuan, his partner Yuan Yuan and their cub are fine.

The website of China's official Communist Party newspaper Global Times had reported the panda died of canine distemper. It retracted the story and apologized for not checking its facts.

Tuan Tuan and Yuan Yuan were gifts from China. AP



Kelvin Chan, Hong Kong

HONG KONG

City in lockdown as Zhang Dejiang attends meeting

HONG Kong authorities stepped up security for a top Chinese government official's appearance at a business conference yesterday, preventing pro-democracy protesters from getting anywhere close to the venue.

As many as 8,000 police officers were being deployed for the visit by Zhang Dejiang, the South China Morning Post newspaper reported, citing an unnamed police source. Zhang, the Communist Party's No. 3 official, is the most senior Chinese leader to visit since pro-democracy street protests rocked the city for 11 weeks in late 2014.

About 100 protesters chanted 'Zhang Dejiang get lost from Hong Kong'

About 100 protesters chanted "Zhang Dejiang get lost from Hong Kong" and burned a sign with the same message as they marched toward the convention center where Zhang was giving a keynote speech.

They also called for Beijing to stop interfering in Hong Kong's affairs and to let it have genuine universal suffrage.

In 2014, thousands of residents took to the streets to show their opposition to Beijing's decision to handpick candidates running for the city's top job of chief executive. Riot police clashed frequently with protesters at that time,



Pro-democracy activists raise a huge banner, which says "I want genuine universal suffrage" in Chinese words, outside the convention center where the Chinese Communist Party's third-highest ranking official, Zhang Dejiang, gave a speech during a visit to Hong Kong

once firing tear gas and later using pepper spray.

The protesters yesterday were kept back by a police security cordon that included hundreds of water-filled plastic barriers and metal barricades.

Authorities are taking no chances as political tension over Hong Kong's relationship with Beijing remains high. Residents are unhappy with Bei-

jing's tightening grip on the semiautonomous Chinese financial city. Calls for independence from activist groups, once unheard of, have become commonplace.

"Zhang's visit to Hong Kong is just a political show," said Avery Ng of the League of Social Democrats, a small, radical political party. "We need to remind the world that it is a fake show."

Zhang "singlehandedly blocked the democratic path of Hong Kong two years ago," when, as chairman of the National People's Congress, China's ceremonial parliament, he backed a plan to restrict the elections, Ng said.

In his speech on China's "One Belt One Road," a sweeping plan to deepen trade relations with neighboring countries and open new markets, Zhang

made only a few indirect references to Hong Kong's relationship with the mainland.

He said China "highly respects Hong Kong's stability" and added, "we support strengthening its cooperation with the mainland and expanding its role in global finance. At the same time, Hong Kong must do more to actively participate in the country's development." AP

China stages war games days ahead of Taiwan inauguration

CHINA is staging joint war games featuring mock beach landing, helicopter assaults and tank battles along its east coast facing Taiwan, just days before the inauguration of the self-governing island's new independence-leaning president.

The Defense Ministry said yesterday the air, land and sea drills were aimed at "testing and upgrading the ability to respond to security threats and complete military missions."

The drills were "not aimed at any specific

target and relevant persons shouldn't read too much into it," the ministry said. The statement in question-and-answer format did not mention Taiwan.

China maintains a standing threat to use force to achieve its goal of absorbing Taiwan and the timing of the drills was noticed widely both on Taiwan and in China's entirely-state controlled media.

Without detailing the consequences, Beijing has warned that delicate relations between the sides would be destabi-

lized unless Taiwanese President-elect Tsai Ing-wen explicitly endorses Beijing's view that Taiwan and the mainland are both part of a single Chinese nation. The outgoing Nationalist Party government of Ma Ying-jeou endorsed the so-called "'92 Consensus" and signed a series of agreements on trade and other non-political topics during its eight years in power.

China last staged military drills and missile launches in 1995-96 in a bid to intimidate voters ahead of Taiwan's

first direct presidential elections. The effort was seen as an abject failure that further alienated Taiwanese from Beijing.

Chinese state media said the latest drills involved mock landing operations and the use of attacks helicopter and tanks. The largest drills were carried out by the People's Liberation Army's 31st Group Army based in the city of Xiamen that looks directly out onto the 160 kilometer-wide Taiwan Strait, the China Daily newspaper said.

Armaments used inclu-



In this Thursday, Sept. 3, 2015 file photo, Chinese President Xi Jinping is displayed on a screen as Type 99A2 Chinese battle tanks take part in a parade commemorating the 70th anniversary of Japan's surrender during World War II held in front of Tiananmen Gate in Beijing

ded WZ-10 attack helicopters — China's most powerful — along with ZTD-05A amphibious assault vehicles, Type-96 main battle tanks and HJ-9 anti-tank missile launchers.

In recent weeks, China's navy has also staged a number of live firing drills in the disputed South China Sea and deployed its massive Ukrainian Zubr military hovercraft. AP



In this Oct. 16, 2015, file photo, an employee of Doctors Without Borders, MSF, walks inside the charred remains of the organization's hospital after it was hit by a U.S. airstrike in Kunduz

AFGHANISTAN

Medical charity urges US to pay Kunduz hospital victims

Lynne O'donnell, Kabul

A leading medical charity that suffered massive losses when U.S. helicopter gunships mistakenly struck its clinic in the northern Afghan city of Kunduz is criticizing the United States for failing to pay compensation to the wounded and families of the Afghans killed in the assault last October.

Doctors Without Borders says Washington should "urgently address" the issue — even as the Afghan government prepares to rebuild the hospital with millions of dollars donated by the U.S. military.

The U.S. military has, in fact, paid out hundreds of thousands of dollars to wounded survivors and relatives of those killed in the Kunduz attack, with payments of USD6,000 for each person killed and the wounded receiving \$3,000.

However U.S. officials have said the payments were not compensation, but condolence gestures, and representatives of the victims have said the payments were inadequate to make up for their losses. The payments that Doctors

MSF wanted [assurance] from Afghan authorities, US military, combatant groups that 'staff can safely provide medical care to people based on medical needs'

Without Borders is urging Washington to make are separate from that, the charity said.

The organization, known by its French initials MSF, has decided — at least for now — not to resume operations in Kunduz, where it ran the only trauma hospital in an increasingly violent part of the country, said Guilhem Molinie, the MSF representative for Afghanistan.

The Pentagon said the sustained attack was a mistake caused by human error. After a months-long investigation, the United States dismissed allegations by MSF that the incident amounted to a war crime, and exonerated all involved of any criminal action.

President Barack Obama apologized for the attack, which was one of the deadliest assaults on civilians in the 15-year war in Afghanistan.

But while the Pentagon report, released on April 29, said no criminal charges had been leveled against U.S. military personnel for mistakes that resulted in the attack, about 16 American military personnel, including a two-star general, were disciplined.

A dozen survivors interviewed by The Associated Press since the Oct. 3 assault on the MSF hospital — which treated wounded Taliban and government fighters alike — are convinced the bombing was no accident. They have said that the attack was sustained and focused on destroying the main hospital building. Doctors Without Borders has said it provided the GPS coordinates of the Kunduz clinic to

all parties in the conflict in Afghanistan.

The Afghan government has accepted \$5.7 million from the U.S. Department of Defense to rebuild the Kunduz facility. According to the U.S. military spokesman in Afghanistan, Brig. Gen. Charles Cleveland, construction could begin on the same site later this year.

"The money has been transferred to U.S. forces in Afghanistan, and military engineers have begun assessing the site as they work on designs for the new facility," he said.

That work should be finished by September, he said, adding that an Afghan company would be contracted to build the infrastructure and the U.S. would not be equipping it.

Meanwhile, Afghan President Ashraf Ghani has ordered that the hospital be rebuilt on the same site as the MSF clinic that was destroyed, said Wadidullah Majroh, director of international affairs at the Ministry of Public Health in Kabul. The president's office did not respond to requests for further information.

Molinie, the MSF representative in Afghanistan, told the AP that the medical charity

was not involved in discussions on the rebuilding of the clinic and received no funds from the U.S. or the Afghan government.

As a condition for resuming activities in Kunduz, MSF sought guarantees there would be "no military interference or use of force against MSF medical facilities, personnel, patients and ambulances," Molinie said.

But no guarantees have been offered so far.

The organization also wanted agreement from Afghan authorities, the U.S. military and all combatant groups fighting in Afghanistan that "MSF staff can safely provide medical care to people based on medical needs, without discrimination, and regardless of their religious, political or military affiliations," he said.

"We have not yet made a decision on resuming medical activities in Kunduz," Molinie said.

"It is extremely difficult to understand why adequate compensation has still not been offered to the families who have lost their sole breadwinner and to victims whose injuries are so severe they will struggle to earn an income," Molinie added.

He stressed that the Kunduz "victims feel disregarded and insulted," and that the issue of compensation payments "needs to be urgently addressed by the U.S."

The MSF hospital was attacked by a U.S. Air Force special operations AC-130 gunship during a firefight as U.S. advisers were helping Afghan forces retake Kunduz from the Taliban, who had captured the city on Sept. 28 and held it for three days.

Afghan officials, including the then-acting defense minister and the national security adviser Mohammad Hanif Atmar said at the time the hospital was being used as a base by Taliban fighters. No evidence has emerged to support the assertion.

MSF's policy of treating combatants on all sides of a conflict has drawn criticism from some in Afghanistan who say that by treating Taliban fighters, Doctors Without Borders enables them to return to the battlefield. The United Nations has said the vast majority of casualties from the war in Afghanistan — 11,002 killed and wounded in 2015 — are caused by the insurgents.

Those killed in the Kunduz airstrike were all Afghans, including hospital staff, patients and caretakers, mostly relatives of patients. Another 27 staff were wounded. The hospital was incinerated and MSF immediately ceased operations in Kunduz. Some staff were subsequently transferred to Kunduz's government-run hospital. **AP**

Matthew Pennington & Jill Colvin,
Washington

US-NORTH KOREA

Trump says he'd speak with Kim Jong Un over nukes

REPUBLICAN presidential candidate Donald Trump says he's open to speaking with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un to try to halt the communist nation's nuclear program.

"I would speak to him, I would have no problem speaking to him," Trump, the presumptive Republican nominee, told Reuters in an interview yesterday [Macau time].

"At the same time I would put a lot of pressure on China because economically we have tremendous power over China," he added.

It was unclear whether Trump was referring to bilateral talks between the U.S. and North Korea or a face-to-face meeting. But either would mark a significant departure from the current situation. There has been little dialogue between the U.S. and North Korea since Pyongyang pulled



North Korean leader Kim Jong Un



Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump

out of international aid-for-disarmament negotiations with the U.S. and other nations in 2008.

The Obama administration says it has been willing to resume those talks, but only if the North commits to the aim of giving up nuclear weapons. Kim Jong Un has instead doubled down on his nuclear program, holding two nuclear test explosions since he took power four years ago. He's also launched long-range rockets into space, intensifying fears that the North is moving closer to have a nuclear-tipped ballistic missile that could threaten the American mainland. In response, the U.S. has led the international effort to step up sanctions on the North.

Democratic front-runner

Hillary Clinton's campaign jumped on Trump's remarks.

"Let me get this straight," said Clinton adviser Jake Sullivan. "Donald Trump insults the leader of our closest ally, then turns around and says he'd love to talk to Kim Jong Un?" Sullivan was referring to Trump's recent feud with British Prime Minister David Cameron.

Sullivan added: "I suppose that makes sense for him, since he also praised Kim Jong Un for executing his uncle and seems to have a bizarre fascination with foreign strongmen like [Russian President Vladimir] Putin and Kim. But his approach to foreign policy makes no sense for the rest of us."

No sitting U.S. president has

met with the leader of North Korea, although former U.S. presidents have met with Kim Jong Un's predecessors on visits to the isolated nation. Jimmy Carter met in 1994 with Kim Il Sung, the current leader's grandfather — a meeting that paved the way for a disarmament agreement negotiated by the Clinton administration that later collapsed. Bill Clinton met with Kim Jong Il, the current leader's father, in 2009 when he traveled to Pyongyang to secure the release of two detained American journalists.

As a presidential candidate, Barack Obama was criticized by both Republican and Democratic rivals for saying he would be willing to meet with leaders of nations like Iran, Cuba and Nor-

th Korea without preconditions. Hillary Clinton said at the time that Obama's position was naive and irresponsible.

Obama cast his position as a break from President George W. Bush's foreign policy and the notion that the U.S. could punish a country by not talking to its leaders.

Now in his eighth year as president, Obama has never met with North Korea's leaders. He has met with Cuban President Raul Castro, including in Havana this year, though their first meeting came only after negotiations between their countries about normalizing relations.

Obama was willing to meet with Iran's President Hassan Rouhani at the United Nations in 2013, but the Iranian leader turned down the meeting. The two did speak by phone days later, a call that came as the U.S. eyed nuclear talks with its longtime foe.

In the Reuters interview, Trump also called for a renegotiation of the Paris climate accord, a global effort aimed at reducing carbon emissions, and said that, if elected president, he would dismantle most of the Dodd-Frank financial regulations that were put in place after the financial crisis.

He also said he's planning to release a detailed policy platform on the economy in two weeks. **AP**

At the same time I would put a lot of pressure on China because economically we have tremendous power over China.

DONALD TRUMP

PHILIPPINES

Communist rebels welcome Cabinet post offer

COMMUNIST rebel leaders welcomed yesterday a possible offer from the Philippines' presumptive president-elect of four Cabinet posts, raising the prospect of a government that includes Marxist guerrillas who have long demanded an end to the U.S. military presence and the redistribution of land.

Rodrigo Duterte has said he will likely offer the Communist Party of the Philippines Cabinet positions in agrarian reform, environment, social welfare and labor.

"The CPP and the revolutionary forces welcome the possibility of joining presumptive President Duterte in an alliance government, whether in the form of assigning Cabinet



Members of the communist New Peoples Army have their faces painted to hide their identity during the celebration of the 42nd anniversary of the Communist Party of the Philippines at Mt. Diwata

positions to the CPP or its endorsees or some other more radical form of unity government which the maverick new president might be open to consider," the party said in a statement.

It said an alliance would need to be based on principles such as social justice

and national sovereignty, including an end to the presence of U.S. troops.

American troops have no permanent bases in the country, but hold regular joint exercises and have backed Philippine troops fighting Abu Sayyaf militants in the south.

It remains to be seen what common ground could be forged.

While Duterte's proposed offer of Cabinet posts could foster peace talks, any major political concessions are likely to be complicated, given the many years of fighting and enmity between the rebels and government forces.

Business and industry leaders would also likely oppose demands such as an end to contractualization, the widespread practice of short-term employment, and higher wages. The government has also relied on closer military ties with the United States amid an increasingly tense territorial dispute with China over areas of the South China Sea.

The party said in its statement that it anticipates Duterte's offer would be followed by peace negotiations in which key policy changes could be discussed thoroughly, because he

knows "that what is more important to the revolutionary forces are the necessary changes in the policies and programs that govern these departments and the entire government."

OBAMA CONGRATULATES PRESUMPTIVE PHILIPPINE PRESIDENT

PRESIDENT BARACK

Obama offered his congratulations to the new presumptive president of the Philippines who has attracted controversy over his iron-fisted approach to law and order. The White House said Obama and Rodrigo Duterte spoke by phone in their first conversation since Duterte declared victory.

Obama noted high voter turnout in the election was a sign of the Philippines' "vibrant democracy," and he highlighted the two nations' "shared commitments to democracy, human rights, rule of law and inclusive economic growth," a statement said. "For us, the priorities will remain the security and prosperity of the Philippines."

UK

Sugar tax, spaceports meet pageantry in Queen's Speech

Jill Lawless, London

QUEEN Elizabeth II donned an ermine-trimmed robe and diamond-studded crown yesterday to announce government promises to put Britain at the cutting edge of technology and social progress in the 21st century.

Plans for prison reform, a sugar tax and commercial spaceports were among 21 bills announced in the Queen's Speech, an annual tradition that mixes lavish pomp and modern politics.

Prime Minister David Cameron called it a "progressive, one-nation" program, but some measures are sure to meet resistance — and next month's referendum on European Union membership is casting a shadow over the government's plans.

The annual State Opening of Parliament is steeped in centuries-old symbolism of the power struggle between Parliament and the British monarchy. In a display of regal wealth and finery, the queen traveled from Buckingham Palace in the horse-drawn Diamond Jubilee State Coach, and delivered the speech — written for her by the government — wearing the Imperial State Crown, studded



Britain's Queen Elizabeth II travels in a carriage from Buckingham Palace towards the Houses of Parliament in London

with 3,000 diamonds.

Lawmakers were summoned to listen to the queen by a security official named Black Rod — but only complied after slamming the door of the House of Commons in his face to symbolize their independence.

Since King Charles I tried to arrest members of the House of Commons in 1642 — and ended up deposed, tried and beheaded — the monarch has been barred from entering the chamber, so

the speech is delivered in Parliament's upper chamber, the House of Lords.

The monarch has addressed the opening of Parliament more than 60 times since she took the throne in 1952. For the first time this year the queen, who turned 90 last month, used an elevator rather than a staircase to enter Parliament. Buckingham Palace said the "modest adjustment" had been made for "the queen's comfort."

Amid bread-and-butter bills on town planning, bus services and pensions, the speech offered glimpses of a future of driverless cars, commercial space travel and deliveries by drone.

The Modern Transport Bill promised to put Britain "at the forefront of safe technology" in the drone sector, seek investment in "autonomous vehicles, spaceplane operations and spaceports" and introduce insurance for driverless cars, which are currently being tested in several British cities.

The government aims to open a spaceport by 2018 that could be used for commercial satellite launches and tourist space flights.

The speech said Britain would continue to meet the NATO target of spending 2 percent of national income on defense.

A bill to "tackle extremism in all its forms" includes a proposal to silence extremist speakers with civil orders and to scrutinize "unregulated education settings." Details of the measures will be closely watched by free-speech groups.

Another contentious measure, to introduce a British bill of rights separate from the European Convention on Human Rights, was limited to a promise of "proposals" rather than legis-

THE EU ELEPHANT IN THE ROOM

THE BATTLE raging over Britain's membership in the European Union received only a glancing mention in the nine-minute speech. "My government will hold a referendum on membership of the European Union," the queen said, referring to the vote scheduled for June 23.

There was no mention of a Sovereignty Bill, which some Conservatives have sought in order to assert the primacy of British legislation over the European Court of Justice.

Senior "leave" campaigner Iain Duncan Smith accused the government of "jettisoning or watering down key elements of their legislative program" to avoid contentious issues before the referendum.

lation. The exact same promise was made last year.

The speech promised to "increase life chances for the most disadvantaged," and included plans to make adoption easier, improve schools and establish new universities.

The government said it would replace crumbling Victorian prisons with modern facilities and give inmates more opportunities to work and learn, "to give individuals a second chance."

To fight childhood obesity, a tax on sugary sodas will come into effect in 2018. The levy has been opposed by the soft-drink industry, but the government says it will raise millions that can be spent on school sports and breakfast clubs. **AP**

HILLARY Clinton has filed financial documents showing that in 2015 she earned more than USD5 million in royalties from her book "Hard Choices" and about \$1.5 million in speaking fees before she launched her presidential campaign.

Her husband, former President Bill Clinton, continued his lucrative speaking tour through last November, reaping more than \$5 million from banking, tech and other corporate interests.

Hillary Clinton released the candidate financial disclosure form she filed to the Federal Election Commission earlier this week. The 11-page document shows that most of her personal wealth is held in a Vanguard 500 Index Fund and a separate JP Morgan Custody Account, both valued at \$5 million to \$25 million.

Clinton's campaign released her disclosure yes-

USA ELECTIONS

Clinton discloses millions in book royalties, speaking fees

terday, hours after Republican Donald Trump put out a statement describing his personal wealth at \$10 billion. Clinton used the release to sting Trump for refusing to release his tax returns, a theme she has repeated in recent days. Last year, Clinton released her own family tax returns covering 1977 to 2014.

"Despite Donald Trump's boasting, submitting his personal financial disclosure form is no breakthrough for transparency," Clinton campaign spokeswoman Christina Reynolds said. "The true test for Donald Trump is whether he will adhere to the precedent followed by every presidential candidate in the modern era



Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton (center), arrives to speak at a 'get out the vote' event at Transylvania University in Lexington

and make his tax returns available, as Hillary Clinton has done."

Earlier in the day, Trump announced he had submitted his candidate financial disclosure form to the FEC. He said it showed

"a tremendous cash flow" and growing revenues from his businesses. The form — it will be publicly available after an initial review by the government — should offer updated information about the

value of his assets and the revenues produced by his businesses. According to Trump, over the last 17 months his businesses' revenues grew by \$190 million, and he earned \$557 million in income.

Clinton's speeches to Wall Street interests between 2013 and 2015 spurred questions about her own lack of transparency, leading to repeated calls from her Democratic rival, Bernie Sanders, for transcripts of her talks to banks, investment houses and other financial interests.

In all, Clinton made at least 94 appearances before corporate and other special interests between 2013 and 2015, earning

more than \$21.6 million for her services. A review of federal records, regulatory filings and correspondence by The Associated Press showed that almost all the 82 corporations, trade associations and other groups that paid for or sponsored Clinton's speeches have actively sought to sway the government — lobbying, bidding for contracts, commenting on federal policy and in some cases contacting State Department officials or Clinton herself during her tenure as secretary of state.

Hillary Clinton's 2015 disclosure showed the Clintons total worth was estimated to be between about \$11 million and \$53 million, according to the broad ranges typically provided by the federal form. Her 2016 filing does not provide similar ranges, but the Clintons' 2015 earnings appear to be in line with those earlier figures. **AP**

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what's ON



THE EXHIBITION "TRAVELOGUE
- WORKS BY PARK, SEUNG HOON"
TIME: 10am-6pm (Closed on Mondays)
UNTIL: June 26, 2016
VENUE: Gallery of Taipa Houses-Museum
ADMISSION: Free
ENQUIRIES: (853) 8988 4000

"WEINGART TYPOGRAPHY" - EXHIBITION
BY THE MUSEUM FÜR GESTALTUNG ZÜRICH
TIME: 10am-9pm
UNTIL: June 12, 2016
VENUE: Tap Seac Gallery, located at Avenida do
Conselheiro Ferreira de Almeida, No. 95.
ADMISSION: Free
ENQUIRIES: (853) 8988 4000

THE CHARMS OF FLOWERS - EXHIBITION OF
TRADITIONAL CHINESE FLOWER ARRANGEMENT
TIME: 10am-6pm (no admission after 5:30 pm,
closed on Mondays, open on public holidays)
UNTIL: July 31, 2016
VENUE: Avenida do Conselheiro Ferreira de
Almeida, No. 95 C-D, Macau
ADMISSION: Free
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2852 2523

INK WASH OF THE FORBIDDEN CITY
- PAINTINGS BY CHARLES CHAUDELOT
TIME: 10am-7pm
(No admittance after 6:30 pm, closed on Mondays)
UNTIL: June 19, 2016
VENUE: Macau Museum of Art,
Av. Xian Xing Hai, s/n, NAPE
ADMISSION: MOP5
(Free on Sundays and public holidays)
ENQUIRIES: (853) 8791 9814

MACAU GIANT PANDA PAVILION
TIME: 10am-1pm and 2pm-5pm daily
(Except Mondays, closed on the following day
instead if a public holiday falls on Monday and no
admission after 4:45 pm; six viewings per day)
VENUE: Seac Pai Van Park, Coloane
ADMISSION: MOP10
ENQUIRIES: Civil and Municipal Affairs Bureau
(853) 2833 7676

Offbeat

TEXAS WOMAN SELLS 'HOUSEBROKEN'
BISON SHE LET WANDER INSIDE

A 1,000-pound "domesticated" bison that was allowed to roam in her owner's Dallas-area home has moved on to pastures new.

Bullet the bison was transported this weekend from

Karen Schoeve's home in Argyle to her new home, which she will share with two cows, 15 miles away in Flower Mound.

Schoeve says she was struggling to balance work and looking after Bullet and her two paint ponies, so she sold off the horses and two months ago advertised Bullet for sale on Craigslist for USD5,960. She tells The Dallas Morning News she received several offers.

Schoeve describes Bullet as house-trained, although she sometimes tracks mud inside. She says the bison is "good hardy stock, but "not scary" and that she has "a great personality."

TV canal macau

13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
15:00	RTPi Live
18:30	Helena's Shadow (Repeated)
19:20	Montra do Lilau (Repeated)
19:50	Soap Opera
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	TDM Talk Show
21:40	The Toque 12 S.1
22:10	Helena's Shadow
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Europa League Highlights
23:45	Variety
00:10	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
00:45	RTPi Live

cinema



CINETEATRO

19 MAY - 25 MAY



X-MEN: APOCALYPSE

ROOM 1
(2D) 2.00, 4.40, 9.50 pm
(3D) 7.15 pm

Director: Bryan Singer

Starring: James McAvoy, Michael Fassbender,

Jennifer Lawrence

Language: English (Cantonese)

Duration: 144min

MONEY MONSTER

ROOM 2
2.30, 4.30, 7.30, 9.30 pm

Director: Jodie Foster

Starring: George Clooney, Julia Roberts,

Jack O'Connell

Language: English (Cantonese)

Duration: 98min



TERRA FORMARS

ROOM 3
2.30, 4.30, 9.30 pm

Director: Takashi Miike

Starring: Hideaki Ito, Tomohisa Yamashita,

Shun Oguri

Language: Japanese (Cantonese/English)

Duration: 109min

CAPTAIN AMERICA: CIVIL WAR

ROOM 3
6.45 pm

Director: Anthony and Joe Russo

Starring: Chris Evans, Robert Downey Jr.,

Scarlett Johansson, Sebastian Stan

Language: English (Cantonese)

Duration: 147min

MACAU TOWER

19 MAY - 1 JUN

X-MEN: APOCALYPSE

1.15, 4.00, 6.45, 9.30 pm

Director: Bryan Singer

Starring: James McAvoy, Michael Fassbender,

Jennifer Lawrence

Language: English (Cantonese)

Duration: 144min

this day in history

2004 ANGRY DADS HIT BLAIR
WITH PURPLE FLOUR

Protesters have hurled condoms full of purple flour at British Prime Minister Tony Blair as he addressed MPs in the House of Commons, prompting an urgent review of security.

The PM was speaking at the despatch box during his weekly question and answer session soon after midday when father-of-two Ron Davies threw two missiles from the front of the public gallery normally reserved for VIPs.

A second man, Guy Harrison, shouted and held up a poster, before police rushed in and arrested the men.

As one missile hit the PM's back and another landed at his feet, Mr Blair turned around and looked bemused.

The Speaker, Michael Martin, ordered all MPs to leave the chamber while the powder was examined and found to be safe.

Campaign group Fathers 4 Justice said they had orchestrated the incident to demand equal rights for divorced fathers trying to gain access to their children.

The attack has led to calls for improved security at Westminster.

Only last month a £600,000 security screen was installed in front of the public gallery to prevent such an incident.

But the front three rows - normally reserved for ambassadors and guests of MPs and peers - are not protected.

In a later statement to the House of Lords, Labour peer Baroness Golding said the two protesters were guests of hers and she offered "unreserved apologies" to the Speaker, MPs and fellow peers.

It is believed the two men got tickets to the VIP section of the gallery at a charity auction.

Mr Blair's spokesman said the prime minister wanted to know when he could return to finish question time - but the Speaker vetoed the move.

Commons business recommenced at 1330 BST.

Home Secretary David Blunkett said a security review had already been launched at Westminster after recent breaches at Buckingham Palace.

The security services will bring forward recommendations "very quickly indeed", but it could mean there will be more restrictions on access to Parliament, he said.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

Ron Davis and Guy Harrison were both convicted of disorderly behaviour and fined £500 and £600 respectively.

A cross-party group of MPs condemned the media coverage of the flour bomb attack saying it had "rewarded" Fathers 4 Justice for their actions.

Fathers 4 Justice continued to organise various stunts climbing onto well-known landmarks, such as York Minster, Buckingham Palace and St Paul's cathedral, dressed as superheroes to highlight their cause.

Their membership increased by thousands and branches were opened in other parts of the world.

A security review of the House of Commons led by MI5 did not prevent further intrusions into Parliament.

In September 2004, five protesters broke into the Commons chamber to demonstrate against the ban on foxhunting.

In January 2006, Fathers 4 Justice disbanded following reports linking the group to a plan to kidnap Tony Blair's five-year-old son Leo. It re-formed following a protest stunt on the BBC's National Lottery Show in May 2006.

YOUR STARS

Aries Mar. 21-Apr. 19 It would be a great day for romance or sport, if only you didn't have to go to the office. One of them may fit into your day with a bit of creativity. Use common sense to decide which.

Taurus April 20-May 20 Don't be arrogant about your office alliances or take them for granted. Seek help at the first sign of tension. Once things escalate into full-blown power struggles, no amount of arbitration can help.

Gemini May 21-Jun. 21 If you already know you're not surrounded by like minded people, then why risk ruffling feathers? Even light debating can be taken the wrong way, so avoid it, at least while at the office.

Cancer Jun. 22-Jul. 22 It's just an illusion. An outrageous new product won't make you any more productive. And anyway, can your office really afford it? Run it by all of your superiors, no matter how strongly you feel you deserve it.

Leo Jul. 23-Aug. 22 Your heart is filled with a glowing warmth for some reason, and not because of any particular achievement. Whether it's an appreciation of the skill of colleagues or just plain love, enjoy it while it lasts.

Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22 You're not the type who likes too much action, or too much company, for that matter. So you'll want to stay organized, because overbearing people are descending upon you. Forewarned is forearmed.

Libra Sep. 23-Oct. 22 You may feel that you're stuck in a Jack and the Beanstalk fairy tale, transposed to fit the office. All the details in the world won't add up to anything resembling the big picture. Don't bother trying to climb to the top today.

Scorpio Oct. 23 - Nov. 21 You may think your boss is a big problem, but actually the problem is you. Or, more precisely, your clothing. Flamboyance would be a blunder in many an office. Count yours among them.

Sagittarius Nov. 22-Dec. 21 Everyone needs to grow, one way or another. If you're not getting an opportunity to do so in the office, look elsewhere. And you're in luck, because an excellent opportunity knocks on the blackboard today.

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19 It's not an easy day, by anyone's definition. The last thing you need is to be taken in by a colleague who appears as someone they are not. You know the type: Kissing up to the boss or taking credit for your work. Avoid them.

Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 18 You may have gotten used to power struggles. So when someone is wrestled to the ground (figuratively speaking, of course), it could take you by surprise. Let this be a lesson to you that nothing in the office is fixed in stone.

Pisces Feb. 19-Mar. 20 Fantasy, reality -- there's too much going on for anyone to notice which state of mind you are in. So don't bother keeping your mind from wandering. If nothing else, it will spare you other people's dramas.

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Easy

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

Easy+

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

Medium

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

Hard

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

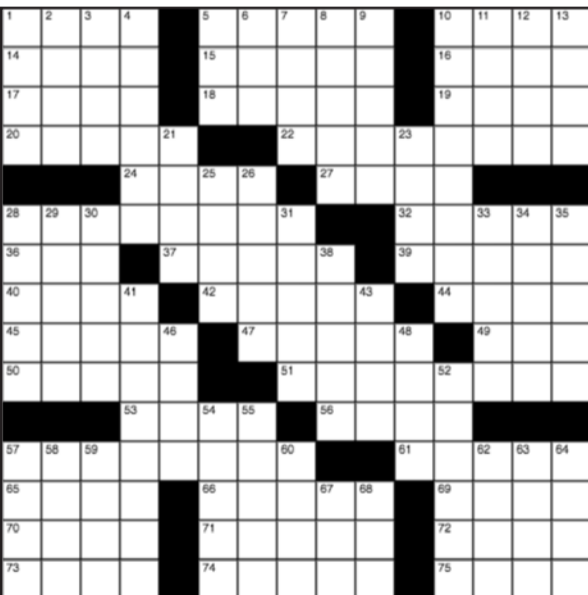
WEATHER

Table showing weather conditions for various cities in China and the World, including min/max temperatures and conditions like 'cloudy', 'rain', etc.

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Barbecue fare; 5- Kama ...; 10- Get-out-of-jail money; 14- In a frenzy; 15- Doorkeeper; 16- "The Time Machine" people; 17- Ad word; 18- Jeopardy; 19- Actress Turner; 20- Big name in hotels; 22- Brief joke; 24- In vogue; 27- Child support?; 28- Andalusian dance; 32- ...-garde; 36- Tree-ring indication; 37- You ... mouthfull; 39- Cut off; 40- Pops; 42- ... lift?; 44- "David Copperfield" wife; 45- Sporting blades; 47- Plant life; 49- Climbing vine; 50- Woman's one-piece undergarment; 51- Serial parts; 53- South American Indian; 56- Cheerful; 57- Piece of luggage; 61- "Who's there?" reply; 65- Yours, in Tours; 66- Cowboy display; 69- Enthusiastic liveliness; 70- Roman censor; 71- Diary bit; 72- Drops from the sky; 73- Asian prince; 74- Satan; 75- Auld Lang ...

DOWN: 1- Impetuous; 2- Noncommittal words; 3- Gaucho's weapon; 4- Rough design; 5- Eat dinner; 6- Function; 7- Comin' ... the Rye; 8- Freshen, as a stamp pad; 9- Senator Specter; 10- Had faith; 11- Greenspan of the Fed; 12- Actress Skye; 13- Perjurer; 21- In this way; 23- Grazing sites; 25- Volunteer's words; 26- Tribe ruler; 28- West Pointer; 29- Wide open; 30- Yielded; 31- Designer Simpson; 33- Shun; 34- Audacity; 35- Cafeteria items; 38- Take as one's own; 41- Incitement of rebellion; 43- Met solo; 46- Lip-...; 48- Italian wine center; 52- Westerns; 54- Gave a hoot; 55- All together; 57- Large bag; 58- Four Corners state; 59- Bit; 60- 1999 Ron Howard film; 62- Kill; 63- Principal; 64- Feminine suffix; 67- "... tu" (Verdi aria); 68- Popeye's Olive



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PJ (Open line) 993
Telephone - Report 1000
PJ (Picket) 28 557 775
Electricity - Report 28 339 922
PSP 28 573 333
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Steve Douglas, Manchester

FOOTBALL

United beats Bournemouth 3-1, finishes fifth in EPL

MANCHESTER United beat Bournemouth 3-1 in an English Premier League game hastily rearranged because of a bomb scare, sealing fifth place and a spot in the Europa League group stage yesterday [Macau time].

United was never likely to score the 19 goals needed to finish fourth and qualify for the Champions League, so the aim was to get the win to guarantee an automatic spot in the Europa League and take some momentum into the FA Cup final against Crystal Palace on Saturday.

Wayne Rooney scored one goal and played a part in two others. Playing in center midfield, Rooney finished off a well-worked team move in the 43rd minute, for his first goal since Feb. 2, and delivered key passes in the buildup to goals from Marcus Rashford and Ashley Young.

United defender Chris Smalling scored an own goal with virtually the last touch of the game.

Even if United wins the FA Cup, the season will have been a disappointment for the team and its manager Louis van Gaal, whose priority and target was a top-four finish. Van Gaal has one year left on his contract and his future remains uncertain, with United linked with a move for the unemployed Jose Mourinho.

Van Gaal addressed United's



Van Gaal's future remains uncertain, with United linked with a move for the unemployed Jose Mourinho

Gaal played a full-strength team, and appeared to avoid any injuries.

It was business as usual outside Old Trafford, with fans met with the same levels of security as previous matches. Security was not oppressive, and the atmosphere was calm.

It was also business as usual on the field for United, at least until Rooney's goal, with the team's build-up play ponderous and a crowd that was well short of the 76,635 capacity deprived of any entertainment. United finished its league campaign with 49 goals, a paltry total compared to the ones that

United teams under Alex Ferguson used to plunder.

The match had a preseason feel to it. Old Trafford was eerily quiet, save for the chanting of Bournemouth fans who made the 500-mile (800-kilometer) trip at short notice and were given a free bus ride by their club as a gift.

By winning the Premier League title as a 5,000-1 longshot, Leicester delivered arguably the most unlikely storyline in the history of English soccer, but United might have even topped that if they had racked up the club-record 19 goals required to leapfrog Manchester City.

Given that United's first shot on target came in the 43rd minute for Rooney's goal, the preposterous scenario was never going to happen.

The opening goal was one of the best seen at Old Trafford all season, with Anthony Martial playing a one-two, racing into the area, and supplying a low cross that was dummied home by Rooney.

Rooney was the supplier for the second goal in the 74th, sending a diagonal cross to Antonio Valencia, whose nod-down was met with a fierce low shot into the corner from Rashford.

Rooney then chipped the ball forward to Young, who beat the offside trap and scored with a shot that squirmed past goalkeeper Adam Federici in the 87th.

United's win took away the potential for having to play in the Europa League's third qualifying round on July 28. **AP**

fans after the game, thanking them for their "unconditional support."

"Now, we want to bring the FA Cup home to you," Van Gaal shouted. "You deserve it."

The original game on Sunday was called off after Old Trafford was evacuated because a fake bomb was discovered in the toilets of one of the stands.

Police said hours later that the device was left behind by a private company following a security training exercise using search dogs.

It was not only an acutely embarrassing episode for United, it meant the team had to return two days later to play the game — disrupting preparations for the cup final. Van

Chelsea captain John Terry signs up for another season



CHELSEA captain John Terry will stay at the club for another season.

The 35-year-old defender was out of contract and said in January he would not be extending his stay. But ahead of Sunday's final match of the season against Leicester, Chelsea said it would give Terry a deal for another year.

Terry says "everyone knows I'm Chelsea through and through."

The former England captain adds that he's "looking forward to next season under the new manager [Antonio Conte] and hopefully we can make it a successful one."

Terry has spent his entire career at Chelsea.

BADMINTON

Wang beats Marin in 3 games in Uber Cup

WANG Shixian beat top-ranked Carolina Marin 19-21, 21-18, 21-19 as China dispatched Spain 5-0 in Uber Cup badminton this week.

Marin eliminated Wang at the world championships last year, but Wang beat her a second straight time in the feature opening singles, as China earned its second win in Group A and a place in the quarterfinals.

Denmark also registered its second win and



Wang Shixian

progressed in beating Malaysia 3-2 in the same group. Anna Thea Madsen won the deciding match against Ho Yen Mei 22-24, 21-13, 21-13.

In Group C, Thailand won against Indonesia 3-2, the Thais taking one of the doubles in 75 minutes after saving two match points. Hong Kong beat Bulgaria 3-2 in the same group.

The Group D ties went as expected, with sweeps for India and Japan against

Germany and Australia, respectively, to set up the group deciding tie yesterday.

In the Thomas Cup, five-time champion Malaysia scored a 3-2 win over South Korea to top Group C with three wins.

Malaysia won the singles and South Korea the doubles, the tie going to the fifth match where Chong Wei Feng's experience prevailed against Jeon Hyeok Jin 21-16, 21-16.

South Korea still advanced

to the quarterfinals with two wins. England finished the group campaign with a first win, defeating Germany 4-1.

Thirteen-time champion Indonesia downed Thailand 4-1 to advance. Meanwhile, Hong Kong registered its first win by 3-2, and handed a depleted India a second successive loss.

In Group D, eight-time runner-up Denmark and Taiwan notched their second successive 5-0 victories to ensure last-eight berths. Denmark cruised against New Zealand without dropping a game, as did Taiwan against South Africa. **AP**

opinion

HK Observer
Robert Carroll



A PAN-QUAGMIRE

State leader Zhang Dejiang's visit here is about Hong Kong's finance and acumen to revive the Silk Road and reaching out to the community - both potentially very positive as it moves the city to a better bargaining position vis-a-vis the central authorities and may just break the ice between the pan-democratic camp and Beijing. That last matter is a sine qua non to move forward in the relationships between Hong Kong and the Chinese government and the legislature and the executive. This is because, unless the quagmire of non-cooperation between pan-dem lawmakers and the chief executive is not successfully overcome, both business and the community at large will continue to suffer.

A historic moment is upon us; a Chinese state leader meets senior pan-democrats for the first time with the support of 18 of their colleagues and not as bearers of good tidings; they were there to tell Zhang not to support the Chief Executive's reelection, and to insist that the democratic reform process be restarted.

How can such a turnaround have been achieved? From a point of virtually no relationship to potentially the beginnings of a working relationship between what at worst could have been described as sworn enemies?

Two factors seem to be at play. Firstly China's grand and highly ambitious Belt and Road strategy to revive the ancient Silk Road needs Hong Kong's financial, legal and regulatory skills; a package that adds up its internationally trusted reputation and outstanding track record in raising funds for Chinese businesses, both in the private sector and State Owned Enterprises. Secondly - and tied in with that - is Beijing's need to have the city functioning as optimally as possible in order to maintain the conditions for this crucial financial centre to keep doing what it does best: raising capital and providing associated services. Hong Kong has performed this role in a reliable, competent way that has serviced the Mainland exceptionally well since 1979, when Deng Xiao Ping opened the country economically to the outside world.

In order to keep the engine running, the stagnation of relations between the government and the legislature must be successfully tackled and China must trust that in Hong Kong the small but growing independence movement is a flash in the pan which does not have significant support. Therein lies the bargaining advantage of the pan-democrats and a solution to both problems if Beijing and the opposition lawmakers can start to see eye to eye.

Recent developments and looming legislative and chief executive elections have added poignancy to these issues. The Chinese economic slowdown means that the Belt and Road initiative's success will require Hong Kong's tried and tested expertise. The rise of 'localist' forces here has also alarmed the central government already dealing with secessionist movements in Tibet and Xinjiang as well as an ever fractious relationship with Taiwan, which it regards as a renegade province in need of reeling in.

The pan-democrats are therefore presented with the old adage: the devil you know is better than the devil you don't. That is, better to deal with them than the much more radical youth parties that might emerge. And as many business leaders say; if the Belt and Road project is to harness Hong Kong's skills fully, it needs to be a high-functioning city with a legislative council that is behind legislative moves to support that.

THE BUZZ NBA CHINA TO OPEN BASKETBALL-THEMED PLAYZONE IN SHANGHAI

The NBA is opening a basketball-themed entertainment center in China in another effort to connect with fans where it enjoys huge popularity.

The league says that NBA China will open the NBA Playzone in Shanghai later this summer.

Located in the Hubin Dao Shopping Mall at Xin Tian Di, the 1,500-square meter center will

feature 10 elements, including an arena measuring about one-third the size of a regulation court, a store, party rooms and a snack bar and a youth obstacle course.

NBA mascots Clutch of the Houston Rockets — a favorite team of the Chinese from Yao Ming's years with the team — and Benny the Bull of the Chicago Bulls will make regular appearances.



HIGH winds have delayed dozens of climbers trying to reach the summit of Mount Everest, a mountaineering official said yesterday.

The winds have made it difficult for the climbers to make their attempts for the summit but posed no immediate danger, said Gyanendra Shrestha, an official in Nepal's Mountaineering Department who is at base camp on Everest.

The climbers have descended to lower camps on the slopes of the world's highest mountain to wait for the conditions to improve.

Nearly 88 climbers have reached the 8,850-meter (29,035-foot) summit in the past few days, marking the first successful climbs following two years of disasters that virtually emptied the mountain.

An avalanche triggered by a powerful earthquake

killed 19 climbers and injured 61 others at base camp last year. In 2014, 16 Sherpa guides were killed by an avalanche above the base camp.

Last year's climbing season was scrubbed, and nearly all of the climbers in 2014 abandoned their attempts after the avalanche. The only team who reached the summit that year from the Nepal side was a Chinese woman and her five Sherpa guides. AP

'Unique Pink' diamond fetches USD28 million at Geneva auction

A vivid, pearl-shaped pink diamond said to be the largest of its kind to go under the hammer has sold at auction for 27.3 million Swiss francs (\$28 million) at a Sotheby's auction.

Sotheby's said the hammer price, which excludes fees, came in at the low end of the expected pre-auction range of \$28 million-\$38 million. Including fees, the total price was 30.8 million Swiss francs. The buyer wasn't identified.

The 15.38-carat "Unique Pink," mined near the Kimberley area of South Africa and touted for its clarity and pure structure, was the star lot in yesterday's Geneva auction.

Ehud Laniado, chairman of seller Cora International, said the diamond was particularly rare because of its size, "strong hue and dominant even spread of color."

The current record for the sale of a pink



diamond was \$46.2 million, set five years ago by the "Graff Pink."

The record sale for any diamond was \$48.5 million of the 12.03-carat polished "Blue Moon" diamond in Geneva earlier this year. The buyer, Hong Kong billionaire Joseph Lau, had it renamed "The Blue Moon of Josephine" as a gift for his 7-year-old daughter. AP

Station	Air quality
Roadside	35-55 Moderate
High Density Residential Area	80-110 Bad
Ambient	70-100 Moderate

WORLD BRIEFS

JAPAN's economy grew at a better than expected 1.7 percent annual pace in the first quarter of this year, as solid consumer demand and higher government spending offset relatively weak business investment and sluggish exports.



AUSTRALIA A 72-year-old man told rescuers he threw spanners and spark plugs to keep crocodiles at bay after a crocodile capsized his boat in a northern Australian creek and his friend drowned.



USA Bernie Sanders wins Oregon's presidential primary and battles Hillary Clinton to a neck-and-neck outcome in Kentucky, vowing to soldier on as Clinton sought to blunt his momentum ahead of her likely general election matchup against Republican Donald Trump. More on p14

USA Senate passes legislation that would allow families of Sept. 11 victims to sue the government of Saudi Arabia.

MEXICO President Enrique Pena Nieto proposes to legalize same-sex marriage in Mexico, a move that would enshrine on a national level a Supreme Court ruling last year that it was unconstitutional for states to bar such couples from wedding.



KENYA Widely viewed pictures and video of a protester being kicked by Kenyan riot police as he lay on the ground cause a stir in this East Africa country, prompting debate on police brutality and civil rights.

ZIKA The US Senate voted decisively in favor of a bipartisan USD1.1 billion measure to combat the Zika virus this year and next, cutting back President Barack Obama's request but offering significantly more money to fight Zika than would House GOP conservatives.