



CONTROVERSY OVER HOTEL ESTORIL BANNER

New Macau members are facing charges after the hoisting of a banner on the derelict Hotel Estoril

P3, 20 OPINION



MEDICAL MALPRACTICE LAW APPROVED

P5 AL PLENARY



HONG KONG ECONOMY EXPANDS

Economy grew at the fastest pace since March 2011 as a pick up in exports helped offset sluggish retail sales in the city

P11

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Times

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"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN'"

WORLD BRIEFS

CHINA A female Chinese swimmer tests positive for a banned substance at the Rio Olympics, China's swimming association says, the first competitor in the sport to fail a test at the games.



JAPAN Coast guard ships searched Friday for eight missing Chinese crewmembers after rescuing six others from a fishing boat that collided with a cargo ship off disputed islands in the East China Sea, Japanese government officials said. The boat apparently sank Thursday after colliding with the Greek-flagged ship off the Japan-controlled Senkaku islands, which China also claims. The collision occurred as hundreds of Chinese fishing boats have gathered around the islands since early August following the start of the mackerel season. More on p10

More on backpage

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FINANCIAL TIMES

How to turn an Olympics profit

F1

UNITED NATIONS BRIBERY SCANDAL

Ng Lap Seng says US arrest was politically motivated

P3



Thai police look for suspects after bombs hit tourist sites

P12

Lynzy Valles

THE pastry industry in Macau is set to expand, along with the dynamics of the city's casinos and new hotels opening up, experts say.

The "5th Fonterra Foodservices Pastry Challenge 2016" was held last week at the University of Science and Technology, where pastry chefs gathered for "The Best Pastry Chef in Town" tournament.

The competition, aimed at fostering the baking industry in Macau, provided a platform for professional pastry chefs from eight teams of different establishments in Macau to compete for four awards, including the Angliss Excellence Award, as well as Bronze, Silver and Gold awards.

Pastry chefs from the Hard Rock hotel were awarded the Angliss Excellence Award, while pastry chefs from Studio City, Galaxy Macau and the Sheraton received Bronze, Silver and Gold awards respectively.

Recipients of the Gold Award Hong Xuan Xuan and Wong Chon In told the Times that such competitions have allowed them to enhance their skills and hence improve their contribution to their workplace.

Themed "Tea in Fusion," the three-hour competition asked pastry chefs to create unique

Pastry industry benefiting from new integrated resorts



recipes using tea with Anchor dairy products. The judgment was based on the artistic merit of the work and the degree of skill.

According to Gordon Ma, associate food director of Fonterra, this year's contestants have greatly demonstrated their passion and commitment to the pastry industry. Ma expressed his hopes that the F&B industry in the region will continually grow.

"I see that the Macau pastry [industry is] much more internationalized because a lot of pastry chefs come from Southeast Asia, China and from some European countries," Ma told the Times.

Ma believes that the current interaction between local and international pastry chefs is "much more closer and stronger," stressing that the industry will become more recognized due to the establishment

of new resorts and tourist attractions.

"It will make the F&B [industry] more internationalized yet they [will] still keep their authentic and Macanese food. I see a lot of potential for the F&B industry in Macau to [grow]" he noted.

Echoing the same sentiments, Matthew Helm, vice president of the Macau Culinary Association hinted that the region's gastronomy would entice the

Fully Independent Travelers [FIT].

"With all the dynamics of so many casinos and new hotels opening up, it's just going to expand and evolve," he noted.

He stressed that the region's F&B industry has been undergoing constant improvements each day and has been innovative.

"Macau's [going] through a transition. There's more non-gaming aspects added to the environment to entice the FIT to come experience Macau," he explained.

Helm believes that the peninsula's baking industry has the capacity to continually progress and attract more travelers. On a side note, he mentioned that transportation in the city should be looked after as well.

The "5th Fonterra Foodservices Pastry Challenge 2016" was organized by Fonterra Foodservices and co-organized by Angliss Macau Food Service Limited and was endorsed by Macau University of Science and Technology and Macau Culinary Association.

20 MICE industry representatives attend event in Dalian

THE second edition of a training event targeting "Macau Convention and Exhibition Talents" was held in Dalian, China between 9 to 12 August. The event was co-organized by the Macao Trade and Investment Promotion Institute (IPIM) and the Department of Taiwan, Hong Kong and Macau Affairs of the Ministry of Commerce of the People's Republic of China.

According to a statement issued yesterday by IPIM, the training program aims to enhance the professional standards of locals working in the city's convention and exhibition industry and increase regional coope-



Irene Lau (center) and other participants in the event

ration.

IPIM organized a delegation of 20 representatives from the Macau convention and exhibition industry that joined the training seminar in Dalian. Irene Lau, executive director of IPIM, headed the delegation.

At a networking dinner attended by representa-

tives from relevant MICE-related sectors on the Mainland, Irene Lau said she hoped such training sessions could help sharpening further the industry's competitive edge in Macau.

The latest session of the training event followed a similar event held in 2015.

CCM's 'ARTmusing Fun' to kick off this month

THE Macao Cultural Centre (CCM) will host "ARTmusing Fun" on August 28, an event to "celebrate the end of the warm season," according to a statement from the organization. For its fourth edition, the event will feature a variety of performances and creative workshops.

The day will kick off with the engagement of workshop participants in a number of performances. Among them, "Musical GoGoGo!" will invite children on stage to act as lions, monkeys and other characters inspired by musical classics "The Wizard of Oz" and "The Lion King."

Meanwhile, participants in the "Big Time Clowning" and "Puppet Magicians" workshops will perform together with their instructors and learn puppetry skills.

Also appearing at the event will be CCM's Children's Choir, which will perform a mini-concert involving a mix of musical and physical theater



elements.

Local artists have separately prepared a series of amusing and creative activities for the event, according to the CCM statement, including imaginative storytelling and a secret backstage tour to a mini-cinema screening of local animations. There will also be a children's mini-catwalk show inviting kids aged three and above to dress up as their favorite animals.

"ARTmusing Fun" is a free admission event and will be starting from 3:30 p.m. at CCM.

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Ng says US arrest was politically motivated



Ng Lap Seng (center)

Larry Neumeister, New York

A Chinese billionaire arrested in a United Nations bribery scandal asserted in court papers last week that charges against him were politically motivated, a way for the United States to block his construction of a major U.N. conference center in China and slow the progress of Chinese influence over developing nations.

Lawyers for Ng Lap Seng said in papers filed in Manhattan federal court that charges brought against the 68-year-old businessman last fall were

based on a "fundamentally unsound" and unprecedented criminal prosecution.

They said the charges had derailed any plans for a permanent conference center in Macau that would serve southern hemisphere nations.

"There is every reason to believe that the U.N. has, indeed, completely shelved the idea of such a center. The U.S. geopolitical interest in slowing the progress of Chinese influence over developing nations has been achieved," the lawyers wrote.

Ng is free on USD50 million bail with a requirement he be

guarded by around-the-clock private security at a luxury Manhattan apartment.

Prosecutors say he contributed a portion of over \$1 million in bribes to a former U.N. General Assembly president to generate support for his plans for a U.N. conference center in Macau.

But his lawyers say his prosecution was designed to prevent the establishment of the Macau center. They note that his arrest came within three days of a scheduled state visit by the Chinese president to the United States.

They also argued in the

court papers Thursday that the United States was improperly interfering with the customs and operations of the United Nations.

"Not only has the prosecution intruded into U.N. affairs, it threatens to import American sensibilities and customs into a uniquely in-

Lawyers said the charges had derailed any plans for a permanent conference center in Macau

ternational environment that has its own set of customs and expectations," the lawyers said.

As part of their court submission, the lawyers submitted a transcript of an interview the FBI conducted with Ng after his arrest.

In it, Ng was asked about a photograph on the internet of him with President Barack Obama.

According to the transcript, Ng said he was introduced to Obama by a friend from Taiwan.

Ng also said in the transcript that his primary reason for trips to the United Nation was to promote the construction of the U.N. center in Macau. **AP**

Wushu Masters Challenge closes



The inaugural edition of the Wushu Masters Challenge came to an official close last night at a ceremony held at Tap Seac Square. A parade starting from the Ruins of St. Paul's Cathedral and ending at Tap Seac Square preceded the closing ceremony. The event, which is being heralded as a cultural occasion in the city with the additional aim of promoting traditional Chinese martial arts among residents, was said to have brought together about 400 masters from Asia, the Middle East and Europe. In addition to the entertainment, sporting and tourism affair, the Sports Bureau says that the four-day event can also provide a way to promote international interaction and experience-sharing among practitioners. The Secretary for Culture and Social Affairs, Alexis Tam, posed yesterday with a selection of the participating artists, who were dressed in the traditional gear and some as Chinese-style dragons, lions and mythological creatures.

Xu Yingzhen takes office at Forum Macau

The new Secretary-General of the Permanent Secretariat of the Forum for Economic and Trade Co-operation between China and Portuguese-speaking Countries - Macao (Forum Macau), Xu Yingzhen, took office on August 11. Xu has served as Commercial Counselor of the Department of American and Oceania Affairs of the Ministry of Commerce of China for several years. She is said to have extensive experience in foreign affairs and good knowledge of the markets of Portuguese-speaking countries, having also supported previous editions of the Ministerial Conference of Forum Macau. Xu arrived in the territory last month. According to the information provided by Forum Macau, she has been visiting several MSAR government entities, as well as the consular representatives of Portuguese-speaking countries in the territory, in order to exchange views on their work.

SME lending by local banks drops 50pct

New Small and Medium-sized Enterprises' (SME) lending approved by Macau banks has dropped by more than 50 percent in the first half of 2016, compared to the second half of 2015, according to statistics released by the Monetary Authority of Macao. In the first half of 2016, new SMEs' credit limit approved by Macau banks totaled MOP9.9 billion, down by 51.8 percent from the second half of 2015, or 44.8 percent compared to the same period last year. At the end of the first half of this year, the outstanding balance of delinquent SMEs loans dropped by 16.3 percent from six months ago to MOP306.4 million. This is in comparison to a year ago when the balance grew by 56.5 percent.

New Macau members facing charges over Hotel Estoril banner

TWO members of the New Macau Association (ANM), including the president of the Association, Scott Chiang, have been arrested on suspicion of being behind the hoisting of a banner on the derelict Hotel Estoril on Thursday afternoon.

On the black-colored banner hoisted shortly before the inauguration ceremony of the Wushu Masters Challenge event could be discerned (in Chinese) white characters that read "Alexis Tam: Heritage killer".

According to online media source, Macau Concealers, Chiang and Alin Lam were caught by the police in the nearby area a few minutes after the act and were taken to the police station. There the two spent the night before being escorted to the Public Prosecutions Office (MP) on Friday afternoon.

Released after a four-hour hearing with the Prosecutor, from which they are required to regularly meet with authorities and are prohibited from leaving the territory, the two might face charges of



invasion of property and vandalism. However, "there are no formal charges yet as the investigation is still running," said Scott Chiang as cited by Radio Macau. He also told the broadcaster that he will have to present himself to the police every month.

Without assuming any responsibilities over the staged protest, Chiang in the same statement accused the Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture, Alexis Tam, of the destruction of Macau's heritage. "I think more people should worry not

only about the preservation of heritage, but about the actions of the government. As the banner said, now we have a serial killer who smashes any opposition; there is no discussion in society. It's not what we want; it's not what Macau deserves," Chiang said, affirming that a request for the resignation of the Secretary is being considered as "Secretary Alexis Tam creates more problems than [solutions]."

Speaking at the door of the MP on Friday evening, vice president of ANM Jason Chao did not credit the action as in any way a New Macau-affiliated activity, but nevertheless reaffirmed support to the members involved.

"It is not an action initiated by the New Macau Association. We just [got to] know about it after the appearance of the banner," he stated.

The Times tried to reach both Chiang and Chao for a comment on the topic, but was informed that more information would be provided in a press conference to be held this afternoon. **RM**

AL PLENARY

Asset freezing law given green light, Alves disagrees with 'exceptions'

Renato Marques

THE Legislative Assembly (AL) has finally approved, with little discussion, the draft legislation complying with a United Nations Security Council (UNSC) resolution on fighting terrorism and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

In a plenary meeting held last Friday, lawmakers unanimously approved one of the laws (with exception of number 2 of Article 31), which the government had requested as a matter of urgency.

Few questions were asked during the final presentation to the plenary about a law that had gathered a general consensus among the legislators after being discussed in seven committee meetings between late March and early August this year. Replacing standing committee president Kwan Tsui Hang, who had a temporary loss of speech capability due to health problems, Ma Chi Seng made the final presentation before the voting.

Article 31 led to a discussion regarding its clause on the litigious appeal about asset freezing. On this matter,



Leonel Alves

lawmaker Leonel Alves said, "there is a reversal of the burden of proof," a situation with which he disagrees.

A representative of the Secretariat for Administration and Justice replied: "We are in [an] administrative law matter which means that even if there is an appeal, that doesn't mean 'asset unfreezing'. [...] There is a presumption that whenever we are involved in possible terrorist acts, this means that we are in the presence of a matter of onerous public interest."

The explanation did not convince Alves, who argued, "I do not agree with an exception to the rule. I think we have been doing that a lot lately

[making laws with many exceptions] and that isn't a good practice. Consecrating exceptions to the law always deserve a very good explanation."

Alves requested that the voting for this specific part be done separately from the rest of the article.

AL president Ho Iat Seng granted the request, contrary to all the other articles (approval with 30 votes in favor), with two votes against and two other abstentions.

On the final vote, lawmaker Gabriel Tong justified his opposing vote by agreeing with Alves that the legislative option might be a "door left ajar" for the future application of the law.

Young musicians contest concludes, winners announced

THE 34th Macau Young Musicians Competition of the Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC) has concluded.

Among the "several extraordinary young musicians" who competed last weekend, Siu Lai Na took home the "Cultural Affairs Bureau Prize". The IC also announced the winners of the Award for Best Group Performance and other categories.

Siu was awarded the "Advanced Level Grand Champion in Guzheng". Guzheng is a traditional Chinese musical string instrument with over 2,500 years of history.

The 16-year-old had previously been awarded the title of "Elementary Level Grand Champion in Guzheng" at the competition in 2008, and received the maximum classification in the grading test of the China Nationalities Orchestra Society.

Siu has been awarded an IC scholarship to cover her first year of tuition fees for a university degree or music-related course.

"The competition for special awards at each level was extraordinary, and all participants gave their best in the performance," said the IC.

The award ceremony was attended by the IC's head of the department of cultural events.

According to the IC, the 35th edition of the competition has been scheduled for next July and August. More information will be announced at the end of this year.

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AL PLENARY

Legislation on medical errors approved despite doubts over expert committee

Renato Marques

THE Legislative Assembly (AL) gathered last Friday for the final approval of the medical malpractice bill, which has been discussed over the last three years.

However, the plenary session was not without doubts.

Lawmakers questioned the composition and operation of the experts' evaluation committee, which will analyze and finally decide on all cases related to hypothetical medical malpractice claims from users of healthcare services in both the public and private sectors.

Lawmaker Pereira Coutinho asked: "What kind of qualifications should be stipulated for these members? [...] What is essential is a declaration of interests. We have to know if these people [committee members] are competent." He also requested more details on how the government proposes to select the experts for the group.

"The first difficulty that the government will encounter is the constitution of the committee itself," said Leonel Alves, explaining that seven effective members and three substitutes are required.

"I don't know if we have these people in Macau. Regarding the medical staff, I have my doubts since I don't know the sector well; regarding the jurists, I find it difficult since I can't envision how they could have the necessary qualifications to perform such a task," Alves said, remarking that the law permits the recruitment of committee members from outside the territory in the case of medical members, but this is not the case for juridical members.

But the legislator went even further, challenging the composition of the seven-member committee, that is expected to include five members from the medical sector and two from the judiciary one.

"Why is it necessary to have these specialized juridical members? In what sense can they conclude an investigation and technical expertise of the physicians? If I [have] my doubts about the need for one, why do we need two?"



The Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture, Alexis Tam, did not disclose many details on the inclusion of these members, claiming to have heard "a proposal from the standing committee which the government attended."

"In Macau, there are many professionals from the health sector and we believe that it is possible to find them," said Tam, even suggesting "recruiting retired physicians, even from abroad, that can still serve society."

The Secretary also remarked that "the committee can also hire and even request experts from abroad to give a technical opinion, even if they aren't included in the committee."

Alves did not agree with Article 18 of the law, which states it is possible to appeal the committee decision. "But there isn't a real mechanism for that, since the appeal is done for the same committee that analyzed the case in the first place," he said.

In his opinion, this fact "weakens the protection of the rights of those that consider to have been harmed by the conclusions of the experts committee."

Alves also said that the committee was created to expedite the processes, thus avoiding the need to go to court, but "does not replace that possibility."

Au Kam San, another lawmaker, criticized some of the bill's articles, claiming that the mechanism requires the payment of an expecte-

dly large sum for the filing of a medical malpractice process, which "might constitute an obstruction for many people and more specifically for most of the vulnerable groups." He called on the government to set a mechanism to exempt people in need from paying such a tax.

According to the bill, the sum in question should be similar to the ones now paid in mainland China (approximately MOP5,500) or Taiwan (MOP8,900) which Tam admitted are the "reference amounts that are being considered."

One of the relevant aspects of the bill now approves the introduction of mandatory insurance that grants compensation to patients in the case of proven medical malpractice. The insurance should be acquired by "six types of medical professionals," said Health Bureau

(SSM) director Lei Chin Ion. These include traditional Chinese medicine practitioners.

Tam says, "the introduction of the indemnity insurance protects both users and healthcare professionals."

Legislator Chan Iek Lap, a physician, had participated in all the sessions and was most concerned with the insurance premium costs as well as the lack of information regarding the insurance.

"The physicians in Macau do not know how to acquire the insurance. I'm not as concerned about the hospitals [as I am] for the independent professionals; especially for the traditional Chinese medicine practitioners, this will be a problem," he said, urging the government to "think of the reasonability of the premium and call for the support of the Monetary Authority of Macao [AMCM] to negotiate with the insurance companies."

Executive director and AMCM representative Maria Luísa Man said: "We are working on that and probing the insurance sector regarding this matter. [After] the approval [of the bill] we need to review the administrative regulations to define the insurance contractual terms."

The law was unanimously approved in general terms with the exception of Article 12 – Composition of the Committee – which had been voted upon separately, gathering two votes against and one abstention.

ON THE LAWMAKERS' AGENDA

SHORTAGE OF DRIVERS

Mak Soi Kun has called the government's attention to the fact that the shortage of heavy vehicle drivers has led to lower requirements and skills for these positions. The lawmaker cited a large number of recent accidents involving such vehicles, and said that the drivers have exhibited problems such as a "lack of experience and care when driving, [exhaustion], driving under the influence of alcohol, and driving with expired driving licenses." According to him, this has caused "serious accidents with the loss of lives and assets by the drivers, passengers and pedestrians." The legislator urged the government to fulfill their promises regarding the drivers' professional training, but noted things "seem to be going the opposite way."

TAIPA FERRY TERMINAL

Song Pek Kei and Lau Veng Seng said at the AL plenary that the Taipa Ferry Terminal at Pac On presents a "serious mismatching in size and function" to what was expected. According to data collected by Song, the Terminal will cost MOP3.8 billion, six times more than the initial budget projections. She added that "society thinks it will be a 'white elephant'." The lawmaker considers the project "over-sized," claiming that the total area of 201,000 square meters is also four times bigger than predicted. Song remarked that the terminal could receive 400,000 passengers per day, while both existing terminals currently host 69,000 passengers per day. "With the conclusion of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau bridge, a further reduction on these figures is expected," she said. Lau Veng Seng added that "the tourism capacity of the new terminal surpasses the actual needs by a large scale" and suggested that the routes to the mainland be expanded to capitalize on this.

RIDE-HAILING APPS

The government should follow China's legalization of ride-hailing apps, Au Kam San said. He stated that the MSAR government should take inspiration from the mainland's legalization of the taxi services in order to address issues with companies such as Uber. The legalization of this kind of service "could solve the shortcomings of the taxi industry," the lawmaker said. Au's suggestion comes in light of what he called the "lack of vision from the government on this matter" and his implication that following China's resolutions on the matter might be an advancement.

■ The law introduces a mandatory insurance that grants compensation to patients in case of a proven medical malpractice



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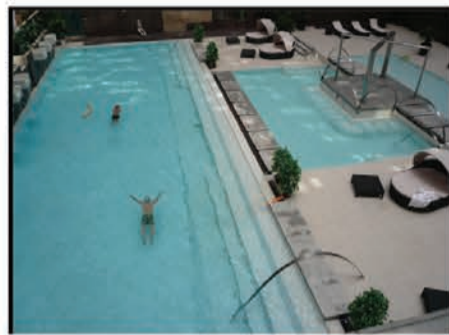
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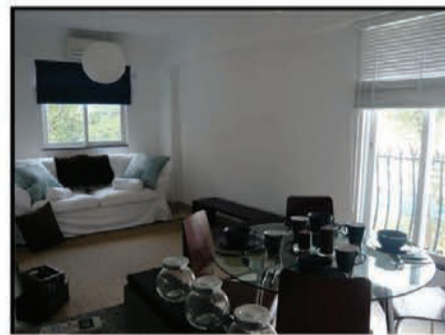
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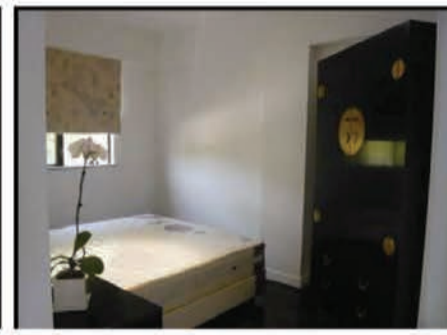
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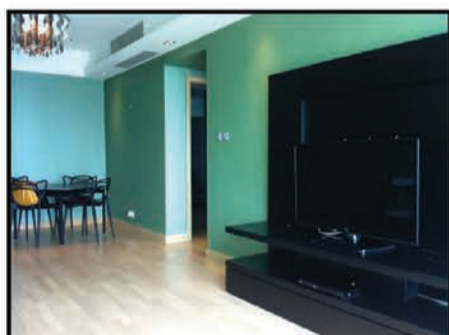
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Macau, One Central Residences

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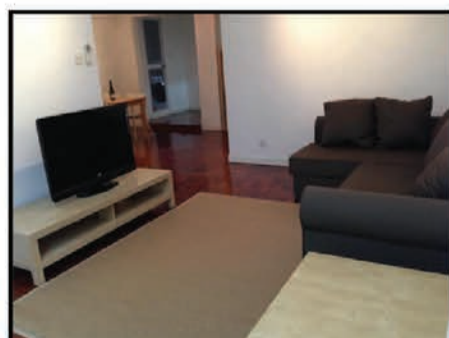


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Jou Fai Kuok, St Pauls Ruin's Macau

(Ref: 15075447)
627sq. ft. HKD 3.88M
Rate: HKD 6,188sq ft
One bedroom apartment in Heritage Area of Macau. A five minute from the Ruins of St Pauls.
Renovated 3 years ago. Good size master bedroom with build in wardrobes. Modern shower room with build in under counter cabinet.

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Email: Juliet@eastcityproperty.com



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(Ref: 16065018)
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Rate: HKD 6,250sq ft
Renovated 5 years ago this apartment has a modern open plan kitchen. The main floor consists of a good size double bedroom and a separate bathroom.

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(Ref: 16065488)
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Tour bus accident a 'wake up call'

Renato Marques

LAST week's tour bus accident at Rua da Entena was one of the main topics addressed at the Legislative Assembly (AL) plenary session on Friday, with several lawmakers touching on the topic.

Chui Sai Peng said the accident should be a wake up call to the government regarding traffic congestion surrounding popular tourist sites.

"Authorities need to learn their lesson and [study] the way to ensure the security of residents and tourists," he said.

"For a long time, there has been a lot of pressure on people and vehicles in tourist areas, leading to several problems such as serious traffic jams and reduction of air quality. This results in claims from residents of a decrease in their quality of life, and a bad image of Macau for tourists."

The legislator attributed the congestion in the area to the number of tour buses that travel there daily, and said it also presented a security risk. He added that many mainland re-



DSSOPT representatives held a meeting on Saturday with occupants of the building that was struck by the out-of-control bus

gions also restrict heavy vehicles from entering tourist sites.

Ho Long Sang noted that it is not the first tour bus accident to occur near the St Paul's Ruins. "It is regretful that the government doesn't take this matter seriously and only says that it is not going, for the time being, to consider restricting the area of operation of tour buses," he said.

The same person also criticized the government's lack of

coordination in dealing with such incidents, claiming that each service "acted in its own way" and calling for a serious review of the interdepartmental emergency procedures.

The Government Information Bureau (GCS) also issued several statements about follow-up measures, adding that "a total of 11 mainland tourists are still being treated in Kiang Wu Hospital." These include two

patients, one in the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) and the other in a coma.

The remaining nine patients are in "a stable condition" at the hospital.

The same statement also claims that 20 of the 44 tourists involved in the accident are still in the territory, including those being treated in hospital. The nine passengers – who were either uninjured or have reco-

vered – have remained behind to support their injured family members or seek compensation from their travel agency. According to official information, they are currently staying in a hotel arranged by the agency.

Concerns have also been extended to the building and its residents, since the crash seriously damaged one of the building's supporting pillars. Five of the residential units and one of the commercial sections will require repairs, said the government last Thursday.

The Land, Public Works and Transport Bureau (DSSOPT) has taken steps to reinforce the building's structure and safety. They will draft a repair plan for the affected building within 10 days.

Six people living in the affected units have been housed at the Centre for Victims of Disaster following emergency arrangements by the Social Welfare Bureau (IAS).

The IAS also arranged hotel rooms to serve as temporary accommodation for 18 people from four families. These people are expected to be transferred to new lodgings shortly.

ADRIANO "Mikinho" Moraes was crowned the interim ONE Flyweight World Champion on Saturday night, after a submission victory over Tilek Batyrov at The Venetian Macao's Cotai Arena.

Sands China said the competition, titled "ONE: Heroes of the World" and hosted by ONE Championship, offered a combination of world-class mixed martial arts action.

In the main event of the evening, Brazil's Moraes defeated Kyrgyzstan's Tilek Batyrov by submission to capture the interim title.

MIXED MARTIAL ARTS

Moraes walks out Venetian ONE Flyweight Champion

During the second round, Moraes locked in a deep rear naked choke to force the tap.

Eduard "Landslide" Foyalang of Baguio City, Philippines, braved an extremely durable Adrian "The Hunter" Pang in one of his best performances to date. All three judges saw the bout in favor of the Filipino MMA stalwart.

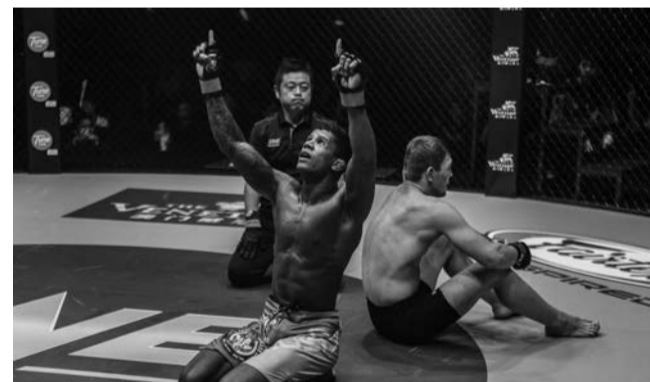
Filipino mixed martial arts veteran Honorio "The Rock" Banario gave the

performance of a lifetime with a decisive victory over Evolve MMA lightweight Eddie "The Magician" Ng. Ng started the bout off fast in his usual aggressiveness, but Banario kept his composure and clinched a comprehensive win.

Martin "The Situ-Asian" Nguyen of Sydney, Australia, shocked the Asian MMA world with an impeccable submission victory over 18-year old Christian "The Warrior" Lee.

Ma Jia Wen proved to be a complete offensive force, showcasing his wrestling and striking skills in a comprehensive technical knockout victory over the Philippines' Jimmy Yabo. His compatriot, Chinese bantamweight Ma Hao Bin, overcame a spirited effort from Cambodia's Chan Rothana, winning by three-round unanimous decision.

In a tremendous battle of will, undefeated female



atom weight Istela Nunes of Brazil impressed in her successful ONE Cham-

pionship debut with a victory over former world title challenger Mei Yamaguchi.

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Cheung Kong's Victor Li says open to sale of Hong Kong buildings



Frederik Balfour

BILLIONAIRE Li Ka-shing's Cheung Kong Property Holdings Ltd. signaled it's willing to part with some buildings in Hong Kong, as it seeks to lessen dependence on a market where sales have plummeted.

"I always look at deals, it's my job to look at deals, both purchases and sales," Deputy Chairman Victor Li told analysts Thursday when asked if he would consider selling commercial buildings, according to a recording of the briefing. "There is no deal that we must have, there is no property we must own, other than this building - we do need an office ourselves," he said, referring to the Cheung Kong Center where CK Property has its headquarters.

Just over one year after it was spun off from Cheung Kong (Holdings) Ltd., the Li family is looking to expand beyond the city where CK Property was founded. The company's shares dropped on Friday after Li reiterated

his bearish outlook for the local property market.

His comments came after Li's father, billionaire Li Ka-shing, the company's chairman, said in a statement to the Hong Kong stock exchange that the group was looking for growth beyond Hong Kong, its traditional base.

"As it is presently challenging to identify property investments with reasonable returns in the current cyclical stage of the property market, the Group will also pursue global investments to extend our reach to new business areas," the elder Li said in the statement.

Apart from Cheung Kong Center, CK Property's commercial portfolio includes Hutchison House and The Center in the Central business district on Hong Kong Island, and The Harbourfront in Kowloon, across the harbor.

At the briefing, the younger Li painted a bleak picture for the city, where sales declined 16 percent to HKD8.7 billion (USD1.1 billion) in the first half. "We are not changing our view," he said. "I can't paint you an optimistic, not bearish angle."

He also said the company was not looking to buy new land for development as margins on land purchases are "at an unhealthy level."

He said the company was looking to expand into non-property businesses outside Hong Kong, without providing concrete details. "I can't tell you too much now, it is going to be complementary to our property portfolio," he said. **Bloomberg**

GAMING | ANALYSIS

Wynn gets fewer tables than he wants for local casino

Daniela Wei

CASINO tycoon Steve Wynn will get 150 gaming tables for his new USD4.2 billion resort in Macau, just over a third of what his company applied for as the Chinese city signals it's serious about limiting gambling growth.

Wynn Palace will be authorized to operate 100 tables when it debuts Aug. 22 in the world's largest casino hub, with 50 more to be allocated in the following two years, Macau's Secretary for Economy and Finance Lionel Leong said in a statement Friday. The government stipulated all the tables will be for mass-market players. The resort also received approvals for 1,145 slot machines.

The decision is based on the 3 percent table growth each year in Macau from 2013 to 2022, according to Leong in the statement. Wynn Resorts Ltd. "is satisfied" with the table allocation, spokesman Michael Weaver said in an e-mail statement Friday.

Macau's government announced the table growth limit this spring in an effort to reduce the city's reliance on gambling revenue and to shift away from high-stakes VIP gamblers amid Beijing's crackdown on corruption. The government's goal comes as the industry seeks to attract more tourists and recreational gamblers to the only Chinese city where gambling is legal.

Wynn Palace had sought 400 tables. Its allocation is less than the 250 tables Galaxy Entertainment Group Ltd. and Melco Crown Entertainment Ltd. obtained for their new Macau projects last year.

Wynn Macau reversed earlier gains to fall 0.2 percent by the close of trading in Hong Kong, af-



Steve Wynn

ter rising as much as 3.7 percent Friday. The Hang Seng index rose 0.8 percent. The Macau casino operator's shares have jumped 43 percent so far this year through Thursday, while parent Wynn Resorts soared 48 percent over the period. Shares of Wynn fell as much as 3.3 percent to \$99.28 in New York Friday, and were at trading at \$100.09 at 10:26 a.m.

The allocation "does raise concerns on how an operator can ultimately get to where they need to be on a longer-term basis with only 150 tables on a more than \$4 billion investment," Union Ga-

■ The decision casts uncertainty on how many tables will be allocated to other new properties

ming Group LLC analyst Grant Govertsen wrote in a note on Friday. He downgraded Wynn Macau Ltd. to "hold" from a "buy" recommendation.

The decision casts uncertainty on how many tables will be allocated to other new properties including those by Sands China Ltd. and MGM China Holdings Ltd., Govertsen wrote. While operators can still transfer tables from older properties to make up the numbers, the government's "mass-only" mandate shows it wants to further restrict the VIP business, he wrote.

Casino revenue in Macau has plunged 26-straight months, following China's crackdown on corruption that has kept high-rollers away as tourist numbers dropped. Despite the slowdown, Macau casino operators are in the midst of a building boom.

MGM Cotai, scheduled to open in the second quarter of 2017, will be a "mass tables only" casino resort, MGM China Chief Executive Officer Grant Bowie told reporters on Tuesday. Last month, Sands China President Wilfred Wong said the company's Parisian project, due to open Sept. 13, will allocate a minority of its tables to VIPs.

Running counter to the trend, Melco Crown's Studio City, which opened October 2015 with just mass-market tables, is switching gears as it plans to open VIP rooms with gambling tables for high-stakes players as soon as this quarter.

Parent company Wynn Resorts had said July 29 it expected Wynn Palace to get approval for just 100 tables and that it will move about 250 tables from its current resort in Macau to the new one to ensure the property. **Bloomberg**

corporate bits

BLUE MAN GROUP'S FIRST CHINA PERFORMANCE



The Blue Man Group held their first performance in China on Friday night at the

Venetian Macao's Venetian Theater before an audience of Hong Kong and Macau ce-

lebrities.

Attending the opening night were Hong Kong and Macau artists Bob Lam, Tang Chi Wai, Benedict Chong, Ryan Lau, Siu Fay and many others. The famous character "BiBi Chili" from Macau online media Manner also made a surprise appearance on the 'blue carpet'.

The award-winning show is scheduled to run daily until August 28 at the integrated resort, except on Mondays.

The Macau shows are part of a new worldwide tour, which blends comedy, theater, rock concert and dance party. To date, over 35 million people in more than 15 countries have watched a Blue Man Group production.

PACHA SAID TO DRAW INTEREST FROM TRILANTIC



Private equity fund Trilantic Europe is considering an offer for Spanish dance-club operator Pacha Group, according to people familiar with the matter.

A sale of closely held Pacha, which runs clubs on the Spanish island of Ibiza, as well as Germany, Poland, Australia, China and Brazil, could fetch a few hundred million euros, the people said, asking not

to be identified because the deliberations are private. Trilantic Europe is working with advisers as it carries out due diligence, the people said.

No final decision has been made and Trilantic Europe could decide against a purchase of Pacha, which may also draw interest from other bidders, the people said.

Pacha has attracted interest from potential partners

throughout its history, though the company isn't proactively seeking a sale, a spokesman for the Spanish firm said. A representative for Trilantic Europe declined to comment.

Pacha, which traces its roots back to the 1960s when it opened its first club in the Catalan city of Sitges, has been expanding geographically over the years and diversifying into other leisure and entertainment businesses such as hotels, restaurants and fashion, according to its website. French disc jockeys David Guetta and Martin Solveig make regular appearances and a standard ticket may cost 52 euros to 130 euros, according to its website.

Auto sales accelerate in July

Joe McDonald

CHINA'S auto sales growth accelerated in July, an industry group said Friday, while General Motors Co. and Ford Motor Co. reported record demand for the month.

Sales in the world's biggest auto market rose 26.3 percent to 1.6 million units, the China Association of Automobile Manufacturers said. Total vehicle sales, including trucks and buses, rose 23 percent to 1.8 million units.

Sales of SUVs, whose explosive popularity has helped to buoy demand as other categories sagged, soared 47.4 percent to



AP PHOTO

1.6m

Vehicles sold in July

580,000 vehicles.

Demand cratered last year, jolting global brands that depend on China to drive revenue. Sales revived after the government cut sales taxes, but longer-term growth is expected to moderate from the double-digit rates of recent years.

Sales of GM vehicles by the company and its Chinese manufacturing partners rose 18 percent to 270,529, lifting the total for 2016 to more than 2 million units. Ford Motor Co. sales rose 15 percent to 88,189 vehicles.

Volkswagen AG, which competes with GM for the status of China's most popular vehicle brand, said sales rose 16 percent to 285,900.

Sales by Chinese brands outpaced the market, expanding 27.6 percent to 634,000 vehicles. Sales of Chinese-made SUVs surged 57.1 percent to 314,000.

The market share of Chinese automakers edged down 0.7 percentage points to 39.5 percent, according to CAAM. That followed small but steady gains as the popularity of lower-cost models helped them claw back share this year.

For the first seven months of the year, auto sales rose 11.1 percent to 12.6 million units. Sales by Chinese brands rose 14.4 percent to 5.4 million. **AP**

Japan searches for 8 Chinese missing off disputed islands

Mari Yamaguchi

JAPANESE coast guard ships searched Friday for eight missing Chinese crewmembers after rescuing six others from a fishing boat that collided with a cargo ship off disputed islands in the East China Sea, government officials said.

The boat apparently sank Thursday after colliding with the Greek-flagged ship off the Japan-controlled Senkaku islands, which China also claims. The collision occurred as hundreds of Chinese fishing boats have gathered around the islands since early August following the start of the mackerel season.

Up to 15 Chinese coast guard vessels — four to five

times the usual number — were also in the area. Foreign Ministry officials say some have been converted from warships and are armed. The increase prompted Japan to lodge protests several times a day for a week.

Officials said some of the Chinese ships left following the accident, and the Chinese side thanked Japan for its rescue efforts.

Relations between Japan and China have long been strained over how to develop undersea gas deposits in the area, as well as by their wartime history, a sensitive topic during recent months because of end-of-World War II anniversaries.

Japanese officials have raised concerns over Chi-

na's increasingly assertive activity around the Senkaku islands. Over the past few years, China has built a dozen gas development platforms in the East China Sea, and Japan has recently discovered that China has installed radar facilities and surveillance cameras there, they said.

Japanese media reports say the recent escalation in Chinese activity around the disputed islands may be seen as a warning against planned visits by members of Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's Cabinet to Tokyo's Yasukuni Shrine, which honors war criminals among Japan's war dead, for the Aug. 15 anniversary of the end of World War II. **AP**

Slowing growth in money supply hasn't affected economy, Ma says

CHINA'S slowing growth in money supply hasn't affected the economy and the nation's fundamentals support a stable foreign-exchange rate, the top economist at the central bank's research bureau said.

The country's stabilizing hoard of foreign reserves, which were little changed at USD3.201 trillion in July from the previous month, signal the exchange rate is near equilibrium, Ma Jun, chief economist of the People's Bank of China's research bureau, wrote in a note Saturday. He added China's corporate debt was high by international standards and that it should reduce the leverage by cleaning up "zombie" companies and implementing debt-to-equity swaps.

Ma's remarks came after official data on Friday indicated that a recent economic stabilization faltered in July, with factory output, retail sales and investment all missing estimates, and the broadest measure of new credit rising at the slowest pace in two years. He pointed to the International Monetary Fund's forecasts for China's growth as a sign of confidence in the world's second-largest economy.

The nation should weaken its focus on gross domestic product in the future and put more emphasis on a stable job market, he said.

The broad M2 money supply increased 10.2 percent in July, the slowest pace since April 2015, PBOC



Ma Jun

data showed Friday. The yuan climbed 0.12 percent against the U.S. dollar in July, halting three months of declines.

China's leaders plan to underpin demand with fiscal support and view interest rates as being at "appropriate" levels, according to glimpses of their thinking seen in the IMF's yearly review of the economy. Its GDP is projected to expand 6.6 percent in 2016 and 6.2 percent in 2017, while inflation is seen picking up to around 2 percent this year, the IMF said.

China's economy will probably grow 6.5 percent in 2016 and 6.3 percent in 2017, according to estimates compiled by Bloomberg. **Bloomberg**



AP PHOTO

The Greek-flagged cargo ship Anangel Courage

Rod McGuirk

Australian official rejects criticisms of China investor ban

AUSTRALIA'S treasurer on Friday rejected accusations that the true reason his government plans to ban Chinese bidders from leasing a Sydney electricity grid is to appease influential lawmakers with xenophobic views.

Treasurer Scott Morrison announced Thursday that he intends to block Chinese state-owned State Grid Corp. and Hong Kong-registered Cheung Kong Infrastructure Group from bidding for a 99-year lease over a 50.4 percent stake in Ausgrid because of classified national security reasons.

Critics including Bob Carr, director of the Sydney-based Australia-China Relations Institute and a former foreign minister, said the decision reflected the wishes of anti-establishment lawmakers who gained balance-of-power roles in the Parliament in elections in early July.

"The treasurer's decision [...] is a huge concession — the first major policy sacrifice — to the Witches' Sabbath of xenophobia and economic nationalism stirred up in the recent federal election," Carr said in a statement. "The treasurer is conceding to economic populism in the Senate."

Morrison dismissed the views of Carr, who was a minister until 2013 in a Labor Party government which is now in opposition, as "complete nonsense."

"I don't trade on national security," Morrison told Australian Broadcasting Corp.

The decision has been welcomed by Pauline Hanson, leader of the One Nation party that has four se-



AP PHOTO
Australia's Treasurer Scott Morrison

nators opposed to Asian and Muslim immigration as well as trade liberalization. They and other lawmakers not aligned with either the conservative government or Labor oppose Australia's free-trade deal with its biggest trading partner, China, and want tighter foreign investment rules.

The deal for the New South Wales state-owned electricity network would have earned more than 10 billion Australian dollars

■ Xinhua said that although China's 'dramatic development, huge population and unique culture' may cause concern for some countries, it could also result in 'China-phobia'

(\$7.6 billion).

Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull later declined to explain why a banned bidder, State Grid, was allowed last year to bid for another New South Wales-owned power network, TransGrid.

But State Grid was out-bid in November by an Australian-led consortium.

"The advice we received was absolutely unequivocal. This was not a political decision," Turnbull told reporters.

China's state-run Xinhua News Agency criticized the Australian decision and a recent move by Britain to delay a decision on a new nuclear power plant backed by Chinese investment. It said that although China's "dramatic development, huge population and unique culture" may cause concern for some countries, it could also result in "China-phobia."

Chinese foreign investment, particularly from state-owned companies, has become increasingly contentious in Australia as China takes a more aggressive stance in territorial disputes in the South China Sea.

New South Wales Premier Michael Baird said he was frustrated that the security veto had not come earlier in the year-long negotiations over the bid. **AP**

Hong Kong economy expands most since 2011, dodging recession

Lisa Pham, Benny Kung and Justina Lee

HONG Kong's economy grew at the fastest pace since March 2011 as a pick up in exports helped offset sluggish retail sales in the city.

Gross domestic product expanded 1.6 percent in the three months through June from the previous quarter, the government said in a statement Friday. That beat the median estimate for 0.5 percent growth from analysts surveyed by Bloomberg. The city's economy unexpectedly contracted in the first quarter. Two consecutive quarters of negative growth could have meant a technical recession for the Asian financial hub.

Hong Kong's stronger-than-expected growth came as China's economy showed signs of stabili-

Recovery in China has definitely helped Hong Kong's economy, like the re-exports sector.

BANNY LAM
HEAD OF RESEARCH AT CEB
INTERNATIONAL

zation after authorities stepped up policy support. The city's government kept its prediction of 1 percent to 2 percent economic expansion this year, slower than the 2.4 percent gain last year.



Economists forecast 1.2 percent growth for 2016, according to the median estimate of analysts surveyed by Bloomberg.

"The recovery in China has definitely helped Hong Kong's economy, like the re-exports sector," said Benny Lam, head of research at CEB Inter-

national Investment Ltd. in Hong Kong. "I expect Hong Kong's economy to continue to stabilize for the rest of the year."

Hong Kong's economy expanded 1.7 percent in the second quarter from a year earlier, stronger than the originally reported 0.8 expansion in January

through March and beating the 0.9 percent rise expected by economists.

Retail sales in the city dropped for a sixteenth straight month in June as retailers including Chow Tai Fook Jewellery Group Ltd. negotiate rent cuts in the city and plan store closures. Mainland Chinese

visitor arrivals to the former British colony declined for a thirteenth month in June amid a weakening yuan.

The downtrend was reversed in July as Chinese visitor arrivals grew 2.2 percent from a year earlier, the South China Morning Post reported Thursday, citing Hong Kong Tourism Board Chairman Peter Lam.

"The latest visitor arrivals trend suggests that the drag from the slowdown of inbound tourism has been reducing," the government said in a statement. "If this continues, this may help to improve the performance of services exports and to gradually stabilize retail sales in the latter part of the year."

Hong Kong also bucked the trend in Asia as other economies in the region are suffering. Singapore on Thursday cut the top end of its 2016 growth forecast after the economy expanded less than previously estimated in the second quarter. **Bloomberg**

Thai police hoping to quickly identify bombing suspects

Natnicha Chuwiruch, Todd Pitman

POLICE in Thailand said Saturday that they were hoping to identify suspects over the next couple of days in a series of bombing and arson attacks that struck several tourist towns, killing four people and wounding dozens, including 11 foreigners.

The attacks, which hit Thursday and Friday, came days after a referendum was held in which Thais approved a new constitution that critics say will bolster the power of the military, which has ruled the country since a May 2014 coup, for years to come. Thai authorities have suggested there were political motives behind the violence, but named no specific suspects. No one has claimed responsibility for any of the 11 bombings.

"We hope we may have some suspects today or tomorrow," Police Gen. Pongsapat Pongcharoen, a deputy national police chief, told reporters Saturday. He did not elaborate, but said that police were gathering evidence and that international militant groups were not believed to be behind the attacks.

The violence appeared aimed at dealing a blow to Thailand's tourism industry, which brings in crucial income to the government.

One small bomb exploded on a beach in the popular Patong area of Phuket island, and four others rattled the seaside resort city of Hua Hin, prompting businesses to shut their doors, streets to empty and anxious tourists to huddle inside their hotels. The wounded foreigners included nationals of Austria, Germany, Italy and the Netherlands. The four who were killed were Thais.

The fatalities came from bombs in Hua Hin, 200 kilometers (120 miles) south of Bangkok, and the cities of Surat Thani and Trang, farther south. All of the affected destinations — which also included Phang Nga and Krabi, as well as Phuket — are popular with foreign and Thai tourists.

Pongsapat said the perpetrators are believed to belong to the same networks and were still inside the country.

Voice TV and other media outlets reported later Saturday that police in Nakhon Si Thammarat had arrested a 67-year-old man who is suspected of being responsible for a fire at a supermarket in the southern city that the authorities had listed in the series of attacks. Police said they found evidence at his home and in electronic devices they had confiscated from him that he was



The injured are helped after a bomb blast in the southern resort city of Hua Hin

involved in an active political movement against the government. But they failed to explicitly link him to the other attacks.

Foreign governments, including the United States, issued warnings urging travelers to use caution and avoid affected areas. Many tourists on Saturday were resuming their vacations while keeping an eye for any sign of trouble.

Niels Seeberg, who has lived in the Hua Hin area for 10 years, said Saturday that he was out with friends Thursday night and saw the carnage from the blasts.

Seeberg, a 59-year-old Danish tour leader, said that the incident left him feeling angry and helpless, "and I don't know what to do with my anger."

While police and other officials have strongly hinted that opponents of the military government that seized power in the 2014 coup may have been behind the attacks, they also have acknowledged signs that Muslim separatists from the country's deep south could have had a hand in the violence.

Royal Thai Police Col. Krisana Patanacharoen said Friday that

the bombings followed "a similar pattern used in the southern parts of the country" — a reference to a low-level insurgency in the largely Islamic south that has ground on for more than a decade and killed more than 5,000 people.

Southern militants fighting for greater autonomy have carried out sophisticated, coordinated attacks before, but most have hit three provinces in the far south that were not among those targeted this week.

Speaking at a Saturday event to promote Thai products and handicrafts, Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-ocha assured reporters

that he was dealing with the situation.

"Don't go starting a witch hunt yet as we must make our home as peaceful as possible; everyone is panicked and flustered, but I have to remain calm," he said. He vowed to keep working in order to make sure that "such terrible acts" never happen again, so that the "nightmare" of the past few days would become just a fading memory.

The violence occurred just ahead of the anniversary of the Aug. 17, 2015, bombing of Ban-

A confusing investigation shook faith in the competence of the police and raised doubts about who were the true culprits

gkok's popular Erawan Shrine, which left 20 dead and injured more than 120. Thai authorities said that bombing was revenge by a people-smuggling gang whose activities were disrupted by a crackdown, but analysts suspect it might have been the work of Uighur separatists angry that Thailand forcibly repatriated more than 100 Uighurs to China.

Although two arrests were made in that case, a confusing investigation shook faith in the competence of the police and raised doubts about who were the true culprits. The case has not yet come to trial. **AP**



Authorities direct traffic after explosions occurred overnight and Friday morning in the tourist city of Hua Hin

JUNTA ACCUSED OF EXPLOITING BOMBINGS FOR POLITICAL ENDS

CRITICS OF Thailand's military government accused it yesterday of taking advantage of last week's spate of deadly bombings and arson attacks to crack down on its opponents. The United Front for Democracy Against Dictatorship, better known as the Red Shirts, issued their criticism as Thai authorities said they were keeping security high after attacks Thursday and Friday

killed four people — all Thai — and wounded dozens in seven tourist destinations. Injured foreigners came from Austria, Germany, Italy and the Netherlands. Reports by Thai PBS television and other media said at least three people identified as Red Shirt leaders or supporters have been detained since Saturday at army camps, apparently for questioning about the attacks.

GGCT warns residents of crisis

GIVEN the recent security situation in Thailand, the embassy of the People's Republic of China in Thailand has issued a travel security alert to Chinese citizens, advising nationals who intend to visit to closely monitor ongoing developments.

At least 11 explosions have occurred across multiple locations in Thailand

since Thursday, which appear to have targeted tourist locations and have so far resulted in casualties.

Macau's Tourism Crisis Management Office (GGCT) notified in a statement that, as of Friday, the bureau has received two requests for information and no requests for assistance.

GGCT advises Macau residents who intend to travel to Thailand to closely follow the situation, critically assess the security risks and cautiously consider their travel plans.

According to a statement from GGCT, the embassy of the PRC "urges Chinese nationals who intend to visit Thailand to closely monitor the local security situation, reinforce safety measures and avoid places with large concentration of people." The alert will stay in effect until August 26.

INDONESIA

Tax-haven areas to lure investment mulled

Harry Suhartono

INDONESIA is considering options for setting up tax-haven jurisdictions as it tries to lure back billions of dollars through its amnesty program to fund infrastructure projects and finance the widening budget deficit, Coordinating Maritime Minister Luhut Panjaitan said yesterday.

News of the haven plan follows an announcement by the government on Aug. 11 that it would allow repatriated funds to be invested in assets such as gold and property.

The central bank has said the tax amnesty program could attract about 560 trillion rupiah (USD43 billion) of funds stashed overseas. More avenues to park the repatriated money may encourage greater participation and help President Joko Widodo partly

plug a shortfall in tax revenue as the nation grapples with a slowdown in China and low commodity prices.

"It is still in early stage," Panjaitan wrote in a mobile-phone text message. "The government still needs to discuss the technical aspect of it."

Indonesian and foreign businesses would be able to set up shell companies in Bintan and Rempang and enjoy lower tax, the Jakarta Globe reported, citing Panjaitan. Both islands are located around 60 kilometers away from Singapore.

The expectation that the amnesty will draw funds into the country appears to be putting upward pressure on the rupiah, domestic asset prices and demand, Edward Teather, a Singapore-based senior economist at UBS Group AG, wrote in a note sent by e-mail before the Aug. 11 announcement. **Bloomberg**

PHILIPPINES

Hundreds protest hero burial for dictator Marcos

HUNDREDS of Filipinos rallied in stormy weather yesterday against President Rodrigo Duterte's decision to allow dictator Ferdinand Marcos to be buried in a heroes' cemetery, but Duterte remained firm in his stance despite growing opposition.

About 1,500 protesters carrying a large streamer that read "Marcos not a hero" braved the rain, wind and mud at Manila's seaside Rizal Park to call on Duterte to reconsider his decision. They launched a signature campaign to try to stop the burial, tentatively set for next month.

Loretta Ann Rosales, who formerly headed the government's Commission on Human Rights, said she was tortured and molested along with thousands of other detained left-wing activists



under Marcos during a dark era that clearly shows why the brutal leader does not deserve to be accorded any state honors.

"Is that not enough evidence? [...] Is Marcos a hero?" Rosales asked, with the crowd yelling back: "No!"

Sen. Risa Hontiveros, who was among the protesters, said she has filed a Senate resolution opposing a hero's burial for Marcos, adding that Duterte should not

commit "this atrocious mistake" of bestowing honors to the dictator.

"Marcos went down in history as an unrepentant enemy of our heroes," Hontiveros said. "To honor the man a hero and bury his remains in a place reserved for the brave and martyred is an inimitable political abomination."

Burying a dictator accused of massive rights violations and plunder at the heroes' cemetery has long been an emo-

tional and divisive issue in the Philippines, where Marcos was ousted by a "people power" revolt in 1986. He was flown to Hawaii, where he lived with his wife and children in exile until he died in 1989.

His remains were later returned to his northern Philippine hometown and displayed in a glass coffin. His wife, Imelda, and two of their three children gradually regained political influence after being elected to public office.

Duterte, who was sworn in as president in June, argues that Marcos is qualified to be buried at the military-run cemetery as a former soldier and president. He has disclosed that he once voted for Marcos and that his late father, a politician, served in Marcos's Cabinet. **AP**

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USA

Workers to be reassigned after Michigan power plant fire

A utility is reassigning workers from a power plant northeast of Detroit and can't say when the facility they worked at will be reopened following a massive fire.

DTE Energy Co.'s St. Clair Power Plant in East China Township remained shut down Friday, the Detroit-based utility said in an update.



A fire rages at the DTE Energy St. Clair Power Plant Thursday, Aug 11, 2016, in East China Township, Mich.

"As of 5 p.m. Friday, DTE's access to the plant remains limited, as teams continue to assess the situation," the utility said. "The plant remains closed, and we do not have an estimate as to when the plant will reopen."

Fire crews on Friday extinguished the blaze that was reported about 6:30 p.m. Thursday and sent smoke into the air that was visible for miles, officials said. The fire started in a coal-fired generating unit, and no injuries were reported.

"DTE teams successfully invoked emergency procedures and shut down all generating units at the site while working with first responders to successfully control the situation," DTE Energy said in a statement Friday.

Firefighters from across St. Clair County were called to the plant about 40 miles northeast of Detroit and along the St. Clair River as thick, billowing black and gray smoke rose

from the burning structure. Employees were safely evacuated.

Traffic was detoured away from the plant.

The St. Clair Fire Department said Friday that crews went into the building overnight to look for hot spots and remained at the plant, located along the U.S. border with Canada.

The utility said customers won't see any effects on electrical service. Air quality readings were "well within normal limits outside the facility perimeter," DTE said.

A noise from the plant caught Mary Buslepp's attention shortly before she noticed the smoke. Buslepp has lived near the facility about a dozen years.

"They blow the stacks occasionally, but this was unusually loud," she told the Times-Herald of Port Huron.

The plant has been in service since 1953 and the utility said the facility has 294 employees overall.

DTE said in June that coal-fired units at the plant are among eight at three of its facilities that are slated to be shut down within the next seven years. The units in East China Township, the River Rouge facility in the Detroit area and the Trenton facility in suburban Detroit are to be retired between 2020 and 2023. AP

3 killed, thousands rescued in Louisiana floods

EMERGENCY crews worked through the night to rescue scores of south Louisiana residents from homes and stranded cars as deadly flooding continued to inundate large swaths of the region yesterday, three days after rain-swollen water levels began rapidly rising.

Mike Steele, spokesman for the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness, said there was an overnight spike in flood rescues in the eastern part of Baton Rouge. He said two nursing homes in that area were being evacuated.

Police also were rescuing people from dozens

of cars that were stranded on a miles-long stretch of Interstate 12, which was closed from Baton Rouge to Tangipahoa Parish.

"It never slowed down last night," Steele said yesterday. "For the last few hours, there has been just as much activity as at any point."

Steele said the flooding that started Friday has damaged more than 1,000 homes in East Baton Rouge Parish, more than 1,000 homes in Livingston Parish, and hundreds more in other areas, including St. Helena and Tangipahoa parishes.

At least three deaths have been blamed on the flooding.

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Pope treats Rome's homeless to swim



Pope Francis smiles as he browses through drawings at the Vatican on Aug. 11

POPE Francis this summer is treating dozens of Rome's homeless to a day at the beach and dinner in a pizzeria on the way back.

The pontiff's almsgiver, Polish monsignor Konrad Krajewski, told the La Stampa daily he drives a van with 10 people to a beach near Rome for a dip in the sea, sunbathing and then pizza. The Vatican supplies the swimsuits and beach towels.

Krajewski told Italian state radio Sunday the afternoon outings reflect the homeless' "desire for normality" in their lives.

Many of them live near Vatican City, where, at Francis' direction, showers and barbers have been set up on the edge of St. Peter's Square for their use.

Aided by Swiss Guards, the almsgiver also distributes hot meals to homeless people at Italian train stations.

Swiss train attack suspect and female victim die of wounds

David Rising, Berlin

THE man who attacked passengers on a crowded Swiss train with a knife and burning liquid died of his wounds yesterday, as did one of his victims, a 34-year-old woman, Swiss police said. Three others remain hospitalized with serious wounds.

Police are still searching for a motive but said there's no indication the suspect, identified only as a 27-year-old Swiss man from a neighboring region, had ties to extremist groups.

A 43-year-old woman, a 6-year-old girl and 17-year-old girl remained hospitalized yesterday with serious injuries, St. Gallen canton (state) police spokesman Hans-Peter Kruesi told The Associated Press. A 17-year-old youth and 50-year-old man wounded in the attack have been treated and released, he said.

Kruesi said all the victims lived in the St. Gallen canton.



The train in which a man attacked other passengers stands at the station in Salez, on Saturday, Aug. 13

Swiss police searched the suspect's home after the Saturday afternoon attack on the train as it neared the station in Salez, close to the Liechtenstein border. Kruesi would not comment on what evidence was seized at the home, but said "so far there are no indications this was a terrorist or politically motivated crime."

Police were not able to question the suspect before he died, Kruesi said, adding that the man had no criminal record and was not previously known to police.

According to a video of the attack evaluated by police, the

assailant acted alone, attacking passengers on the train between Buchs and Sennwald with a knife and then burning liquid, which is now being analyzed by a police forensics team.

The train driver was being credited with quick thinking, continuing into the Salez station before stopping, a move that allowed police and rescue crews to get on board easier.

Five passengers on the train were wounded in the attack and a sixth person on the train platform, the 50-year-old man, was wounded as he pulled the burning suspect off the train, police said. The 50-year-old was treated

for smoke inhalation and burns, Kruesi said.

The Swiss train attack again illustrates how difficult it is for authorities to protect the continent's labyrinthine transport system, particularly against individuals wielding unsophisticated weapons.

Last month in neighboring Germany, a 17-year-old refugee from Afghanistan used an ax and a knife to wound four tourists on a train, and stabbed a woman as he fled. The attacker was shot and killed by police. All his victims survived.

In May at a train station in the German state of Bavaria, a 27-year-old German man who had been in psychiatric care stabbed commuters, killing one and wounding three others before being apprehended by police.

Last year a heavily armed gunman opened fire on a high-speed Amsterdam to Paris train but was overpowered by two young American soldiers and their companion. AP

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what's ON

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- JOLLY JOINT EXHIBITION II

TIME: 12pm-7pm

(closed on Tuesdays, opened on public holidays)

UNTIL: September 18, 2016

VENUE: Ox Warehouse, intersection of Av. Coronel Mesquita and Av. do Almirante Lacerda

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2853 0026

ADMISSION: free

SILVER ANNIVERSARY ANIMATION

TIME: 12pm-8pm (Mondays to Thursdays)
11am-9pm (Fridays to Sundays)

UNTIL: September 11, 2016

ADMISSION: MOP120

(No admission one hour before closing)

TICKETING: (853) 2855 5555

VENUE: Macau Convention Centre, Estrada da Ponta da Cabrita Golden Crown China Hotel (Opposite Macau International Airport, Taipa)

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TIME: 10am-8pm daily (Except Tuesdays)

VENUE: Rua Luis Gonzaga Gomes, 431, basement (Tourism Activities Centre-CAT)

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8798 4108 / 2833 3000

MACAU SCIENCE CENTRE

TIME: 10am-6pm daily

(Except Thursdays, open on public holidays)

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ADMISSION: Exhibition Centre MOP25; Planetarium MOP60-80

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TIME: 10:30am-7pm

(closed on the first Monday of every month)

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ADMISSION: free

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Offbeat

AT THE RUSSIAN MOSQUITO FESTIVAL,
THE MORE BITES THE BETTER

While fears of the Zika virus have kept some people away from the Olympics in Rio de Janeiro, for residents of one Russian town the more mosquito bites the better.

At this weekend's Russian Mosquito Festival in the town of Berezniki, 9-year-old Irina Ilyukhina won the "tastiest girl" category with 43 bites to show for going berry-picking in the forest with her mother. She was awarded a ceramic cup in recognition of the welts all over her legs.

Unusually hot and dry weather in the Ural Mountains town, however, has greatly depleted the number of mosquitoes this year. Festival organizers had to cancel the traditional mosquito hunt, where participants try to collect as many of the insects as possible in jars.

The heat also had Yana Solyarskaya sweltering in her mosquito costume as she led some of the dancing at the festival, now in its fourth year.

Russia has detected only a few Zika cases, all in people who are believed to have been infected in areas overseas where the virus has spread.

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	Miscellaneous
21:30	Miscellaneous
21:45	Portuguese Music
22:10	Merciless
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Documentary Series
00:15	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)

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

ROOM 3

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

1965 LOS ANGELES RIOT TOLL
KEEPS RISING

At least 28 people have died and hundreds have been injured after a weekend of rioting in Los Angeles.

Armed National Guards have been deployed on the streets of the Californian city, where many of the shops and businesses now lie in smoldering ruins.

About 500 businesses, most of them white-owned, are reported to have been destroyed or damaged in what is a predominantly black neighborhood.

The trouble began in the Watts area of the city four nights ago when a black man was stopped on suspicion of drunken driving.

A crowd gathered around the car as the driver and his brother began arguing with the police officers. Their mother then joined the argument. When all three were arrested the trouble began.

The crowd began throwing bricks and bottles. Shop windows were broken and stock looted. Black youths ran through the streets setting fire to churches, offices and other buildings.

The Governor of California, Edmund Brown, who has just flown back from Europe, said: "We are involved in a state of insurrection there."

William Parker, the police chief of Los Angeles, said: "We haven't the slightest idea when this can be brought under control."

Over the weekend, sniping and looting have continued. The cost of repairs is now put at \$100m.

Television pictures show black shopkeepers have posted notices on their businesses reading "Blood brother" or "Negro-owned" in an attempt to prevent attacks on the premises.

One National Guard officer was injured when he was hit by a car reportedly driven by a black man. After that incident, officers were authorized to load their rifles and attach bayonets.

Some 18,000 National Guards have been deployed. About 2,000 were flown in from San Francisco.

President Lyndon Johnson, who spent the weekend at his Texas ranch, has called for an end to the violence.

He said: "Killing, rioting and looting are contrary to the best traditions of this country."

"Every person has the responsibility to uphold law and order. I call upon all Americans to fulfil that responsibility."

Civil rights leader Martin Luther King is on his way to Los Angeles. He claims the poor social conditions are the underlying cause for the discontent.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

In 1964 the United States passed the Civil Rights Act, which was intended to herald a new era in race relations. But many states acted quickly to circumvent the law. California blocked the fair housing legislation thus ensuring segregation continued.

It led to a great feeling of injustice and resentment in the inner cities. The riots in Los Angeles lasted six days, left 34 dead and about 1,000 people injured. Nearly 4,000 people were arrested and hundreds of buildings were destroyed.

A commission headed by former CIA Director, John McCone, concluded the riots were the result of many socio-economic problems like unemployment, poor housing and lack of education, but little was done to address the problems.

The California Advisory Committee to the US Commission on Civil Rights claimed the report's findings were superficial and showed a lack of understanding of the civil rights movement.

It also criticised the report's failure to address the issue of police malpractice.

Los Angeles was the scene of another riot in 1992, triggered by the acquittal of four white police officers accused of beating a black motorist, Rodney King.

YOUR STARS

Aries Mar. 21-Apr. 19 The emotions you're having are very different from the ones you've been daydreaming of...

Taurus April 20-May 20 You know you should be feeling things intensely today, but oddly, you're not feeling very passionate about anything at all...

Gemini May 21-Jun. 21 You're more calculating than you want to be today, but the date requires it of you, so to speak. Put this into your equation...

Cancer Jun. 22-Jul. 22 Don't get involved just for the sake of being involved. Block out all references to the calendar if that's what it takes to avoid funny business...

Leo Jul. 23-Aug. 22 There is so much going on beneath the surface, but surface seems like all there is today. While appearances are important, don't let them be the end all, be all...

Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22 Your emotional nature is driving the train for a change. That's good because your brain hasn't managed to get you where you want to be yet...

Libra Sep.23-Oct. 22 True, you have to spend money to make money, but today you have to spend money to make something else altogether. Don't be stingy. When it comes to paying the bill, go deep.

Scorpio Oct. 23 - Nov. 21 You have a vision of people drawn to you like a magnet. Don't count on that image to feel good. All you need is that one certain someone, not a crowd.

Sagittarius Nov. 22-Dec. 21 If you're feeling moody it's not hard to figure out why. Just take a look at the calendar. That's what being shy gets you. So either accept it or do something about it.

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19 It's hard to be detached on a day like today. Emotions are getting the better of you, so introspection isn't the best approach. Look to your friends for help making decisions.

Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 18 You're thinking about your career at all the wrong times. It's not about ambition as much as it is about avoidance. Why is a little privacy enough to make your squirm? Get to the bottom of it.

Pisces Feb.19-Mar. 20 You're a long way from shore and large, gray triangles are appearing all around you. Some folks make you feel like you're swimming with sharks. Remind yourself you're on dry land and order some seafood.

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



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Easy

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

Easy+

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

Medium

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

Hard

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

WEATHER

Table with columns: CHINA, WORLD, MIN, MAX, CONDITION. Lists weather for cities like Beijing, Harbin, Tianjin, etc.

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Italian adventurer; 9- Intoxicated; 15- Outmoded; 16- Suppose; 17- Unsullied; 18- Woman's shoe style; 19- Suffix with cloth; 20- "Hollywood Squares" win; 21- Jack Sprat could ___ fat; 22- Hearing organs; 24- Strikes; 28- Small batteries; 29- Addison's collaborator; 31- Turner and others; 32- Suffix with meteor; 33- Corm of the taro; 34- Vitamin B1; 36- Spellbound; 38- First in importance; 40- Appoint; 43- Mythical bird; 44- Trent of the Senate; 45- Within reach; 47- Afore; 48- Be innate; 50- ___ take arms against...; 51- Two; 53- Thunder Bay's prov.; 55- A Kennedy; 56- Over there; 58- Appearing; 60- Minister; 61- Remove air from; 62- Sheath; 63- He owns the place where backpackers crash in Europe?;

DOWN: 1- Mimics; 2- Gilded; 3- Agitated; 4- Commercials; 5- Defense grp. since 1949; 6- Lazy; 7- Poisonous fluid; 8- Fruity drink; 9- Posed; 10- Appraisal; 11- Court org.; 12- Drape; 13- Flow out; 14- Remove from office; 23- Exodus commemoration; 25- Rashly; 26- Spoil; 27- Coup d'___; 30- Depression from lack of company; 34- Egyptian god of learning; 35- Boise's state; 37- Let's go!; 38- Exhausted; 39- Like sea life; 41- Warlike; 42- International accord; 43- Key in again; 45- Trojan War hero; 46- Shifty person; 49- Lover of Juliet; 52- Brainchild; 54- Waste allowance; 57- Numbered rd.; 58- Old English letter; 59- College sr.'s test



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RIO OLYMPICS

Jolting start for track: Ethiopian shatters 10,000 record

Eddie Pells

WHAT track and field really needed was a Usain Bolt-like jolt to steer the conversation from the endless string of crime, punishment and doping that nearly sank the sport over the past year. What it got was a 10,000-meter world record from an Ethiopian who considers it her second-favorite distance, and a race that will go down as one of the best ever run at the Olympics.

While Bolt was waiting in the wings for one more day, Almaz Ayana opened the Olympic track meet Friday by running the 10K in 29 minutes, 17.45 seconds to shatter a 23-year-old record by more than 14 seconds.

"This was not my plan," Ayana said. It was quite an impressi-



ve race, even though the stands were maybe a quarter full when it happened. How impressive? The 24-year-old Ayana, who had limited experience running 10Ks on tracks and is really considered a 5K specialist, won by more than 15 seconds. She was halfway through her victory lap while the largest pack in the field of 37 women was making its way across the finish line.

Spurred on by her pace, 18 women ran lifetime bests. Eight national records were set, including one by American Molly Huddle, who finished sixth. And silver medalist Vi-

vian Cheruiyot, bronze medalist Tirunesh Dibaba and fourth-place finisher Alice Aprot Nawowuna recorded the third-, fourth- and fifth-fastest times in history, behind only the new record holder and the previous one, Wang Junxia of China.

The confluence of fast times on a cool, rain-dampened track — perfect running weather — could help blunt the inevitable questions about how someone with little experience at the distance from a country that has spent its share of time under the doping microscope could

shatter a generation-old record that, itself, is under heavy scrutiny.

Wang's 1993 record broke the previous mark by nearly 42 seconds. Track's governing body, the IAAF, has been investigating claims that suggest Wang was part of a state-sponsored doping program in her country in the 1990s.

Confronted with the improbability of her record, Ayana's answer was simple.

"No. 1, I did my training, specifically in the 5 and 10," she said in comments translated to English. "My doping is Jesus. Otherwise, I'm crystal clear." AP

NOT EVEN A CRASH CAN STOP FARAH

TRIPPED OR not, it seems nothing can stop Mo Farah over 10,000 meters in a major championship. In a thrilling Olympic final, the Somali-born British runner even had time to put his hands on top of his head in the trademark "Mobot" sign, as well-known to distance runners as Usain Bolt's signature pose.

My doping is Jesus. Otherwise, I'm crystal clear.

ALMAZ AYANA

Rio still struggles with litany of problems through first week

Stephen Wilson

ROWS of empty seats, green water, controlled explosions, stray bullets, the killing of a young policeman in a favela, muggings of team officials, an attack on a media bus, spotty weather, snarled traffic, long travel distances and lack of a Carnival atmosphere.

Halfway through the Olympics, Rio de Janeiro is still struggling with a litany of problems that have underlined the challenges of taking the games away from their traditional territories, and made clear they may not go to untested regions again in the near future.

The athletes and sports competitions have risen to the occasion, the Brazilians have been welcoming and friendly,

and TV pictures beamed around the world have featured Rio's beautiful scenery and backdrops at their best.

Overall, though, Olympic officials and veterans say Rio has been beset by so many organizational issues that South America's first games have been more of a disappointment than a delight.

"It has been along the lines of what experienced Olympic observers and organizers would have expected," said Dick Pound, the IOC's longest-serving member, in an interview with The Associated Press. "Then you add the political and corruption issues, and they didn't have a chance to get everything done the way they would have liked to."

IOC vice president John

Coates told the BBC: "This has been the most difficult games we have ever encountered."

Seven years ago, the International Olympic Committee selected Rio over Madrid, Tokyo and Chicago as the 2016 host city. Rio won because IOC members were convinced the time had come to go to South America. Back then, Brazil was a rising economic and political star on the world stage.

Today, Brazil is mired in a crippling recession, its suspended president is facing impeachment, and many politicians and business leaders are locked up in a massive corruption scandal. Budget cuts and cash flow problems forced Olympic organizers to scale back.

"There were two or three other candidates

in that [2016] race that would have done a much better job," Pound said. "There is a reason the games haven't been held here before. Every day is a challenge."

In many parts of Rio, it's hard to tell the city is hosting the Olympics. Dressing up the venues with the "look of the games" branding — logos, banners and other designs — has fallen short after a Ukrainian supplier failed to deliver.

"The good part is that the Brazilian fans are great and the Brazilian people are as helpful as can be," Olympic historian David Wallechinsky told the AP. "The negative part is they are simply not prepared. They had seven years. They should have been able to get it together. They just didn't."

US LANDMARK ARRIVES

1,000 Summer Olympic gold medals



When Simone Manuel touched the wall to clinch a gold medal Saturday night, it was a moment 120 years in the making. The U.S. women's 4x100-meter medley relay team of Kathleen Baker, Lilly King, Dana Vollmer and Manuel — winners at the Rio Games on Saturday night — is being recognized by the U.S. Olympic Committee as delivering the nation's 1,000th gold medal in Summer Olympics history.

VOLLEYBALL Birarelli back healthy, Italy tops Brazil



Emanuele Birarelli tested his tender right ankle for the first time and all felt fine. Then, he and his Italian teammates celebrated their latest impressive Olympic win by beating host Brazil on its home court. Italy welcomed back Birarelli after a one-game absence with an ankle injury, and the fourth-ranked Italians sent Brazil to a second straight defeat Saturday in a matchup of the two top teams in Pool A. "I'm happy to be back, my ankle held up well," the Italy captain said. "It was hard to be out and get an injury early in the Olympics, but then we realized it wasn't that bad."

BOXING Mayweather checks on young talents

Floyd Mayweather Jr. dropped in to see the next generation of Olympic boxers in Rio. The U.S. bronze medalist at the 1996 Atlanta Games stood on a platform at Riocentro Pavilion 6 to watch Saturday evening's fights, starting with the welterweight quarterfinals. He stuck around through a major heavyweight semifinal and a first-round knockout by Britain super heavyweight Joe Joyce.

opinion

Insight
Paulo Barbosa



FREEDOM OF SPEECH AND THE POWERS THAT BE

The legality of last week's arrest of two New Macau Association members – including the group's leader, Scott Chiang – can be challenged. Chiang and his affiliate posted a banner targeting the Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture, Alexis Tam, on the façade of the decrepit Hotel Estoril. Is the action so serious that the activists involved had to be detained for at least one night and Chiang had to be shown in public handcuffed?

For sure, the activists would be more harassed if they had carried out the same protest on the mainland. There, they would perhaps be detained for a longer time, taken to an uncertain location or trialed by political courts. Perhaps their families would lose jobs or social prestige. But in Macau there is something called the Basic Law and one of the main pillars of that law is the protection of freedom of expression.

One can argue that the activists were not exercising their right to freedom of speech in a responsible manner when they invaded private property to post a banner saying that Alexis Tam is a "heritage killer." Tam has all the right to say, as he did, that he does not agree with the message and even to feel that he is the victim of libel.

But the question is if the police can arrest activists and jail them for actions like those. In 2014, Chiang and Jason Chao were detained by the Judiciary Police when they organized a survey about the election of Chui Sai On for a second term as Chief Executive. The activists were detained for allegedly violating the legislation on personal data protection when organizing a "civil referendum" that the government had deemed illegal. It is worth noting that the Public Prosecutions Office has yet to produce an accusation regarding the case.

The detention of activists in Macau can also be viewed in the same frame as the Hong Kong booksellers case. After remaining in an unknown location for five months, Lam Wing-kee returned to Hong Kong and made explosive claims that the mainland authorities had abducted him at the border. He said they had only allowed him to return to the HKSAR in order to provide the Chinese authorities with information about "Causeway Bay Books" clients. This serious accusation challenges the policy of "one country, two systems."

If a system doesn't protect freedom of speech, then irresponsibility is widespread in both camps – the supporters and detractors of the powers that be. The books published in Hong Kong may be libelous and claim all kind of conspiracy theories. The official reaction to Lam's return to Hong Kong is also ridiculous and tries to make us fools. On July 6, Xinhua said that Lam's claims were "met with astonishment by many of the major players." China's official news agency cited a Ningbo police statement, saying that the case "had been handled in accordance with the law from the beginning to the end." They also cite Liu Cheng, an associate law professor with Sun Yat-sen University, saying: "When people stress 'two systems,' they often neglect the 'one country' aspect of the premise."

A system where freedom of speech is upheld – and we all want to believe that is the system being enforced in Macau – is a system where that right is exerted with responsibility. This means that if Tam feels that the activists had defamed him, he can prosecute them. The same principle applies to the books at the core of the Hong Kong controversy. If they are libelous, the persons or institutions that were targeted can seek legal counsel and prosecute authors and editors (not booksellers). If these can't provide evidence of the claims they publish, it becomes clear that they didn't act on good faith and should be penalized, preferably with fines rather than imprisonment.

The powers that be should not fear journalists or opinion makers. In Macau, everybody has a right to voice an opinion. If that opinion is considered libelous, people may resort to independent courts. That is the way a civilized society works. And the Basic Law protects the rule of law. When it comes to freedom of speech, the Basic Law is about responsibility, not autocracy.

THE BUZZ AT NEW YORK RACING CONFERENCE
HK JOCKEY CLUB CEO TO SPEAK

The head of the Hong Kong Jockey Club will give the keynote address when the club's North American counterpart gathers for its annual thoroughbred racing conference in Saratoga Springs.

The Manhattan-based Jockey Club says Hong Kong Jockey Club CEO Winfried Engelbrecht-Bresges (BREZ'-geh-z) will be the main speaker at today's [Macau time] "Round Table Conference on Matters Pertaining to Racing."

Others scheduled to speak include Jeff Novitzky, who investigated high-profile performance-enhancing drug cases in pro sports while working for the U.S. government. Novitzky is now an executive with Ultimate Fighting Championship. He'll discuss some of his experiences in the anti-doping campaign.

The Jockey Club's first round table conference was held in New York City in 1953. The following year, it moved to Saratoga Springs.

Station	Air quality
Roadside	20-40 Good
High Density Residential Area	25-45 Good
Ambient	25-45 Good

SOURCE: DSMG

RIO OLYMPICS

Sumgong wins women's Olympic marathon; protester removed



Sumgong celebrates as she crosses the finish line

Rob Harris

JEMIMA Jelagat Sumgong became the first Kenyan to win the women's Olympic marathon Sunday after a scary moment near the finish when police intercepted a man who nearly marred the event.

Sumgong completed the course in 2 hours, 24 minutes, 4 seconds to give Kenya its first gold medal in Rio.

Kenyan-born Eunice Kirwa, who now runs for Bahrain, was nine seconds behind and world champion Mare Dibaba of Ethiopia took bronze.

With about a kilometer to go to the finish line at the Sambodromo parade grounds, a man with a sign jumped over barriers along the route ahead of Sumgong and the other runners, and two police on bikes immediately cut him off. The protester then jumped over fencing on

the left side of the road, and Sumgong and the other runners continued unhindered.

"I was scared," Sumgong said initially. "I thinking he could maybe ... he could grab one of my colleagues."

When Sumgong ran the London Marathon in April, a man tried to intercept her there. But the outcome was the same: Victory for the 31-year-old Kenyan.

"I was never worried that I'd lose this," Sumgong said. "At 40 kilometers, I knew the gold was mine. At 35 kilometers, I noticed that my other two teammates had dropped off, and that gave me the motivation to carry on."

"At 40 kilometers, I saw there were three of us, but I knew whatever happened, I couldn't lose the gold and then I knew I was on the way to history," she said.

The breakaway began with about seven kilometers to go.

"It was very hot, but everybody had to get through the heat," Sumgong said. "I had to control my body and listen to my body very carefully."

Sumgong is only the third Kenyan woman to become an Olympic champion, following wins on the track at the 2008 Beijing Games for Pamela Jelimo (800 meters) and Nancy Jebet Langat (1,500 meters).

"I was in Beijing but I was pretty disappointed that I wasn't able to win a medal or make it on the podium," Sumgong said. "But I knew one time, one day, I'd be somewhere. I'm so happy. I feel extremely proud."

Only two of the Estonian triplets in the marathon completed the race. Lily Luik was the fastest of the 30-year-old sisters, clocking 2 hours, 48 minutes, 29 seconds to finish in 97th place.

Leila Luik ended up in 114th place in 2 hours, 54 minutes, 38 seconds. But Liina Luik didn't finish, withdrawing before the 35-kilometer mark.

"It was so hard," Lily said. "I saw everybody stopping and everybody suffered."

One of the favorites left the race prematurely. Tigist Tufa, the 2015 London Marathon champion, pulled up after 18 kilometers. AP

THE DECISIVE MOMENT



Members of the Singapore Swimming Association Fraternity gather to watch the live telecast of the Rio Olympics men's 100m butterfly finals, at the Singapore OCBC Aquatic Centre, Aug. 13. Singaporean swimmer Joseph Schooling won the historic first Olympic gold medal for Singapore.

WORLD BRIEFS

PHILIPPINES Hundreds of Filipinos rallied in stormy weather Sunday against President Rodrigo Duterte's decision to allow dictator Ferdinand Marcos to be buried in a heroes' cemetery, but Duterte remained firm in his stance despite growing opposition. About 1,500 protesters carrying a large streamer that read "Marcos not a hero" called on Duterte to reconsider his decision. [More on p13](#)

AFGHANISTAN The Islamic State group, which has been building a presence in Afghanistan for more than a year, has established a recruitment and training camp in a restive southern province bordering Pakistan, Afghan officials said. They added that IS operatives are actively recruiting and training locals to join the group as gunmen.



SYRIA's rebel-held, northwestern Idlib province came under heavy bombardment yesterday, activists reported, as rebels and pro-government forces battled for control of the nearby city of Aleppo. The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights reported 26 airstrikes across the province, one of the last remaining bastions of rebel control.

GREECE-TURKEY Greece's migration minister says that while arrivals of refugees and other migrants from Turkey have increased in recent weeks, there is no sign that Turkey is ignoring the deal with the European Union to staunch the flow.

SWITZERLAND The man who attacked passengers on a crowded Swiss train with a knife and burning liquid died of his wounds yesterday, as did one of his victims, a 34-year-old woman, Swiss police said. Three others remain hospitalized with serious wounds. [More on p15](#)

PERU More than 50,000 people marched in Peru's capital and eight other cities on Saturday to protest violence against woman and what they say is the indifference of the judicial system. Officials said the size of the protest was unprecedented in Peru and followed several recent high-profile gender violence cases.