



### LOCAL ARCHITECTS' WORK SHOWCASED

An exhibition showcasing the sketches and artworks of three young architects from Macau has opened at Albergue SCM

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### ON-THE-JOB TRAINING

75 local high school students aged 15 and above received on-the-job training across multiple MGM departments

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### NUCLEAR FUEL FACILITY SUSPENDED

A city in eastern China yesterday suspended preliminary work on site selection for a nuclear fuel reprocessing facility

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# Times

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"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN'"

## WORLD BRIEFS

### CHINA-S. KOREA

Growing Chinese anger at South Korea over a U.S. anti-missile defense system bodes ill for everything from pop star appearances to United Nations action against North Korea's nuclear and missile threats. Since Beijing criticized Seoul's decision last month to proceed with the THAAD system, there have been reports of event cancellations and possible bans on South Korean TV series, amid scattered calls for a total boycott of imports from the country. **More on p10**



**KOREA** Like dozens of athletes at the Rio de Janeiro Games, gymnasts Hong Un Jong of North Korea and Lee Eun-ju of South Korea met on the sidelines during competition and training. The two posed for a smiling selfie in a picture that was captured by journalists and immediately took on larger significance for the two countries still technically at war. **More on p18**



**RUSSIA** The Russian intelligence agency FSB said yesterday that one of its employees and a soldier were killed in separate incidents in Crimea described as foiled terrorist attacks.

More on backpage

## PAC ON

# Ferry terminal will take at least 6 months to open . P2



# Total population in Macau surpasses 650,000 mark . P3

# Pac On Ferry Terminal to open in 2017

Lynzy Valles

**A**FTER massive delays on the construction of the Pac On Ferry Terminal, the MOP3.9 billion project (six-fold the initial budget) is set to open its doors within the next six to nine months, with a capacity to accommodate 400,000 passengers per day.

In a press visit to the site yesterday, authorities said that the new five-floor-terminal is approximately 200,000 square meters; quadruple the size of the temporary Taipa ferry terminal.

The upcoming terminal will accommodate three ferry operators, namely Turbo Jet, Co-tai Water Jet and Yuet Tung Shipping across its 16 berths.

The project, which has a total of 88 immigration counters, will also feature three multifunctional berths that will house large ferries and cruise ships, while its heliport will accommodate five helicopters. The terminal floor area is four times bigger than the initial design size.

Authorities said the heliport was reconstructed, as it first failed to meet the requirements of the Civil Aviation Authority.

Although the terminal would not be fully ready by the expected date due to "renovation and improvement works," Chou Chi Tak, acting director of Marine and Water Bureau, told the press that the temporary terminal operation will remain in place for now. "There are 110 sailings in Taipa terminal per day and about 7 million tourists use that terminal every year," he explained. "So once the new one is open, the old one may likely be demolished. We hope



Chou Chi Tak (left) and Tomas Hoi

to divert some tourists from Macau peninsula to Taipa."

Transferring of the ferries to the new terminal would take place during the night when there are fewer sailings. Chou affirmed that once the temporary terminal stopped its operation, the new site would commence immediately wi-

thout any interruption.

The acting director also noted that even when the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau Bridge (HKZMB) opens, there would still be a demand for a marine transport, adding that the figure of tourists coming into the region by sea is "pretty stable."

Meanwhile Tomas Hoi, engi-

neering chief officer of Infrastructure Development Office, defended the staggering project budget, stressing that the project focuses on the long-term development of the region.

"[In] this project, we got the needs from the users, so we make the designs according to the needs. Of course I think

**■ Authorities confirmed that the Outer Harbor Ferry Terminal would continue to operate in the peninsula after the Taipa terminal opens**

the project is not only for short term," he explained.

Hoi also explained the reasons behind several delays seen in several of the region's infrastructure projects, outlining that such delays do not only occur in the region but in mainland China, Hong Kong and Southeast Asian countries.

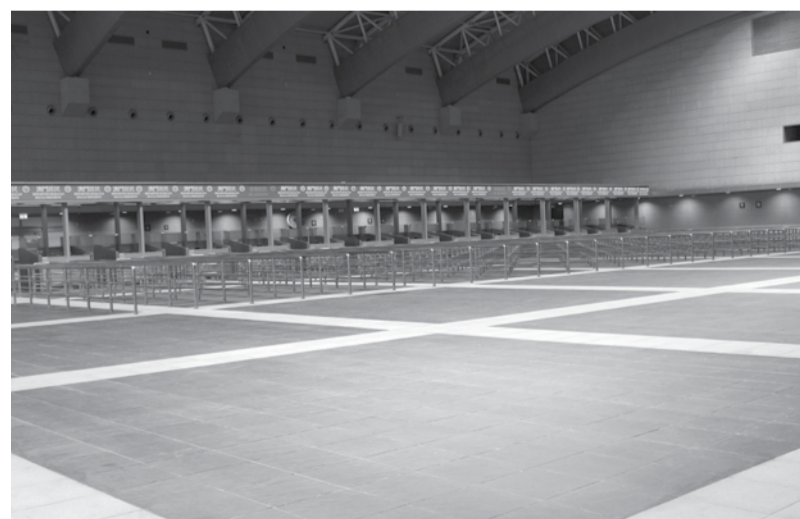
"Of course there are some problems with human resources, the limitation of the space that we have here in Macau which will create difficulties for the contractor to apply some works," he elaborated.

"That's why I think there are no differences with other countries. [...] Also in China and Hong Kong, these situations happen."

Regarding penalties, Hoi hinted that the project was not subjected to fines despite "major changes and some additional works" as the contractor had completed the works by its set deadline, which was December of last year.

The construction of the last phase of the Pac On Ferry Terminal will only occur once it opens its doors, expected to be in May. The final phase will house gasoline storage tanks, fuel refill and firefighting equipment.

Further, authorities confirmed that the Outer Harbor Ferry Terminal would continue to operate in the peninsula even after the new terminal commences operations. The acting director of Marine and Water Bureau, Chou Chi Tak, said that two-thirds of the ferries arriving to Macau would still be received in the Macau terminal, similar to its current operations.



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DEMOGRAPHICS

# Population surpasses 650,000 mark

**T**HE total population in Macau at the end of June 2016 has reached about 652,500, according to data released yesterday by the Statistics and Census Service (DSEC). This is an increase of 3,400 over the previous quarter. The female population (332,600) accounted for 51 percent increase of the total.

The data shows a slight decrease in the number of live births in the territory over the previous quarter and a surge in the number of deaths in the territory, up by almost 19.3 percent in the first



half of 2016 when compared to the same period last year.

There were 1,639 live births delivered in the second quarter of 2016, a decrease of 25 or 1.5 percent quarter-to-quarter. The sex ratio at birth stood at 107.7 male babies for 100 female babies. A total of 3,303 live

births were recorded across the first and second quarters of 2016, down by 71 year-on-year.

Meanwhile, mortality totaled 562, a decrease of 95 quarter to quarter. The top three underlying causes of death were neoplasms (171), diseases of the cir-

culatory system (153) and diseases of the respiratory system (113). In the first half of 2016, mortality went up by 197 year-on-year to a total of 1,219, an increase of almost 19.3 percent.

In the second quarter of 2016, Chinese immigrants totaled 1,271, down by 1,424 quarter-to-quarter. Individuals granted right of abode stood at 339, the same as in the first quarter of 2016. Meanwhile, non-resident workers totaled 182,459 at the end of the second quarter, an increase of 1,023 over the previous quarter. **DB**

## Seven victims of bus crash still in Kiang Wu



Seven passengers of the bus that crashed into a building on Rua da Entena on Monday remain at the Kiang Wu Hospital. One of the three passengers, who was in intensive care, has been

moved to the hospital's general ward, the Health Bureau announced. However, one passenger is still in coma. Yesterday, the residents living in the building which was struck by the bus were allowed to visit their homes. They asked for the government's intervention in the repair works and raised concerns about the building's structure.

## Neptune Group expects significant loss

The Neptune Group has stated that it expects to record a significant loss for the year that ended on June 30, 2016. The expected loss is being primarily attributed to the Macau junket business, which continues to be slow and payments of which are often delayed. The Hong Kong-based company also noted that the difficult gaming environment in Macau for VIP rooms in addition to a pervasive reluctance of junkets to issue credit to players might also be contributing to its loss. The final results announcement is expected to be released on or around September 30.

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"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN' "

## MIXED MARTIAL ARTS

## Eight bouts to be staged at The Venetian on Saturday

**SINGAPORE-BASED** mixed martial arts (MMA) promotion agency, ONE Championship (ONE), has announced its first event in Macau "ONE: Heroes of the World," to take place on Saturday, August 13 at The Venetian Macao.

A total of eight rounds will be held over the evening. In the main bout of the boxing competition, ONE Flyweight World Champion Adriano Moraes will challenge elite wrestler Andrew Leone for the interim world champion title.

According to a statement from the organizers, ONE Cham-



Some of the fighters pictured recently in Hong Kong during a promotional event

pionship's CEO Victor Cui said: "ONE continues its rise as the world's most exciting mixed martial arts promoter with another massive fight card planned in Macau." "We have some tremendous ma-

tch-ups for fight fans out there, including a thrilling main event between two of the world's best flyweights in Adriano Moraes and Andrew Leone," added Cui.

Former ONE Flyweight World Champion Adriano "Mikinho" Moraes is a highly-skilled Brazilian Jiu Jitsu black belt. As a former champion, he is on the comeback trail to retain his title, but first he will have to get past Andrew Leone.

"Real champions pick themselves up when they are down," said top contender Moraes. "I feel renewed as a fighter and ready to re-

claim my place at the top of my division. I'm going to get back inside the cage against Andrew [Leone] and show the world that I'm back."

Twenty-six-year-old flyweight Andrew Leone of New York made waves in ONE Championship when he debuted with a victory over Geje Eustaquio of the Philippines in 2013. He has since achieved two solid victories over high-level opponents, including a unanimous decision against Japanese MMA veteran Koetsu Okazaki in his last match.

"It's my time now. I've been working very hard on my game,

and feel I'm at that point in my career where I'm ready to just take the reins and show everyone who I am," said Leone. "With an amazing team behind me, I have all the tools I need to compete at the highest level."

In the evening's initial bout offerings, rising Chinese prospects Ma Jia Wen and Ma Hao Bin will take on Filipino veteran Jimmy Tabo and Cambodian star Chan Rothana respectively, while Thai national wrestling champion Kritsada "Dream Man" Kongsrichai takes on Team Lakay's undefeated competitor Joshua Pacio.

## Pacquiao comeback fight vs Vargas is on Nov. 5 in Las Vegas

**FILIPINO** boxing icon Manny Pacquiao confirmed yesterday that he will come out of retirement to fight WBO welterweight champion Jessie Vargas on Nov. 5 in Las Vegas.

The boxer and Philippines senator issued a statement confirming the bout, saying he would conduct his entire training camp in

his home country so he can also attend to his legislative work, as he promised during the election campaign.

His adviser, Michael Koncz, said there will be a promotional tour from Sept. 8-10 in Los Angeles, after which Pacquiao and his team will go home so he can attend to his Senate duties.

The 37-year-old Pacquiao

said he was excited to return to the ring and said he has to fight again to earn a living.

Before his last fight in April, he said that he would retire. During the campaign for the May 9 election, he assured Filipino voters that he would focus on legislative work if elected to the Senate.

"Yes, the fight is on. I have agreed to a Nov. 5 fight with

reigning WBO welterweight champion Jessie Vargas," Pacquiao said.

"Boxing is my passion. I miss what I'd been doing inside the gym and atop the ring," he added.

Pacquiao, who rose from an impoverished childhood, said boxing is his main source of income. He said he could not rely just on his

salary as a public official.

Pacquiao met for two hours with Bob Arum, the head of Top Rank Boxing, on Tuesday night in Manila and they will meet again soon for the contract signing, Koncz said.

Pacquiao's Senate victory is the latest chapter in his stunning rags-to-riches story. He had worked odd

jobs before lacing up the gloves at the age of 12. He rose steadily and became a champion in eight boxing divisions, making him one of the world's most celebrated and wealthiest athletes.

He had represented southern Sarangani province in the House of Representatives since May 2010, though he had been criticized for seldom showing up for legislative duties due to his preoccupation with boxing. **AP**

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Daniel Beittler

CULTURE | ART

# Albergue exhibition brings together work of 3 architects

**A**N exhibition showcasing the sketches and artworks of three young architects from Macau has opened at Albergue SCM on Tuesday night.

Co-organized by Albergue SCM, the Architects Association of Macau and the Friendship Circle of Culture in Macau, and sponsored by the Macao Foundation, the exhibition is titled "Architects Sketches x 3: Young Architects Series". The three participating artists-cum-architects are Dennio Long, Chan Chi Lek and Alice Iu.

Long, an architect based in Macau, has participated in a number of public architecture, planning and heritage conservation projects. In order to capture some of the inconspicuous or "vanished" buildings not included in Macau's World Heritage List, the artist seeks to depict traditional and perspective drawings of lesser-known structures.

Lek wrote in his artist's description that he enjoys strolling around and sketching the architecture of Macau and other cities. He has held solo exhibitions of Macau's churches, temples and cityscape on numerous occasions in 1998, 2005 and 2015. He has published a number of books containing his works, which are also featured in local magazines and newspapers.

Chan's works feature similarities with Long's in the sense that both artists portray actual buildings in Macau in a defi-



Alice Iu smiles

ned and intricate manner with accurate perspective. The difference lies in the technique as Chan's works are more abstract than Long's, featuring fewer sharp strokes and more variation in tone. Chan's drawings are sketches in a realist sense, providing a 'warm' and full representation of the city's structures, while Long draws more inspiration from the architectural aspect, with his works appearing more as blueprints than art.

However, it is Iu, the third of

the participating artists, who really stands out from the other two contributors.

Educated in Macau, Hong Kong and the UK, Iu and a fellow architect were awarded last year for their design proposal for the "Nam Van and Sai Van Lakes Architectural Design Competition." Her interests lie in architecture, urban design and urban infrastructure. In addition, she is fascinated with recording the differences between cultures, particularly between the East and the West,

paying specific attention to how cultural ideologies affect architecture.

Iu's works exhibited at Albergue SCM are not just depictions of Macau's architecture, but suggestions for it and for the future of the MSAR's urban planning.

One of her suggestions is to include the year of completion on the exterior of all buildings in Macau. Other suggestions in her artwork include further land reclamation, a "sunken bridge for pedestrians" and a natural swimming pool next to one of Macau's artificial lakes, which would be able to purify water using biological filters.

The Times enquired whether these ideas were purely artistic or rather intended for implementation. With specific consideration to the 'dated buildings' concept, Iu replied: "I hope for actual implementation because I think Macau evolves [changes] so fast that some of its history gets left behind."

"But [marking the completion date] on buildings will help tourists and locals to understand the layers of the city, rather than just having the new part

and the old part. It makes both residents and tourists more curious and interested in exploring [Macau] even though they are so familiar with the environment," she justified.

In regard to her interest in the confluence of Eastern and Western culture in Macau's architecture, Iu argued that most buildings in the city fall into one of the categories, with little in between.

"The interesting thing about Macau is that, even though we say there is a fusion [here] between the East and the West, there aren't actually many examples in between. The exception is the Mandarin House, where I can see that there are some Western ideas [imbued], but the rest of the town is fairly distinguished between what is Chinese and what is [Western]," she said.

The president of the Cultural Affairs Bureau, Ung Vai Meng, and Portuguese Consul General Vitor Sereno, were also in attendance on Tuesday among other guests.

The exhibition will be open until September 15. Admission is free of charge.

## Macau Artists Society celebrates 60th anniversary

**T**HE "Exhibition of Artworks by Members of Macau Artists Society 2016", featuring a total of 169 works by members of the Society, will be inaugurated on August 16 at 6.30 p.m. at the Nam Van Old Court Building,

as part of its 60th anniversary celebration.

Jointly organized by the Cultural Affairs Bureau and Macau Artists Society, the exhibition brings together different art forms including watercolor, oil painting, sketching,

ink wash painting, calligraphy and sculpture which showcases a variety of genres. According to its promoters, the exhibition provides "an opportunity for visitors to appreciate local art and its far-reaching sig-

nificance in promoting artistic development in Macau."

Established in 1956, the Macau Artists Society is celebrating its 60th anniversary. Each of its 169 members will showcase an exquisite work in the

exhibition. This year's exhibition features the highest number of artists from the Macau Artists Society of all editions.

The exhibition is open daily from August 17 to September 7. Admission is free.



Easterners meet westerners, by Lio Man Cheong

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Daniel Beittler

A certification ceremony for the 2016 "A Day with MGM" program was held yesterday at MGM Macau, awarding 75 local high school students aged 15 and above who received on-the-job training across multiple departments for the gaming operator. Participants were awarded with certificates and given stuffed toy of a lion – the icon and logo of MGM.

Three daily sessions will be held this year, the first of which concluded yesterday. The other two training days will be held later this month on August 15 and 24 respectively.

The participating departments in this year's program were front desk reception, fitness and pool facilities, food and beverage, operations, wardrobe and linen, warehouse, human resources and others.

Some of this year's participants shared their experience during the certification event, claiming that the event had helped them examine their future career path and had shed some light on their interests.

One participant, identified

## MGM holds ceremony for training day student participants



A total of 75 local students gain hands-on experiences

as David, thanked his department mentors for their help and guidance during the event, and said that his experience had helped him plan for his future.

Among other invited guests were two former participants

of the program; a lady who identified herself as Victoria who studies Hotel Management at IFT, and Ray Au, who is currently studying International Hospitality Management in the Netherlands.

"I understood [after completing the program] how hotels work," said Victoria. "I [realized] that all of the employees in a hotel are important and are all [important in creating] the best customer-facing experience."

Meanwhile, Au told the Times that he has actually participated in the program twice before, first in a customer-facing role in the restaurant area of the business, and then in a back-of-house function also under the food and beverage category.

"The experiences inspired me to pursue a career in hotel management," he told the Times during the ceremony.

When he finishes his studies in the Netherlands, Au intends to return to the MSAR and emphasized that he would like to join MGM, working at either MGM Macau or the new Cotai resort expected to open next year.

## Naga2 casino expected to have 200 tables

NAGACORP, which operates a casino in the Cambodian capital of Phnom Penh, is set to open a new casino in Cambodia, Naga2, in 2017. The company has now confirmed that the resort is expected to contain as many as 200 gaming tables and up to 1,000 slot machines.

The company's existing resort, Naga casino in Phnom Penh, has seen more mainland Chinese visitors in the wake of President Xi Jinping's anti-corruption campaign that has deterred gamblers from going to Macau.

However, in spite of this, the company's chief marketing officer of South East Asia, Mike Ngai, told The Standard that most of the casino customers hail from Southeast Asia, especially Malaysia.

Visitors to the country rose 2.4 percent year-on-year in the first five months of this year to 2 million.

Chairman Timothy Patrick McNally said that the firm is also predicting growth in the revenue generated by NagaCity, a pedestrian mall offering Chinese duty-free goods in the Cambodian capital.

The company's net profit jumped 24 percent to USD125.2 million (MOP1 billion) in the first half of 2016, thanks to local economic growth and a rising number of visitors.

At the same time, the company's revenue from just VIP gaming jumped 26 percent in the first half of the year to USD4.5 billion, with further expectations that the whole year will record growth in excess of 20 percent.

Naga shares jumped 7.24 percent to HKD5.78 on Tuesday - the highest they have been since last September.

## MGM Cotai to open only with mass tables

MGM Cotai, which was initially slated to open early this year, will contain no VIP gaming rooms in the finished resort; a move which demonstrates the operator's shift toward entertainment-driven offerings.

MGM China CEO Grant Bowie told TDM that the resort will contain "only mass tables" at the sidelines of a forum on Tuesday, titled "Macau Integrated Tourism and Leisure Enterprises and Corporate Social Responsibility."

"We've already made the decision that we're envisaging opening with only mass ta-

bles, and that's obviously the basis of where we see the future of Macau and that's the decision we've taken at this time," Bowie said, as cited by TDM.

The property is being constructed to accommodate up to 500 gaming tables, however in view of the fact that the government is unlikely to grant the full amount, Bowie said MGM China will cooperate with the government's decision.

"The market is changing and we have to adapt to those changes," he said. "I'm very positive that our property in Cotai will be given [...] sufficient tables."

### corporate bits

#### TESLA, STUDIO CITY COLLABORATE FOR SUPERCHARGER STATION



Automotive company Tesla has announced Studio City as the first supercharger location in the peninsula.

Following the opening of Tesla's service center in the region earlier last month, the facility will be installed at the

Studio City Supercharger Station, allowing Tesla owners to easily recharge their cars.

With the new installation set to become operational in the early fall of this year, Tesla owners can enjoy charging

both in and around the Macau peninsula.

The Tesla Supercharger can run for a range of nearly 500km on a single charge; Model S drivers can drive extensively without the need to recharge. Superchargers can replenish half a charge to a Model S in as little as 20 minutes, said Melco Crown in a statement.

To commemorate the collaboration with Studio City, Tesla will also host its first Macau pop-up event on the property, allowing visitors to experience the updated Model S first-hand. Until September 4, registered VIPs can schedule an exclusive test drive of Tesla's premium electric sedan at Studio City.

#### GOLDEN COURT UNVEILS NEW MENUS



Chrysanthemum pudding with goji berry

Sands Macao's signature Chinese restaurant Golden Court has enhanced its recently launched dim sum menu with additional delicacies such as new hot pot

menus to offer a wider choice of Chinese cuisine.

Prepared by head chef Kan Kai Wing, the newly presented dim sum are cooked with natural ingredients that stay

true to classic "yum cha" favorites, the company said in a statement. Some of the dishes include steamed scallop and vegetable dumplings with black truffle, baked mini swan pastry with duck meat, and deep-fried spring rolls with shrimp and garlic.

The restaurant's hot pot menus are back with new items featuring Boston lobster alongside seafood and Angus beef sets that hot potters will adore.

Listed in the 2016 edition of the Hong Kong Tatler 'Best Restaurants' guide, Golden Court provides a traditional Cantonese dining experience in a contemporary setting.

Guests can choose to dine in the restaurant's lively main area or book one of the three private dining rooms.

# Court again says New Jersey can't legalize sports betting

A federal appeals court on Tuesday dealt another defeat to New Jersey's yearslong attempt to legalize sports betting, setting aside the state's challenge to a federal betting ban.

The 3rd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruling invalidated a law passed by New Jersey in 2014 that would have allowed sports betting at casinos and racetracks. The court found New Jersey's law repealing prohibitions against sports gambling violated the 1992 Professional and Amateur Sports Protection Act, which forbids state-authorized sports gambling.

"Because PASPA, by its terms, prohibits states from authorizing by law sports gambling, and because the 2014 law does exactly that, the 2014 law violates federal law," the court wrote.

Currently, only Nevada offers legal sports betting on individual games. Delaware offers multigame parlay betting in which players must pick several games correctly to win. Both were given exemptions when PASPA was passed.

New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie and supporters in the state Legislature have sought to legalize sports gambling to help prop up the struggling casino and horse racing industries. It's estimated up to hundreds of billions of dollars are bet illegally on sports every year in the U.S.

Monmouth Park, in Oceanport on New Jersey's coast, is the only venue currently set up to offer sports gambling, if it were legalized. AP

# Gaming tycoon struck by Duterte's 'lightning' to exit PhilWeb

Cecilia Yap

FORMER PhilWeb Corp. Chairman Roberto Ongpin, who's been singled out by Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte in a campaign to end the influence of big businesses on the government, said he will sell his stake to protect the electronic gambling company and its workers.

Duterte on Aug. 3 named Ongpin as among the businessmen he says have undue influence on the government and whom the newly installed head of state wants to "destroy" as he seeks to end online gambling in the country. The tough comments caused PhilWeb shares to plunge by a record and forced Ongpin to resign from the company.

"I was hit by lightning," Ongpin said in a phone interview yesterday, referring to Duterte's rebuke. "I will auction my shares to the highest bidder." The 79-year-



Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte

old said he owns 53.7 percent of Manila-based PhilWeb, a supplier of electronic gambling software he founded in 2000.

The Philippine Stock Exchange on Wednesday approved PhilWeb's request for a voluntary trading suspension until Aug. 23. The gaming company's shares have fallen 70 percent since Aug. 3 through Tuesday, wiping out about 14 billion pesos (USD300 million) in market value. The stock exchange's main index rose 2 percent during the period.

Ongpin served as trade

minister under Ferdinand Marcos until the late Philippine dictator was ousted in 1986, after which the Harvard-trained businessman rebuilt his clout to become among the country's most prominent, and its 20th-richest person as ranked by Forbes. Naming Ongpin in his Aug. 3 speech, Duterte said he wants to end the tycoon's influence.

"Destroy the oligarchs that are embedded in government now," said Duterte, who was elected president in May and took office June 30. "These are the guys who just sit in their jets and in their mansions everywhere, and their money trickle like a taxi meter."

Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corporation or Pagcor, the state-owned gambling company that also functions as a regulator, said on Tuesday it won't renew PhilWeb's contract supplying software to Internet gambling cafes in

the country. The government-licensed e-Games cafes, run by independent operators, open around the clock offering casino games such as baccarat, blackjack, slot machines and video poker and others.

"Clearly I am the target. They had nothing to do with this," Ongpin said, referring to workers at the cafes. About 5,000 people work in these e-Games cafes, he said.

Manila is aspiring to become the next Asian gambling hub as high-stakes gamblers increasingly abandon Macau amid the Chinese government's crackdown on corruption, with four new casino resorts sited along Manila Bay. Enrique Razon, chairman of Philippine casino operator Bloomberly Resorts Corp. that owns one of the resorts, said in June that Duterte's election and move to calm tensions with China was good for business. Bloomberg

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**H**ONG Kong stocks edged higher, led by Macau casino operators, as a bull-market rally showed signs of exhaustion.

The Hang Seng Index rose 0.1 percent at the close, paring an advance of 0.7 percent. Sands China Ltd. and Galaxy Entertainment Group Ltd. gained the most in two weeks. Wharf Holdings Ltd., Hong Kong's largest mall operator, dropped 1.9 percent after posting a decline in net income. MTR Corp. capped its biggest loss in almost three months after reporting lower underlying profit. The Shanghai Composite Index lost 0.2 percent.

The Hang Seng Index has rallied more than 22 percent from its February low to enter a bull market as concerns about a Chinese slowdown waned, the city's property market showed signs of stabilization and investors speculated global central banks will keep adding to stimulus. While Hong Kong's benchmark index is valued at 1.2 times net assets, up from a low of less than 1 earlier in the year, that's still 20 percent below its seven-year average.

"The run-up for Hong Kong stocks is quite decent so the

# Hong Kong stocks eke out gain as casinos gain, developers drop



market probably needs to take a breather," said Dai Ming, a fund manager at Hengsheng Asset Management Co. "The market is still promising because of its cheap valuation."

Hong Kong's benchmark gauge closed at 22,492.43. The

Hang Seng China Enterprises Index added 0.2 percent.

Sands China rose 5.2 percent, climbing for a fifth day, while Galaxy Entertainment advanced 3.4 percent. Casino shares have led gains on the Hang Seng Index in the past month as com-

mentators including Las Vegas Sands Corp.'s Sheldon Adelson said the industry was bottoming out.

Wharf dropped for the first time in five days after saying first-half profit fell 3.3 percent as weak retail sales kept it from charging tenants higher rents. Railway operator MTR slumped 3.7 percent after reporting a 26 percent decline in underlying profit for the first half.

Hong Kong Exchanges & Clearing Ltd., Asia's biggest exchange operator by market capitalization, slid 1 percent after reporting first-half earnings declined 27 percent on lower securities and commodities trading. The shares reached a three-month high earlier this week.

Shanghai's benchmark index retreated to 3,018.75, while the CSI 300 Index lost 0.4 percent. China's statistics bureau is set to release July industrial ou-

**■ The Hang Seng Index has rallied more than 22 percent from its February low**

put, retail sales and fixed-asset investment figures on Friday. Data this week showed exports remained subdued while a decline in producer prices narrowed.

There's no need for the country to rush to cut borrowing costs and reserve-requirement ratios, China National Radio reported, citing Yao Jingyuan, a researcher at a State Council office. The key issue with the economy is not monetary policy because the supply of money is growing normally, he said. **Bloomberg**

## TECH

# Apple said to plan first Pro laptop overhaul in four years

Mark Gurman

**A**PPL Inc. is preparing the first significant overhaul of its MacBook Pro laptop line in over four years, according to people familiar with the matter, using one of its older products to help reverse two quarters of sliding sales.

The updated notebooks will be thinner, include a touch screen strip for function keys, and will be offered with more powerful and efficient graphics processors for expert users such as video gamers, said the people, who asked not to be named.

The new computers have been in advanced testing within Apple since earlier this year, said one of the people, who didn't want to be identified discussing products before their release. The MacBook Pros aren't likely to debut at an event currently scheduled for Sept. 7 to introduce next-generation versions of the iPhone, according to one of the people. Apple spokesman Bill Evans declined to comment.

Apple co-founder Steve

Jobs heralded tablets as possible laptop replacements by calling the iPad a "post-PC" device after it launched in 2010, but products like the MacBook Pro have shown surprising resilience. Sales of Macs, including the Pro line, rose 6 percent to USD25.5 billion in the last fiscal year, while iPad sales fell 23 percent to

**■ Steve Jobs heralded tablets as possible laptop replacements, but products like the MacBook Pro have shown surprising resilience**

\$23.2 billion.

This year's MacBook Pro overhaul is aimed at increasing notebook sales at a time when consumers are taking longer to buy or replace iPads. Apple research suggests customers upgrade iPads roughly every three years, while they buy new iPhones every 18 to 24 months, according to a person familiar with Apple's strategy, which helps explain why

iPad sales numbers have fallen from a peak in 2013.

The most significant addition to the new MacBook Pro is a secondary display above the keyboard that replaces the standard function key row. Instead of physical keys, a strip-like screen will present functions on an as-needed basis that fit the cur-

rent task or application. The smaller display will use Organic Light-Emitting Diodes, a thinner, lighter and sharper screen technology, KGI Securities analyst Ming-Chi Kuo said earlier this year.

Apple's goal with the dedicated function display is to simplify keyboard shortcuts traditionally used by experienced users. The panel will theoretically display media playback

controls when iTunes is open, while it could display editing commands like cut and paste during word processing tasks, the people said. The display also allows Apple to add new buttons via software updates rather than through more expensive, slower hardware refreshes.

The new top-of-the-line MacBook Pros will be slightly thinner than the current models but are not tapered like the MacBook Air and latest 12-inch MacBook, one of the people said. The new MacBook Pros have a smaller footprint than current models and the casing has shallower curves around the edges. The pressure-sensitive trackpad is also slightly wider, the person added.

An option for a version featuring a higher-performance graphics chip from Advanced Micro Devices Inc. will be available, another person familiar with the matter said. It's unclear which provider Apple will use for the main processor, but Intel Corp. has supplied this in the past.

Apple is using one of



AMD's "Polaris" graphics chips because the design offers the power efficiency and thinness necessary to fit inside the slimmer Apple notebook, the person said. The new graphics card is more than 20 percent thinner than its predecessor, AMD said earlier this year. AMD declined to comment, referring inquiries to Apple.

The new design will include USB-C technology, a multifunctional type of port that can handle charging, data transfers, and display connectivity, one of the people said. Apple has also considered bringing gray, gold, and silver colors to the new line, as it has done with other products like the iPhone, iPad, and the 12-inch MacBook, a person said. It's unclear whether colored Pro laptops will be available when the new line is released.

Apple is planning to bring over its Touch ID fingerprint technology from the iPhone to the new MacBook Pro line. Apple has tested versions of the upcoming laptops that integrate the scanner beside the new function key display, according to one of the people. The sensor would allow users to log in more quickly and theoretically authenticate Apple Pay purchases. Like with iPhones, the new Pro laptops will encrypt fingerprint data so it can't be removed from the devices.

Apple will also release a new version of its Mac operating system named Sierra this fall that brings Siri, new messaging and photo-management features, deeper iCloud integration, and more efficient file storage to Apple's desktops and laptops, the company said in June. **Bloomberg**

Christopher Bodeen &amp; Youkyung Lee

**G**ROWING Chinese anger at South Korea over a U.S. anti-missile defense system bodes ill for everything from pop star appearances to United Nations action against North Korea's nuclear and missile threats.

South Korea's mighty entertainment sector has been on edge since Beijing criticized Seoul's decision last month to proceed with the Terminal High Altitude Area Defense, or THAAD, system, with reports of event cancellations and possible bans on South Korean TV series, amid scattered calls for a total boycott of imports from the South.

In the latest cancellation, Youku, China's biggest streaming site, deep-sixed a meet-and-greet for fans with South Korean stars Kim Woo-Bin and Bae Suzy to promote the hugely popular TV drama "Uncontrollably Fond." A company statement gave the reason simply as "forces beyond our control."

A chill has already descended over the political relationship, with Chinese state media employing its trademark searing rhetoric in daily screeds against South Korea and the U.S. over the THAAD plans.

State outlets have even hinted that Beijing will stop future cooperation with the U.S. against North Korea at the United Nations Security Council. THAAD "has declared the death of that short-lived United Front," the English-language China Daily said in a recent editorial. The Foreign Ministry did not respond directly to a faxed question about future U.N. sanctions cooperation, but said the Security Council's resolutions on North Korean missile tests contained "clear rules."

South Korean media, citing diplomatic sources, have reported that China may have already blocked the Security Council from issuing a statement denouncing the North's recent missile launches.

Earlier this week, Kim Sung-woo, spokesman for South Korean President Park Geun-hye, urged China to take issue with North Korea's nuclear and missile threats instead of criticizing THAAD, calling Chinese media's criticism "unreasonable."

China had warned for months that a decision to deploy THAAD would deal a major blow to relations with South Korea. Beijing sees itself as the system's true target, dismissing its ability to defend against North Korean short-range missiles while complaining that it would allow the U.S. to peer up to 1,400 kilometers (870 miles) into China.

"If South Korea willfully deploys the system, there will be a larger impact on relations and in trade. Economic ties will in-



Members of the Korean Veterans Association salute during a rally to support a deployment of the Terminal High-Altitude Area Defense, or THAAD, in front of the Defense Ministry in Seoul

## ANALYSIS

## Pop stars, diplomacy victims of cooling China-South Korea ties

vitably get hurt because China considers the deployment as a hostile act, so how could it be possible to develop relations under these circumstances?" said Lu Chao, a Korea expert at the Liaoning Academy of Social Sciences in northeast China.

The U.S., which retains 28,500 troops in South Korea, says THAAD is a defensive system focused only on destroying any North Korean missiles targeting the South.

The rapid deterioration of relations is even more stunning given how cozy they were barely a year ago, when Park paid her Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping an enormous compliment by attending a September military parade in Beijing, the only head of state from a U.S. ally to do so. That underscored a long-term effort by South Korea to walk a fine line of seeking both deeper trade and cultural ties with Beijing and a strengthened alliance with the U.S.

Cultural exports are a big deal to South Korea, and a prolonged downturn in the China market could have effects on other products.

According to the state-owned Korea Creative Content Agency, China including Hong Kong was the second-biggest importer of South Korean books, comics, music, video games, movies, animation and other content businesses, accounting for 24 percent of those types of

exports at USD189.99 million in 2014, the last year for which figures were available. North America was the biggest market, absorbing 29 percent of South Korea's cultural exports that year.

While that's a fraction of South Korea's total exports to China, which totaled \$145.3 billion in 2014, with South Korea enjoying a hefty surplus, the entertainment sector can have a heavy knock-on impact on the popularity of other South Korean goods, especially cosmetics, fashion, food, consumer electronics, smartphones and cars, as well as tourism.

What K-Pop stars wear, eat and use can exert a strong effect on Chinese consumers. Chinese tourists spend their time in South Korea visiting spots where popular K-drama series were filmed and buying Korean cosmetics that K-Pop stars use and eating local food that K-Pop stars enjoyed on screens.

President Park clearly knows the entertainment sector's value to South Korea's exports and tourism, as well as the broader economy.

"We live in an era when one drama can stimulate many industries and K-Pop could be an important trigger of our products," Park said in April as the South Korean blockbuster TV series "Descendants of the Sun" was enjoying huge popularity in

**■ A chill has descended over the political relationship, with Chinese state media employing its trademark searing rhetoric in daily screeds against Seoul**

China.

Chinese consumer boycotts can be both spontaneous and directed from the top, with the government setting the tone and passing on suggestions or orders, usually verbally so as not to be traced. An editorial in the nationalistic tabloid Global Times, published by the Communist Party's flagship People's Daily, suggested both factors were in play.

The impact on cultural exports will only worsen if South Korea moves ahead with THAAD, the paper said. "By then, there will be no need for any official order, as TV stations broadcasting South Korean dramas

will be resisted by Chinese netizens."

South Korean officials are clearly worried about any economic retaliation, and last month the government designated one official from each economic affairs-related ministry to monitor any developments related to non-tariff barriers, such as official or unofficial bans.

The Chinese government and state media have also been eager to provide a platform for South Koreans who oppose THAAD, and Beijing this week hosted opposition South Korean lawmakers for a discussion on THAAD at Peking University.

Park criticized the lawmakers, saying they don't understand the diplomatic efforts the government has been making. The implication that they were being used by China seemed to have had an effect and the group canceled a planned news conference.

Beijing's approach could backfire if it ends up alienating South Korea and driving their country into a stronger alliance with the U.S. and China's old nemesis Japan, but it is a risk China seems willing to take.

"Ultimately, South Korea will face China's military countermeasures, since the Chinese military will definitely not let the situation develop without exerting control," said the Liaoning Academy's Lu. **AP**

# Lianyungang suspends search for nuclear fuel facility



Christopher Bodeen, Beijing

A city in eastern China yesterday suspended preliminary work on site selection for a nuclear fuel reprocessing facility following days of protests by area residents that underscored a growing willingness by the public to oppose projects seen as threatening lives and property.

A one sentence notice posted on the website of the Lianyungang city government offered no details on longer-term plans.

The city government had earlier responded to the weekend demonstrations in a downtown square by announcing that plans for the nuclear project were in early stages and no loca-

tion had been confirmed.

The police responded additional protests yesterday with a ban on unauthorized public gatherings and a call to disregard rumors. About a dozen people who threw stones were reportedly detained by police.

There have been no reports about the protests in Chinese media, indicating censors likely ordered publications to suppress information about them.

China has 32 reactors in operation, 22 under construction and more planned, making it the most active builder of nuclear power plants.

The government has spent heavily to build up its ability to produce fuel and process waste and the state-owned China National Nuclear Corp.

has been seeking to build a nuclear fuel reprocessing center with French partner Areva starting in 2020. State media say a unit of CNNC and its French partner have looked at more than 10 potential locations for the reprocessing center and did preliminary research last year on Lianyungang.

In 2013, similar plans to build a nuclear fuel reprocessing facility in the southern city of Heshan, near Hong Kong, were scrapped following protests by residents over possible risks.

Chinese authorities also have scrapped or postponed other petrochemical and other industrial projects elsewhere following protests, but in some cases work goes ahead after tensions die down. **AP**

# Hunger for mooncakes set to revive China's appetite for palm oil

CHINA'S appetite for palm oil imports is set to recover from a 25 percent slump in the first half as cheaper supplies and a major autumn festival boost edible oil demand.

China's palm oil purchases plunged to 1.87 million metric tons from January to June after El Nino-weather conditions squeezed supplies and drove prices to two-year highs. Buyers there opted for soybean and sunflower oil, with soybean imports rising by about 3.4 million tons to 38.56 million tons, while sunflower oil imports surged 23 percent to 470,000 tons, according to customs data.

Palm oil's move into a bear market in July has already helped it gain some of the ground lost to rival oils, with imports from Malaysia jumping 68 percent to 225,856 metric tons in July from June, according to data from cargo surveyor Societe Generale de Surveillance. A jump in demand for oil to make fried foods and seasonal treats like mooncakes during the three-day Mid Autumn festival in China, may boost buying further, according to Ivy Ng, regional head of plantations at CIMB Investment Bank Bhd.

"If festival demand is good they'll have to buy because they don't have much stock," Ng said Monday by phone from Kuala Lumpur. "This is the second grandest festival in China after the spring festival. Typically, during festivals people tend to consume more oil."

Palm oil stockpiles in China are now about 300,000 tons, the lowest since at least 2010, the China National Grain and Oils Information Center said on August 3.



Purchases typically rise a couple of months before the Mid-Autumn festival that starts on Sept. 15 as refiners and food makers restock edible oils.

"They're trying to replenish their stocks level before the festival season kicks in," David Ng, derivatives specialist at Phillip Futures Sdn., said from Kuala Lumpur. "Palm oil is preferred by food makers because of its low price."

With palm oil's discount to soybean oil widening to as much as USD138 ton on July 12 compared with an average of \$80 in the first half, price-sensitive buyers may switch to palm to meet their consumption needs.

Last week, Chinese companies ordered between 80,000 and 120,000 tons of imported palm oil for delivery from October to November to benefit from its discount to local prices, according to the CN-GOIC.

Still, full-year imports may not match previous years as producers grapple with lingering El Nino damage and China steps up sales of stockpiled canola and soybeans, according to Tommy Xiao, an analyst with Shanghai JC Intelligence Co. **Bloomberg**

# Central Bank plans push to increase Yuan's global usage

CHINA'S central bank said it plans to push the yuan's global use by seeking more cooperation with other countries and improving the infrastructure needed to support wider use of the currency.

The comments were included in a three-paragraph statement, posted on the People's Bank of China website yesterday, on its forthcoming 2016 annual report on yuan globalization. The monetary authority didn't provide other details about the findings or say when the report would be published.

The statement comes almost a year after China's August 2015 devaluation of its currency, which roiled global markets and sent stock and commodity markets tumbling. The yuan's share of global payments fell to 1.72 percent in June, the lowest amount since 2014, while the currency's deposits in Hong Kong declined to a three-year low.



The PBOC's statement yesterday also said infrastructure for yuan internationalization will be improved, cross-border use under the current account will be increased and channels for yuan financing will be widened. It didn't elaborate on how it would achieve these goals.

Use of the yuan as a reserve currency also will be increased, the central bank said. The International Monetary Fund will add the yuan to its Special Drawing Rights in October. **Bloomberg**

Rod McGuirk, Canberra

# Australian online census shut down by cyberattacks

**A**USTRALIA'S first attempt to conduct a census online was in disarray after several cyberattacks and a hardware failure led to the website being shut down, officials said yesterday.

The Australian Bureau of Statistics shut down the site to protect data Tuesday night shortly after a blocking shield failed to stop traffic from a fourth denial-of-service attack that came from somewhere overseas, the government said.

Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull said the bureau of statistics shut down the site "out of an abundance of caution" and would be reopen it once the bureau, government security agency Australian Signals Directorate and the systems provider IBM were confident that it was safe from cyberattack.

"I want to assure Australians that the unequivocal advice we have received [...] is that their Australian census data is safe, it has not been compromised," Turnbull told reporters.

The bureau's chief statistician, David Kalisch, said he decided to shut down the site after the blocking failure led to an overloaded router breaking down, potentially making data vulnerable to hacking during a peak period, and the performance monitoring system "throwing up some queries to us that we needed to investigate."

Special Adviser to the Prime Minister on Cyber Security, Alastair MacGibbon, said while government agencies routinely



The web page of the Australian Bureau of Statistics shows that it is unavailable in Sydney

weather such cyberattacks without disruption, the bureau of statistics was the victim of a confluence of events.

"There were a series of events that only by lining them up end-on-end led to the unfortunate circumstances of last night," MacGibbon said.

The opposition blamed underfunding for the bureau for the failure, saying it would reduce responses to the census and compromise the results.

"This has been the worst-run census in Australian history

and one of the worst IT debacles Australia has ever seen," opposition lawmaker Andrew Leigh said.

The bureau of statistics said 2.33 million Australians, including Turnbull, managed to access the site on Tuesday before it was shut down.

Australia's Privacy Commissioner Timothy Pilgrim said in a statement he was investigating the cyberattack "to ensure that no personal information has been compromised."

Australian security officials

were attempting to determine the source of the attacks, officials said.

The census is conducted every five years, but the decision to conduct it primarily online and to keep the information for four years before it was destroyed instead of the usual 18 months heightened privacy concerns this year.

Several senators announced that they would risk fines by refusing to include their names and addresses in their census forms. Officials attempted to allay fears by boasting that the bureau of statistics had never been hacked.

After the site was shut down, thousands of people who telephoned the bureau for an explanation were told by a recorded message to call back yesterday.

While the census focuses on people's circumstances on Aug. 9, forms started to be accepted a week before that date and will continue to be accepted until Sept. 23. About 3 million traditional paper census forms were provided to householders on request.

Conducting most of the survey online was estimated to save 100 million Australian dollars (USD76 million). **AP**

## CANBERRA RECOGNIZES 10 SOLDIERS' COURAGE IN VIETNAM WAR

**A RETIRED** Australian army officer yesterday won a 50-year struggle to gain official recognition for the bravery of 10 soldiers who fought under his command during Australia's most costly battle of the Vietnam War.

Harry Smith, 83, was presented at Parliament House with a recommendation by a review tribunal for nine soldiers to be decorated for the first time and a 10th soldier to have his medal upgraded for courage shown during the Battle of

Long Tan in a Vietnamese rubber plantation on Aug. 18, 1966. Smith, a retired lieutenant colonel, led a company of 105 Australian soldiers plus three New Zealanders supported by artillery that won a rain-drenched, three-hour battle against more than 2,000 North Vietnamese and Viet Cong troops, the Australian government said. Eighteen Australians were killed and 24 wounded, while the Vietnamese were estimated to have lost hundreds of troops.

## 4 months after Japan earthquake, final victim may be found

**N**EARLY four months later, the final victim of two deadly earthquakes in southern Japan may have been found.

Searchers yesterday saw what appeared to be a body in the wreckage of a car buried beneath large boulders on a riverside, the Kumamoto prefecture government said. They weren't able to remove it and will try again today.

Photos released by the Kumamoto government showed a yellow chunk of car so mangled it was unrecognizable, and police looking between boulders where it was wedged.

Kumamoto official Taishi Kajikawa said police have confirmed the wrecked car is a Toyota Aqua, the same model driven by a missing university student.

Hikaru Yamato, 22, was driving home in a yellow Aqua when the magnitu-



Police officers and firefighters work to retrieve a wrecked car that may hold the final victim of two deadly earthquakes that hit southern Japan nearly four months ago

de 7.3 earthquake struck in the early morning of April 16. The quake was the second powerful one to hit the area in two days. If Yamato is confirmed dead, it would bring the death toll from the two earthquakes to 50.

Kyodo News service said the wreckage is about 400

meters downstream from a bridge that collapsed into a deep gully after a huge landslide triggered by the earthquake poured onto it.

Kyodo quoted Yamato's father, Takuya, saying he regretted hearing a body was found, but he was also relieved. "I hope it's Hikaru," he said. **AP**

## BANGLADESH

## Ex-MP sentenced to death for war crimes in 1971

**A** special tribunal for war crimes during Bangladesh's independence war against Pakistan in 1971 sentenced a former lawmaker to death and seven others to life in prison yesterday on charges of murder and other crimes.

The tribunal sentenced Sakhawat Hossain, a former member of Parliament with the Jamaat-e-Islami party, to death. He and one other defendant were present in the court, while the six others were tried in absentia.

They must remain in prison until their deaths, a harsher punishment than life in prison, which spans 30 years in Bangladesh.

Hossain was a central committee member of Islami Chhatra Sangha, the student wing of Jamaat-e-Islami at the time, and was accused of being a local commander of a group that aided Pakistani soldiers. He left Jamaat-e-Islami and joined the Bangladesh Nationalist Party headed by former Prime Minister Khaleda Zia. In recent years he has been involved with the Jatiya Party headed by former military dictator H.M. Ershad. His lawyers said they will appeal.



Bangladeshi policemen stand guard outside a special court as a verdict against people involved in war crimes is announced

Bangladesh says Pakistani soldiers, aided by local collaborators, killed 3 million people and raped 200,000 women during the war.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina initiated the prosecution of suspected war criminals in 2010 by forming the tribunal. More than 20 people have already been convicted, and five men, mostly top leaders of Jamaat-e-Islami, have been executed.

Jamaat-e-Islami, the country's largest Islamist party, openly campaigned against Bangladesh's independence in 1971 and formed militia groups to help the Pakistani army fight the uprising. It says the tribunal is politically motivated, a charge the government denies. **AP**

All New Infiniti Q30



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Barry Hatton

PORTUGAL

# Three dead in Madeira Islands as wildfire spreads into capital

**T**HREE elderly people died in their burned homes in Portugal's Madeira Islands as a wildfire spread into the capital, Funchal, authorities said yesterday.

"Unhappily, we have three deaths to report — elderly people caught by the fire [...] in two houses," the head of Madeira's regional government, Miguel Albuquerque, told a news conference broadcast by local media.

He said the victims died in the early hours of yesterday as the wildfire swept into the coastal city in the dark, causing panic. He said two other people were seriously hurt, one person is missing and more than 300 people required medical treatment for smoke inhalation and minor burns.

The blaze, fueled by hot weather and strong winds, forced the evacuation of around 1,000 local people and tourists in the islands off northwestern Africa. Several dozen houses and a five-star hotel burned down.

Tourism is the mainstay of Madeira's economy. The high winds in recent days have also forced the cancellation of around two dozen flights.

The evacuated people were taken to an army barracks, a soccer stadium and a civic center on the island.

The blaze broke out on Monday, and firefighters said the island's steep hills and dense woodland made it hard to reach the flames.

Albuquerque said officials suspect the fire was started deliberately, and police have made two arrests.

He said reinforcements, including firefighters and doctors, are due to arrive today [Macau time] from the Portuguese mainland. The weather

AP PHOTO



A forest fire rages near houses in Curral dos Romeiros, on the outskirts of Funchal

forecast is for cooler temperatures and a drop in the wind speed, which authorities hope will help extinguish the fire.

Fire services are at full stretch on the mainland, too, due to scores of wildfires that have raged since Saturday.

Other wildfires have raged for several days on the Portuguese mainland. By early yesterday, fire officials said seven major blazes in the countryside were out of control. The National Civil Protection ser-

vice said just over 4,000 firefighters supported by 26 water-dumping planes and 1,262 vehicles were attending 149 blazes of varying sizes across the country.

The month of August, when temperatures are high, winds blow strongly and woodland is parched, is traditionally the peak time for wildfires in Portugal and other southern European countries. Portuguese officials say fires are often started deliberately and

spread quickly because forests are not cleared of dead wood.

Flames licked at homes around Funchal, casting a smoke plume over the downtown, according to video broadcast by cable news channel S.I.C Noticias. Frantic locals used garden hosepipes and buckets of water to keep the flames at bay as wind blew embers across roads.

Fire service officials said Madeira's steep hills and dense woodland made it hard to re-

**■ Madeira officials suspect the fire was started deliberately, and police have made two arrests**

ach the flames, which were fueled by high winds.

Eight Madeira firefighters required medical treatment after inhaling smoke as high winds fueled the blaze.

Some of the worst-hit areas were in northern Portugal, where temperatures have exceeded 30 degrees Celsius in recent days. The region's pine and eucalyptus forests are tinder-dry after a long spell without significant rain.

In the area around Viseu, 290 kilometers north of the capital Lisbon, a wildfire forced the closure of a major highway. In nearby Agueda, roads were closed and power lines were cut by wildfires.

In Lisbon, yesterday was hazy with a smell of smoke caused by wildfires in the surrounding region.

Fire chiefs said some of their firefighters were exhausted after trying to put out blazes non-stop since Saturday, the hottest day of the year so far when temperatures reached 44 degrees Celsius. **MDT/AP**

IRAQ

# Fire at maternity ward in Baghdad hospital kills 12 babies

**A** fire ripped through a maternity ward at a Baghdad hospital overnight, killing 12 newborn babies, an Iraqi spokesman said yesterday, a deadly blaze that was likely caused by faulty electrical wiring.

By morning, grief-stricken fathers searched for their missing newborns in vain while angry relatives gathered outside the Yarmouk hospital in western Baghdad blamed the government for the tragedy.

Iraqi Health Ministry spokesman Ahmed al-

Roudaini said the blaze broke out late on Tuesday night [yesterday, Macau time] and that the initial investigation indicated it was an electrical fire. Mada Press, an independent news agency in Baghdad, reported that 29 female patients and seven babies were moved from the ward where the fire broke out and transferred to another hospital.

Baghdad authorities initially sealed off the hospital but later allowed some media into the site.

At the maternity ward,

forensic teams in masks and protective gloves were seen searching through the rubble and charred pieces of furniture. A yellow tape stretched across the ward entrance, preventing reporters from getting closer.

Some of the crying relatives outside claimed their babies were still missing and demanded an answer from authorities.

One father, 30-year-old Hussein Omar, a construction worker, said he lost twins in the blaze, a baby boy and a girl born

last week. The hospital told him to go look for them at another Baghdad hospital where some of the patients were moved to during the fire.

He said he looked and couldn't find them anywhere so he came back to Yarmouk. The hospital staff then told him to go look at the morgue.

"I only found charred pieces of flesh," Omar said, crying. "I want my baby boy and girl back. The government must give them back to me."

Eshrak Ahmed Jaasar,

41, said she is unable to find her four-day-old nephew.

"I came early this morning to see my nephew and his mother, but they told me about the fire," Jasaar said. "My nephew is still missing and his mother was moved to another hospital ward."

She said she was still in shock and felt very bitter.

"We pay the hospital employees thousands of Iraqi dinars to allow us in to get our loved ones basic food and milk, which they cannot provide," Jasaar said.

"It's a corrupt government that doesn't care about its citizens and lets this happen."

Electrical fires are common in the Iraqi capital and elsewhere across the country because of shoddy maintenance and poor wiring. A lack of fire escapes also contributes to the danger whenever a fire breaks out. There is also widespread failure by construction companies and those providing building material to follow accepted standards. **AP**

## what's ON



## THE VOICE

— THE EXHIBITION THAT SPEAKS TO YOU

TIME: 9am-5:30pm (Closed on public holidays)

UNTIL: November 16, 2106

VENUE: Communications Museums of Macau,

No.7, Estrada de D. Maria II, Macao

ADMISSION: MOP10

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2871 8063

## EDGAR DEGAS: FIGURES IN MOTION

— A COLLECTION OF 74 BRONZE SCULPTURES

TIME: 12pm-9pm

(Closed on Mondays, except public holidays)

UNTIL: November 20, 2106

VENUE: MGM Art Space, Macau

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (852) 3678 0150

## 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

## THE COLLECTION EXHIBITION OF TAI FUNG TONG ART HOUSE

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

VENUE: Tai Fung Tong Art House,

Calçada da Igreja de S. Lázaro 7

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2835 3537 / 2834 6626

## EXHIBITION "PLIS &amp; REPLIS 3

— WORKS BY NOËL DOLLA"

TIME: 10am-7pm

UNTIL: October 9, 2015

VENUE: Tap Seac Gallery, Avenida do Conselheiro

Ferreira de Almeida, 95

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8399 6699

## Offbeat

## NEW JERSEY BANNING COFFEE WHILE DRIVING? NOT SO FAST

Drivers who drink coffee behind the wheel don't need to worry about getting a ticket in New Jersey any time soon.

The sponsor of a bill targeting distracted driving says his measure doesn't specifically cite coffee, despite recent news reports focusing on the beverage.

Democratic Assemblyman John Wisniewski said the legislation is aimed at discouraging distracted driving and that he cannot imagine that a police officer would pull anyone over for drinking coffee.

Current law already prohibits texting or talking without a hands-free device. The new legislation is broader and would bar "any activity unrelated to the actual operation of a motor vehicle in a manner that interferes with the safe operation of the vehicle."

Wisniewski says he sponsored the bill, which doesn't mention eating or drinking, to avoid the need for new legislation every time technology changes.

He introduced the measure seven months ago, but he has yet to bring it up for a vote in a committee he leads. It also never came up for a vote in the two previous legislative sessions in which he introduced similar bills.

Wisniewski said he was surprised by the reaction to the legislation. He said the outcry against the bill has been so strong that his inbox has filled up even more than when he proposed a 25-cent-per-gallon increase in the gas tax.

Wisniewski said when he introduced the bill before, people worried he was trying to stop them from eating sandwiches while driving.

"It was the 'ham sandwich bill' last time," he said. "Now it's coffee."

## TV canal macau

13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:45	RTPi Live
19:00	Merciless (Repeated)
19:50	Soap Opera
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	TDM Talk Show
21:40	The Toque 12
22:10	Merciless
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Variety
00:05	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
00:35	RTPi Live

## cinema

## CINETEATRO

11 Aug - 17 Aug

## LINE WALKER - THE MOVIE

ROOM 1

2.30, 7.30, 9.30 pm

Director: Jazz Boon

Starring: Nick Cheung, Louis Koo, Francis Ng

Language: Cantonese (Cantonese/ English)

Duration: 97min

## DOREAMON: BIRTH OF JAPAN

ROOM 1

4.30 pm

Director: Shinnosuke Yakuwa

Duration: 97min



BFG

ROOM 2

(2D) 2.30, 4.45, 9.30 pm

(3D) 7.15 pm

Director: Syeven Spielberg

Starring: Mark Rylance, Ruby Barnhill, Penelope Wilton

Language: Cantonese (Cantonese/ English)

Duration: 117min

## CHIBI MARUKO CHAN- A BOY FROM ITALY

ROOM 3

2.15, 4.00, 7.30 pm

Director: Jun Takagi

Language: Cantonese (Cantonese/ English)

Duration: 120min

## ICE AGE: COLLISION COURSE

ROOM 3

(2D) 5.45 pm

Director: Mike Thurmeier, Galen Chu

Language: Cantonese (Cantonese/ English)

Duration: 97min

## THE SHALLOWS

ROOM 3

9.30 pm

Director: Jaime Collet-Serra

Starring: Blake Lively, Óscar Jaenada, Brett Cullen,

Sedona Legge

Language: English (Cantonese/ English)

Duration: 86min

## MACAU TOWER

11 Aug - 17 Aug

## SUICIDE SQUAD

2.30, 4.30, 7.30, 9.30 pm

Director: David Ayer

Starring: Will Smith, Jared Leto, Margot Robbie

Language: English (Cantonese/ English)

Duration: 123min

## this day in history



## 1982 KRAYS LET OUT FOR MOTHER'S FUNERAL

The notorious East End gangsters Ronnie and Reggie Kray have been allowed out of prison for their mother's funeral.

Violet Kray, 72, died of cancer last week.

It was the first time the Krays, 49, had been seen in public since being sentenced to life imprisonment for murder in 1969.

Security was tight for the funeral service in east London.

The brothers arrived separately - both were handcuffed to a prison guard and flanked by police officers.

Ronnie Kray was brought from Broadmoor Hospital for the criminally insane in Berkshire where he has spent the last four years.

His brother travelled from Parkhurst Prison in the Isle of Wight where he is still held as a maximum security Category "A" prisoner.

The service was attended by a number of celebrities and underworld figures known to the twins from the days when they ran one of London's biggest criminal operations.

Among them was actress Diana Dors who arrived wearing a black dress and sunglasses and carrying a bouquet.

The brothers were not allowed to attend the graveside service at Chingford Mount cemetery in Essex where their mother was interred in the family burial plot.

Courtesy BBC News

## IN CONTEXT

Ronnie and Reginald Kray ran one of London's biggest crime rackets with their elder brother, Charlie.

They were jailed for the murders of George Cornell and Jack "The Hat" McVitie.

A film about their lives in 1990 fuelled a campaign to get them released, but successive home secretaries refused to free them.

Ronnie died of a heart attack in prison in 1995. Reggie was released on compassionate grounds a month before his death from cancer in October 2000.

The movie "The Legend" (2015) depicts the life of the notorious twin gangsters who terrorized London in the 1960s.



YOUR STARS

Aries Mar. 21-Apr. 19 A phone call early today sets the tone for the rest of the day and into the night. It could be negative, but it's more likely to be quite positive - you should know just before you hear the ring.

Taurus April 20-May 20 Don't sign anything related to finance or money today unless there's simply no alternative. It's not that you're sure to take a loss, but waiting a few days makes your energy more auspicious.

Gemini May 21-Jun. 21 Your terrific personal energy is firing up your brain in a new way, and making you all the more likely to bust out with amazing solutions to complicated problems. You amaze at least one listener!

Cancer Jun. 22-Jul. 22 Your irritability rises steadily until you reach a breaking point of some kind. It may be hard to explain why you're so prickly, but you don't have to until the mood has passed for good.

Leo Jul. 23-Aug. 22 You need to spend more time with people today - so open your door, head out somewhere public or just trek on down to the train station and mingle. It should energize you in a good way!

Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22 Be extra careful when using email or other indirect modes of communication today - it's just far too easy for you to leave something open to interpretation, and that leads to all kinds of confusion.

Libra Sep.23-Oct. 22 You're an expert at seeing both sides of almost everything, and today that quality is highlighted in an unusual way. You may come around to someone else's point of view or show them that you're both right.

Scorpio Oct. 23 - Nov. 21 You need to take greater care with your business dealings today - including negotiations and even job interviews. One small slip could cost you, but your brain is up to the challenge.

Sagittarius Nov. 22-Dec. 21 Someone close is talking a good game - but you know they can't back it up when things start to get real. Make sure that you're supportive, but try to let them know they need to tone it down a bit.

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19 Your brainy energy is more active than ever today, so make the most of it and capitalize on your great ideas. Of course, you should get your hands dirty, too - otherwise, things may get worse for you.

Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 18 A shared interest grows in importance between you and a friend or loved one - and it may draw you much more tightly together. Enjoy it and see what you can do to keep it growing!

Pisces Feb.19-Mar. 20 Try not to let yourself get nailed down today - details are hard to deal with, and you don't want to be committed to something that you can't back up. Procrastinate as much as you can!

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Easy

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

Easy+

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

Medium

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

Hard

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

WEATHER

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

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Slave; 5- Wings; 9- Inuit dwelling; 14- Romanov ruler; 15- "Shane" star; 16- Island off Venezuela; 17- End in \_\_\_ (draw); 18- \_\_\_ to differ!; 19- Andrea Bocelli, for one; 20- U.S. space probe to Jupiter; 22- Angers; 24- Style; 26- Frozen Wasser; 27- Island greetings; 30- Astronaut; 35- Reposes; 36- Editor's note; 37- Extinct bird; 38- Attack a sub?; 39- Catherine the Great, e.g.; 42- Final: Abbr.; 43- Small songbird; 45- Gather, harvest; 46- Brit's half-note; 48- Registered; 50- No way!; 51- Witness; 52- Separated; 54- Person to whom property is transferred; 58- Self-service restaurant; 62- Bluegrass instrument; 63- Beams; 65- Actress Hatcher; 66- Belgian painter James; 67- Dagger; 68- I cannot tell \_\_\_; 69- Do not disturb; 70- Watched intently; 71- Old Fords;

DOWN: 1- Male deer; 2- This, in Tijuana; 3- Racetrack boundary; 4- Cargo; 5- 1986 sci-fi sequel; 6- Toil; 7- Citrus drink; 8- Periphery; 9- Medical; 10- Lubricated; 11- Respiratory organ; 12- Thin woodwind instrument; 13- Long objects used to row a boat; 21- Rental agreement; 23- \_\_\_-foot oil; 25- "CHiPs" star; 27- \_\_\_ there yet?; 28- Discover; 29- Blender brand; 31- Quick look; 32- Climb; 33- Go off-script; 34- Words of denial; 36- Graf \_\_\_; 40- 1957 hit for the Bobbettes; 41- Stylish; 44- Rhinoplasty; 47- All told; 49- "The Raven" maiden; 50- Brought about; 53- Check recipient; 54- Second son of Adam and Eve; 55- Narrow path for walkers, cars or ships; 56- Part of MIT; 57- Gaelic language of Ireland or Scotland; 59- Thaw; 60- Bone-dry; 61- Evens the score; 64- At all;

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

Large crossword puzzle grid with some numbers and letters filled in.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

- Emergency calls 999
Taxi 28 939 939 / 2828 3283
Fire department 28 572 222
Water Supply - Report 2822 0088
PJ (Open line) 993
Telephone - Report 1000
PJ (Picket) 28 557 775
Electricity - Report 28 339 922
PSP 28 573 333
Macau Daily Times 28 716 081
Customs 28 559 944
S. J. Hospital 28 313 731
Kiang Wu Hospital 28 371 333
Commission Against Corruption (CCAC) 28326 300
IACM 28 387 333
Tourism 28 333 000
Airport 59 888 88



FOR SALE and FOR RENT advertisement for East City Property Limited.

Real estate listings for various properties in Macau and Coloane, including Nam Ngon Macau, Chun Leong Taipa, H Unit in Gladiolus Court, Bauhinia Court, Wai Son Macau, One Central High Floor, One Oasis, Hyde Park Tower, and Super Flower City Unit A.



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RIO OLYMPICS | GYMNASTICS

# Even Olympic selfies are complicated by Korea's rivalry

Foster Klug

**N**OTHING is ever easy for the rival Koreans, even that most ubiquitous and usually innocent of Olympic interactions, the selfie.

Like dozens of athletes at the Rio de Janeiro Games, gymnasts Hong Un Jong of North Korea and Lee Eun-ju of South Korea met on the sidelines during competition and training.

The 17-year-old Lee, who is at her first Olympics, posed Thursday for a smiling selfie with Hong, a 27-year-old veteran. That friendly encounter and others between the two were captured by journalists — and immediately took on larger significance for two countries still technically at war.

Such meetings are not illegal in South Korea, but they are complicated by the two countries' long history of animosity and bloodshed.

Hong became the first female gymnast from North Korea to win a gold medal in 2008, when Lee was 9 and living in her native Japan. Lee moved to South Korea in 2013 because her Korean father wanted her to learn more about the country's culture.

A few days after the selfie was taken, Lee and Hong met again Sunday while on the floor at the same time during preliminary competition. Lee was eliminated, while Hong will compete in the vault final.

Photos of their warm moments delighted



South Korean gymnast Lee Eun-ju (right) and her North Korean counterpart Hong Un Jong pose together for photographers

many South Koreans and provided a rare note of concord in otherwise abysmal relations between the rivals. It is unclear if the gymnasts' interaction was seen in the North.

The Korean Peninsula is still technically in a state of war because there has been no peace treaty signed to officially end the 1950-53 Korean War. A web of laws, most left over from the days when the South was ruled by a dictatorship, govern how South Koreans are supposed to interact with North Koreans. Travel and communication are severely restricted; even praising the North is illegal in the South.

South Koreans are required by law to obtain government permission for any planned meeting, communication or other contact with North Koreans.

This requirement is waived for spontaneous interactions with North Koreans that can happen

during foreign travel. But South Koreans must still provide an account of what happened to the South Korean Unification Ministry, which handles inter-Korean issues, within seven days, according to the laws.

The Unification Ministry said that South Korean athletes at international sporting competitions like the Olympics aren't required to submit reports about their encounters with North Koreans because it's obvious that their purpose of participating in the events has nothing to do with meeting North Koreans.

These brief, friendly moments between North and South Korean athletes at the Olympics may not seem to be a big deal to outsiders, but they often stimulate deep emotions on the Korean Peninsula, which has been divided by the world's most heavily armed border for decades and where many long for eventual reunification.

Whatever happens in politics, many South Koreans love seeing their athletes treating North Korean competitors with respect, and there's always lots of media attention on these moments of harmony. North Korea also cherishes the idea of unification, and much of its propaganda is aimed at stirring such feelings in the South, though the North's vision is of a single Korea controlled by Pyongyang. AP

## GOLD FOR U.S. WOMEN'S GYMNASTICS TEAM

**THE U.S.** women's gymnastics team captured a second straight gold with a high-flying and dominating performance. The triumph was never in doubt, their score of 184.897 at the Rio Games was more than eight points clear of the field. The day was capped by the 19-year-old Biles, a fan favorite, whose



boundary-pushing floor exercise showed just how far ahead they are of everyone else.

Paul Newberry, Rio de Janeiro

RIO OLYMPICS | SWIMMING

# Phelps wins Olympic gold medals No. 20 and 21 in Rio

**M**ICHAEL Phelps sat alone, thoroughly exhausted. He put his head in his hands and then motioned at his neck as though he had nothing left to give. No need. His work was done. He had his 20th and 21st gold medals.

Phelps made up for one of the rare losses in his brilliant career by winning the 200-meter butterfly yesterday [Macau time], a victory that sent him climbing into the stands to kiss his 3-month-old son Boomer. An hour later, he returned to take what amounted to nothing more than a triumphant victory lap in anchoring the 4x200 freestyle relay, the crowd's deafening roar growing louder with every stroke.

"That was probably one of my most challenging doubles," the 31-year-old Phelps said. "Doing a double like that is a lot harder than it once was."

It was another performance for the ages, but Phelps has done it so many times that nothing else would have been fitting. It came on a night that American teammate Katie Ledecky picked up her second gold of the Rio Olympics on the way to what could be a historic run of her own in the pool.

Phelps now has 25 medals in all, and three more races in Rio to add to his almost unimaginable total. No other Olympian has more than nine golds. "That's a lot of medals," Phelps said, shaking his head. "It's just insane."

The 200 fly was the one he really wanted, and it showed. With challengers all around, Phelps simply wouldn't be denied. With his head nearly at the wall, he took one more stroke to make sure he got there first, his arms slamming against the timing pad.

"Going into the finish I said, 'If I have to take a half-stroke, I'm going to take a half stroke,'" Phelps said. That split-second decision got him to the wall ahead of everyone else, by a mere four-hundredths of a second.

When Phelps saw the "1" by his name, he held up one finger. Then he sat on a lane rope, egging on the roaring crowd at the Olympic Aquatics Center with both hands, before emphatically pumping his fist.

Tears welled in his eyes as he listened to the national anthem — until one of his buddies from Baltimore cracked him up that shouting out "O" like they do at Camden Yards before Orioles' games. Then, during the customary stroll around the pool to pose for photographers, Phelps broke ranks and bounded into the stands to plant a kiss on Boomer, the son who symbolizes just how much Phelps' life has changed since a second

AP PHOTO



drunken-driving arrest two years ago.

"I wanted to hold him longer," Phelps said. "It's good to see he's awake. He usually sleeps all the time."

## ■ Phelps now has 25 medals in all, and three more races in Rio to add to his almost unimaginable total

Phelps held off Japan's Masato Sakai with a time of 1 minute, 53.36 seconds, but that number was of little concern. The only thing that mattered was beating everyone else. "The last 10 meters were not fun," Phelps said. "My gosh, I thought I was standing still."

Four years ago, Phelps mistimed his finish in the windmilling stroke he does better

than anyone, gliding to the wall a little too long after his final whirl of the arms. That allowed Chad le Clos of South Africa to stunningly win gold in an event that Phelps had dominated for the better part of a decade.

Phelps retired after the London Games, so it looked like he wouldn't get a chance to make up for his defeat. But when he decided about a year later to start competing again, the 200 fly was clearly the title he sought more than any other.

"This is the race I really wanted back," he said.

Le Clos was in the final again, thoroughly inspired himself by his mother and father, both battling cancer and in the stands cheering him on.

But the South African could only manage fourth this time, also finishing behind bronze medalist Tamas Kenderesi of Hungary.

The relay was much less dramatic. Conor Dwyer, Townley Haas and Ryan Lochte went out ahead of Phelps, handing off a commanding lead to the most decorated athlete in

Olympic history.

Phelps essentially spent the next 100 seconds or so soaking up the cheers. He was only the third-fastest swimmer on his team, but he was a full body length ahead of Britain's James Guy when he touched in 7:00.66.

The British claimed silver in 7:03.13, while Japan took the bronze in 7:03.50.

Sure, Phelps hogged the spotlight on this night, but let's not forget two other very impressive swimmers.

Ledecky took the most challenging step toward a feat that's only been done one other time, holding off Sweden's Sarah Sjöström to win the 200 freestyle and give the American star her second gold of the games.

Debbie Meyer is the only female swimmer to capture the three longest freestyle events at a single Olympics, winning the 200, 400 and 800 at the 1968 Mexico City Games. Ledecky looks like a lock to match Meyer, having already won the 200 and 400 titles and an overwhelming favorite in the

800, where she's the world-record holder and far faster than anyone else in the world.

Katinka Hosszu is having quite an Olympics, too.

The Hungarian known as the "Iron Lady" earned her third gold medal of the Rio Games with a victory in the 200 individual medley.

This has been an Olympics of redemption for Hosszu, a long-time star at the world championships who always seemed to come up short on the biggest stage.

Not anymore.

Hosszu added to her wins in the 400 IM and 100 backstroke with a time of 2:06.58. Siobhan-Marie O'Connor of Britain challenged Hosszu all the way but had to settle for silver. Maya DiRado of the United States held on for the bronze.

For Phelps, another retirement looms.

This time, he can fade away with the gold he really wanted in the 200 fly.

"That event was kind of like my bread and butter," Phelps said. "That was the last time I'll ever swim it." AP

opinion

**Made in Macao**  
Jenny Lao-Phillips



**TO IGNORE OR TO INTRODUCE?**

Living in a small place like Macao where we easily run into someone we know from time to time, we can often have conversations with someone interrupted by a third person. Whether I meet an acquaintance while hanging out with a friend, or my friend meets an acquaintance, the interruption can sometimes be quite long.

I cannot know what most people think, but I honestly find it quite annoying when someone interrupts and starts chatting away with my friend as if I was not there. And I get more annoyed with the friend who didn't have the courtesy to introduce the intruder to me. Unfortunately, social courtesy prevents us from showing our annoyance and walking away. So we are left sitting there spacing out. That left me thinking, when facing with such a situation, should I just ignore them and continue eating (if it was during a meal), or should I interrupt them and introduce myself? Here, there are three people that need to be educated.

Firstly, the party who is greeted by a third person during a pre-occurring conversation with a friend. This is the crucial person in this kind of social interaction. When we meet another friend while dining or conversing with someone, we should make sure that they are both introduced to each other, and avoid getting into a long conversation with this third person. This simple social rule is something we may have already been taught at home as a child, if not in primary school. But somehow, we keep forgetting it, and I often see scenes of two people deep in conversation round the street corner with a third person just standing, obviously not involved in the conversation, waiting and looking awkward.

Secondly, the intruder. We may all have the experience of interrupting someone's date or conversation, just to greet someone we know. When it is just a 'Hi' and 'Bye', I guess we are not intruding. But when we linger, perhaps the greeting leads into a longer conversation than we expected. What should we do to not become an intruder? If the person we met did not introduce us to their friends, we should introduce ourselves and greet them too, instead of only chatting with the person we know. In this case, the other party will be included in the conversation too, whether they want to or not. At least we would not be ignoring a person sitting or standing in front of us. And according to different articles about introducing people socially, this interruption of other people's meal or conversation should not last longer than five minutes. We don't want to be thought of as annoying, right?

Finally, the other friend, or the victim. We all have one or two very sociable friends who seem to know everyone wherever we go. It is somehow disturbing if they keep having to stand up to shake hands and greet different people in the course of a meal, worse if each of these greetings takes 10 minutes. We will just be sitting and listening to other people's conversation, which are often not at all interesting. So, how can we protect ourselves from being a "victim" if the friend or the intruder just ignores us? Perhaps we could signal our friend to introduce us by politely asking who their friend is, or by kicking them under the table. Hopefully either of these measures will mean that the two parties who don't know each other will be introduced, and the intruder will be made aware of the fact that they have just interrupted a conversation. If this signaling doesn't work, perhaps we could stand up and introduce ourselves so they cannot ignore us anymore. This often works, but may cause some embarrassment among the group.

**THE 10 ARRESTS FOR ALLEGED MATCH FIXING IN WALES' TOP DIVISION**

The Welsh football federation says 10 people have been arrested for an alleged plot to fix a match in the Welsh Premier League in April.

The federation says "seven men and three women were arrested on suspicion of conspiracy to defraud" in an investigation by South Wales Police's economic crime unit.

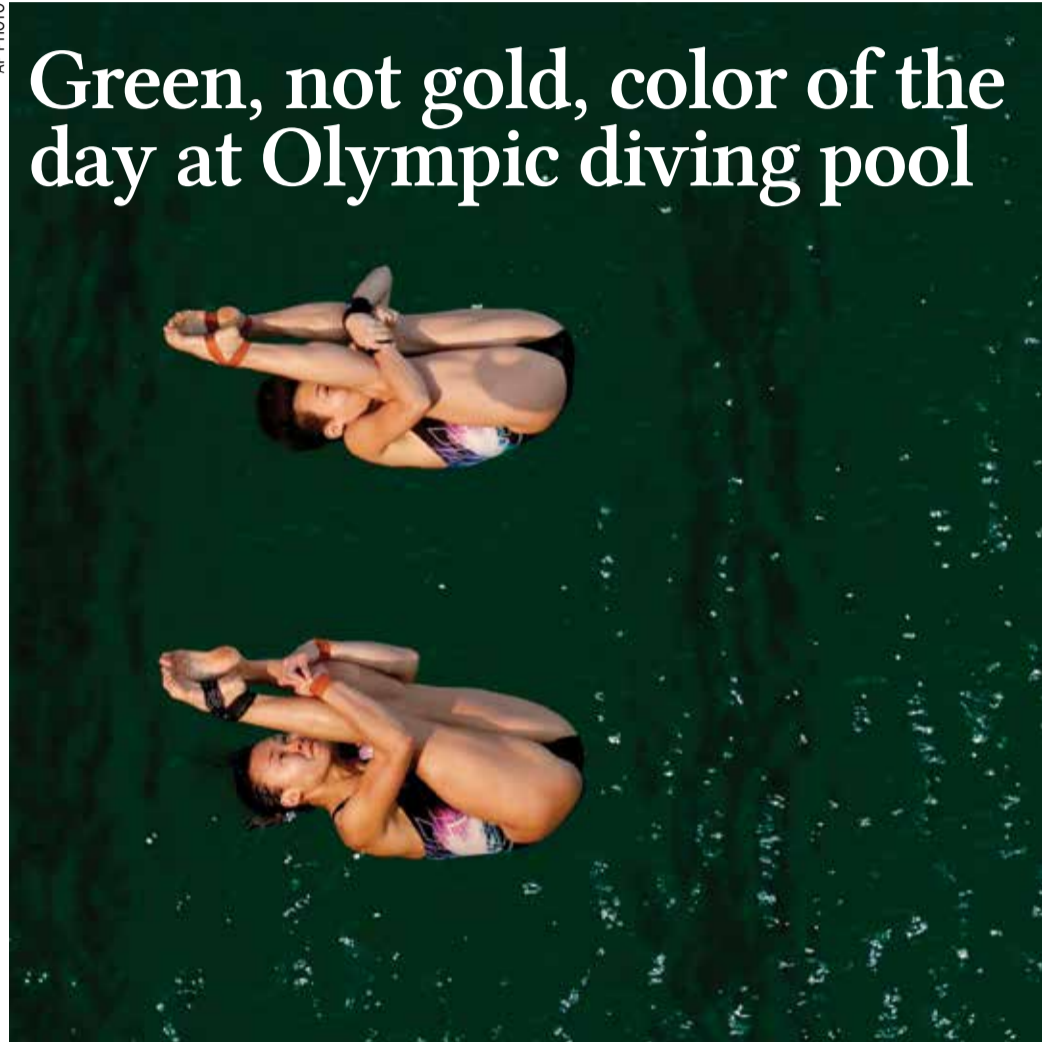
No players were identified, though the federation says "it will not bring any sporting sanctions against any individuals while the police investigation is ongoing."

The case began after reports of suspicious betting patterns linked to Rhyl's 5-0 win over Port Talbot on Apr. 9.

It was Rhyl's first win in almost six months before it finished 11th in the 12-team, semi-professional league, which provided no players to Wales' squad at the European Championship. Wales was a surprise semifinalist.

Port Talbot finished 10th but was relegated instead of Rhyl due to financial problems. **AP**

AP PHOTO



Malaysia's Cheong Jun Hoong and Pandelega Rinong (bottom) compete during the women's synchronized 10-meter platform diving final in the Maria Lenk Aquatic Center

**Beth Harris, Rio De Janeiro**

**GREEN**, not gold, was the color of the day at the Olympic diving venue.

Sure, China won its third consecutive gold medal yesterday, but the buzz was about the color of the water in the diving pool — a murky green.

That was in stark contrast to the pool's light blue color the previous day and also that of the clear water in the second pool used for the water polo competition at Maria Lenk Aquatic Center.

British diver Tom Daley, who earned bronze in men's synchronized 10-meter on Monday, tweeted a photo of the two pools next to each other and captioned it, "Erm... what happened?!"

Water quality has been a major issue surrounding the Rio de Janeiro Olympics, but in the ocean and lagoons, not the pools.

A statement from Olympic organizers said water tests were conducted and there was no risk to athletes. They couldn't explain the color change, but said it's being investigated.

Rio spokesman Mario Andrada said the green

was caused "by a proliferation of algae."

"This was because of heat and a lack of wind," he said. "We did all the chemical tests. The pool will be blue tomorrow [Wednesday]."

"If it were green and yellow, we would know it was a patriotic thing," Andrada joked, referring to Brazil's national colors.

Canada team leader Mitch Geller suspected the cause was algae that multiplied quickly in the day's warm and sunny conditions.

"Everybody was scratching their heads going, 'What's going on?'" he said. "I think that the filter is busted, but I'm not sure. It's not really dangerous. It's not like it's toxic or dirty or any of that. It seemed to get worse over the course of the competition."

The kale-colored water wasn't just a cosmetic nuisance; it was so dark that divers couldn't see the bottom of the pool.

"They're used to seeing the water," Geller said. "The visuals are really, really important in diving."

Chen Ruolin, who teamed to win gold with Liu Huixia, said it didn't affect them.

Paola Espinosa of Mexico, competing in her fourth Olympics, noticed the pool getting increasingly darker throughout the six-round competition. But she said the water didn't smell or affect her skin.

"I haven't seen anything like it before," Espinosa said. "But it's Brazil and everything is green down here, so maybe it was a decoration to make it look pretty."

American Jessica Parratto wears contacts and said the water didn't burn her eyes.

Bronze medalists Meaghan Benfeito and Roseline Filion of Canada tried not to laugh as they gazed at the water from atop the 33-foot tower. They liked that the dark green color offered a helpful contrast with the blue sky.

"The only thing we said is don't open your mouth in the water, just in case," Benfeito said.

Geller said a Canadian pool expert was coming in Wednesday and he would offer to help Rio organizers chemically treat the water if there's a problem with the filter.

"I don't know what it's going to look like tomorrow," he said. "I hope it's not a swamp." **AP**

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

SOURCE: DSI/MG

**WORLD BRIEFS**

**BANGLADESH**

Authorities in Bangladesh's capital arrest six suspected members of a banned Islamist group blamed for recent deadly attacks, including one last month that killed 20 people.



**AFGHANISTAN** Troops are being deployed to the capital of the key southern province of Helmand amid intense fighting with the Taliban in surrounding areas and fears the city could fall to the insurgents within days, officials said yesterday.

**IRAQ** A fire ripped through a maternity ward at a Baghdad hospital overnight, killing 12 newborn babies, government officials said yesterday, likely caused by faulty electrical wiring. By morning, grief-stricken fathers searched for their missing newborns in vain while angry relatives gathered outside the Yarmouk hospital in western Baghdad blamed the government for the tragedy. **More on p15**

**ZAMBIA**, often praised for its healthy democracy and economy, now faces a presidential election with high tensions on both fronts. This southern African country votes today amid concerns about political violence after years of peaceful power transitions that the U.S. last year praised as a "model for Africa."



**UK** Striking workers on a British rail network have called off the final two days of a strike that has disrupted the journeys of hundreds of thousands of commuters. Trade union staff walked out on Monday over plans to remove conductors from trains. The strike was due to last five days.